

## A Word From Susie Stanley

A lot has happened since I wrote the article for the last newsletter. We've hired a professional meeting planner who will work with the hotel at Cincinnati. A consultant is helping to develop our initiatives. We're making a transition in our treasury and bookkeeping. Thanks to Marilyn Ebersole who served as our treasurer for the past two years. She's done a great job of keeping our finances in order.

I've spent a lot of time myself consulting with colleges who are applying for a Lilly Grant in Call and Vocation. They will know in January if their applications are successful. If so, they will be working with WHWC to implement programs that can be shared with other colleges. Messiah College received this grant within the past year. The grant made it possible for fifteen students and three faculty and staff from the college to attend the conference in Colorado Springs. The grant is also directly contributing financially to the conference because it is an organization that can encourage their women students who are called to ministry. It also is supporting Brethren in

Christ Women in Leadership since this is the denomination affiliated with the school.

Since this spring, we seem to have turned a corner as an organization. Nothing specifically relates to this change. I believe it's the result of our ongoing work since 1992. I'm receiving calls from colleges and seminaries asking how we can cooperate. Professors at colleges want to know how they can develop clubs for women students. We're poised at a moment in our history where we can begin to have a direct impact at our schools. Please pray for the Planning Board, the Implementation Committee and those working to develop our initiatives.

I realize this article departs from my usual format and is more of a report of "work in progress." But I think it's important for you to be aware of work going on behind the scenes to promote Wesleyan/Holiness women clergy and women preparing to be clergy. Watch this space in future newsletters for further developments!

## Recommended Books

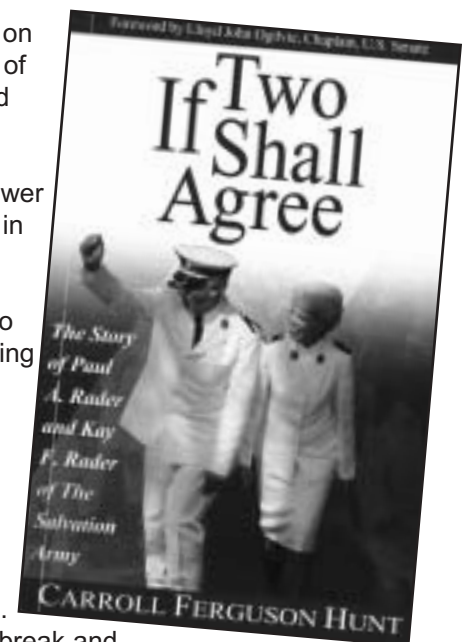
by Janet Peifer, editor

In this issue of CTTW Conference Newsletter you will read reviews of three recommended books for your reading. How well I remember the year 1984 when in my hands I had the first two books I had ever seen that condoned women in ministry. Naive as I was, I honestly thought that these two books must have been the first two written on the topic! The books reviewed in this issue are only three of hundreds that are currently in print, and three among many hundreds that have been written during the last two centuries.

***If Two Shall Agree***, is the story of Paul and Kay Rader of The Salvation Army written by Carroll Ferguson Hunt (Beacon Hill Press, 2001, phone 1-800-877-0700 to order copies). On a recent holiday weekend, I had the inspiring experience of reading this book in its entirety. I laughed aloud when reading that Kay, following her and her husband's assignment to lead the Western Territory, clearly let it be known that she "didn't do bows!" Kay's call from God was significantly more far-reaching. From their very different roots, God brought Paul and Kay together to unite their gifts of leadership for the cause of advancing the Kingdom of God in The Salvation Army and beyond. Ferguson writes that they "forged unity

between themselves on the issue" (utilization of women called by God into ministry). "They committed to doing everything in their power before God, not only in sharing equally their own ministry opportunities, but also by lending their growing influence to aiding women within The Salvation Army to flourish, to find freedom from prejudice or neglect, as they obey God's call to ministry" (149).

Kay's call to break and reshape ecclesiastical molds was not always viewed in a positive light. The book clearly describes her struggle with



(continued on page 2)

## Recommended Books (continued from page 1)

periods of depression and the lack of joy and victory amidst her trials. In a moving scene Ferguson writes of Kay's struggle which led to a full submission to the Lord and brought deep peace while she waited for the Lord to bring opportunities that more nearly utilized her own gifts.

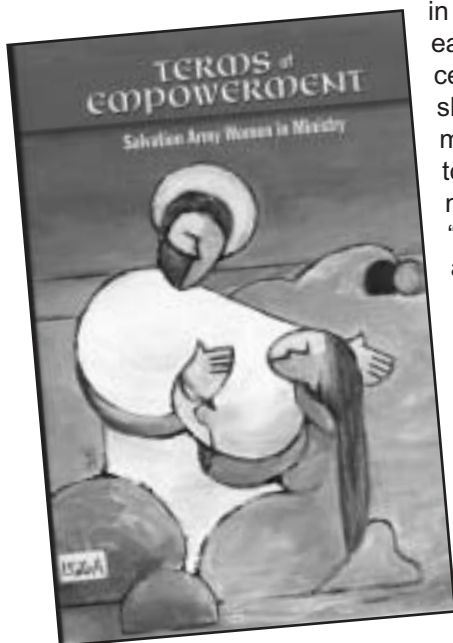
While the Raders demonstrated a united front on many ministry issues during their years of service, Ferguson explains why the women-in-ministry issue gained the prominence that it did. It was she writes, the Raders' "conviction that the wasting of a significant portion of the Army's trained and capable fighting force cripples the accomplishment of all other goals" (182). That, in a nutshell, encapsulates the mission and purpose of the Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy, International-to make a positive impact on the advancement of the Kingdom of God by prophetically stating to our various denominations and movements that the called and equipped women among us must be given the opportunity to serve in leadership.

If *Two Shall Agree* should be in the libraries of all our churches. Why not buy a copy, read it, and give it to your church library!

### ***Terms of Empowerment: Salvation Army Women in Ministry***

is a case in point that books, which declare God's intention for women to serve as leaders in the church, have been in print for many years. This 100 page book combines Catherine Booth's pamphlet titled, "Female Ministry," first published in 1859, and Evangeline Booth's lecture titled, "Woman," first published in 1930. It is crowned at the end with a chapter by Kay F. Rader, titled, "Keeping the Dream Alive." This compilation was published by The USA Eastern Territory of The Salvation Army in 2001, phone 1-888-488-4882.

While reading this short but dynamic book, I wondered, "Could not each of the WHWC sponsoring groups submit mandates and narratives that were written in the mid-nineteenth or early-twentieth centuries clearly showing the movement's intentions to utilize women in ministry?" And further, "could not each of us add a disconcerting addendum that now in the early years of the 21st century despite our positive heritage, we have wandered away from our moorings to the detriment of the called sisters among us?"



The Salvation Army is to be applauded for reprinting these important documents of Catherine and Evangeline Booth. This issue of women in ministry is prone to become dethroned from its importance, and over time gradually but surely revert to its former pattern. In her chapter, Kay quotes lines from a tribute written of General William Booth where author Marianne Railton wrote, "We claim for our late beloved General that he found the long-closed road by which women might carry out their Lord's command. Ah, but he saw that the path must be made wide and straight and unmistakable, or it would close again" (98).

I commend the reading of *Terms of Empowerment* and call each reader to think how s/he can assist in keeping the path "wide, straight, and unmistakable" for women in her/his sphere of influence.

### ***Celebrating Women's Stories: Faith Through Life's Seasons***

is a book honoring the lives of 21 Brethren in Christ women, written by 21 different authors. The book reveals the joys and complexities of life and faith, while teaching theology in an anecdotal way. Editors are Rebecca L. Ebersole, Dorcas I. Steckbeck, BIC Archivist, and Dr. E. Morris Sider. The book was published in 2002 by Evangel Publishing House, phone 574-773-3164. Editor Steckbeck wrote the following review.

"Variety is one of the strengths of the book. In their vocations, some of the women exercise influence as leaders in the public sphere; some live lives of quiet influence within their homes; some venture into far-flung countries, and others have lived in the same town their entire lives. Women both married and single represent several cultures and lived in several eras. In light of the variety of voices, the experiences of some women seem almost to contradict the experiences of others. Thus while one woman struggles over a long period to gain recognition of her potential to be a minister, another woman enters ministry and leadership roles with relative ease."

Two of the women written about have been involved with the Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy-Kathleen Leadley and Janet Peifer. Other biographies of women active in leadership positions in the Brethren in Christ Church include Harriet Bicksler, Dr. Dorothy Gish, Nancy Ruth Heisey, Esther Spurrier, and Alice Grace Zercher.



## For Internet Users

Have you checked our web site lately? It can be accessed at [www.messiah.edu/WHWC](http://www.messiah.edu/WHWC).

You will find updates on the upcoming conference and many resources about women in ministry and leadership.

Also, we have an email discussion list on which various topics have been discussed, prayer requests shared, and open positions announced.

To subscribe to the list serv, send an email message to: [listserv@listserv.messiah.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.messiah.edu) which states: subscribe WHWC (your name).

**(Example: subscribe WHWC Mary Jones)**

That message will be forwarded to Janet Peifer, the list manager, and she will give the approval for your membership.

You will then be a member and can send messages to the others on the discussion list at this address: [WHWC@listserv.messiah.edu](mailto:WHWC@listserv.messiah.edu).

## Special Prayer Focus

The Planning Board will be meeting in the Harrisburg, PA area from October 17-19, 2002. We seek your prayers as new members join the board and we begin to plan for the April 2004 Come to the Water Conference. Pray for physical, emotional, and spiritual strength for Susie Stanley and for each of the board members—Janet Peifer, Barbara Berry, Alice Maurer, Peach Fosket, Vicki Copp, Lois Watkins, Martha Lockwood, Duk Jae Lee, and Donna Hurula.

**Please e-mail news articles, scholarly research, and/or stories to the editor:**

**Rev. Dr. Janet Peifer**  
[revjmp@equalworth.com](mailto:revjmp@equalworth.com)

## New Denomination Joins WHWC

When the WHWC Planning Board meets in October, Pastor Duk Jae Lee will join the other board members. Pastor Lee is the representative for the newest sponsoring church group, The Korean Evangelical Holiness Church in America

## New Group Endorses WHWC

The Francis Asbury Society has joined the Wesleyan Theological Society and the Christian Wholiness Partnership as endorsers of Wesleyan/Holiness Women's Clergy.

## Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy International Membership 2002–2004

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Denomination/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

\$25.00 Membership     \$15.00 Student/Senior (over 55)     Contribution

I request scholarship assistance to pay for my membership dues.(Please pay what you can.)

Your membership card will be sent to the above address, unless otherwise specified. Mail this form and your check (made out to WHWC) to: Major Donna Hurula, The Salvation Army National Headquarters, 615 Slaters Lane. P.O. Box 269, Alexandria, VA 22313.

*Please encourage others to join by sending a copy of this form. Thank you.*

# “The Wesleyan Quadrilateral and Women”

by Susie Stanley, Convener

You may be wondering what the Wesleyan Quadrilateral has to do with women clergy! I've recently begun using the quadrilateral to illustrate that Wesleyan/Holiness theology supports women in all areas of ministry.

The quadrilateral refers to four ways that we understand theology. Scholars use this term to describe John Wesley's approach to theology. The four sources of theology are Bible, experience, tradition and reason. We, along with Wesley, give Bible the highest priority. These sources of theology are not equal. For most of us, experience is second in the ranking and tradition and reason follow. Other religious groups give the sources a different ranking.

Starting with the Bible, I begin with Gen. 1:27-28, move to Gen. 2:14 (using the arguments from the booklet we published by Joseph Coleson) and discuss the women prophets in the Old Testament. Then, I briefly summarize Jesus' treatment of women, the role of women at Pentecost, and women in Romans 16. 1 Cor. 11:5 undermines 1 Cor. 14:34. So, we're left with 1 Tim. 2:11-12 as the only verse that appears to mandate women's silence. Whole books have been written on this verse but I pair it with a discussion of 1 Tim.2:15. If one believes that 1 Tim. 2:11-12 controls the behavior of women in the church for all time in all places then, to be consistent, one must also hold that only women who are mothers will be saved. If the opponent says there are other verses that speak to how people, including women, are really saved, then he or she has lost their case because then they have to look at other verses in the Bible that affirm women leaders in the church.

Moving to the other sources of theology, I illustrate that experience has always been valued in Wesleyan/Holiness theology. A woman's call to ministry illustrates experience. Also, when people are led to Christ by a woman, experience indicates that her call is valid. I also provide numerous examples of women who followed their call in all areas of ministry, from preaching at prisons, camp meetings and revivals to serving as pastors and church planters, founding denominations and engaging in ministries of social holiness. In terms of tradition, I use statements by Wesleyan/Holiness believers to support the scriptural basis for women in ministry. Tradition also incorporates the experience of women over the centuries. Last, I ask several questions to illustrate the role of reason. Here are two: "If the chief task of Christians is evangelism, why would God disqualify half of the human race from any aspect of this activity? If God uses women in the conversion and sanctification of individuals, should humans stop them?"

This brief overview demonstrates the use of the Wesleyan quadrilateral to discuss the role of women in the church. It illustrates a way of doing theology as well as applying it to one issue. The other sources of theology augment the Biblical basis for women's service in all aspects of ministry.

## WHWC Speaker's Bureau

To submit your name for consideration in the Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy Speaker's Bureau, please send the following information to Kay F. Rader, 3953 Rock Ledge Lane, Lexington, KY 40513 or via email to [kayfrader@aol.com](mailto:kayfrader@aol.com).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination/Church Group \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Education \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Current ministry/employment \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Issues/Topics on which you speak or have done research \_\_\_\_\_

Name, address, email or phone number of **2** persons who can give a reference of your speaking/preaching.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## WESLEYAN/HOLINESS WOMEN CLERGY BOOKLETS

- \_\_\_\_\_ ***Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy: A Preliminary Bibliography***, compiled by Susie Stanley  
Incorporates current and archival materials, published and unpublished. Headings include autobiographies, biographies, sermons, scriptural defenses of women clergy and general articles.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ ***'Ezer Cenegdo: A Power like Him, Facing Him as Equal***, by Joseph E. Coleson  
Dr. Coleson, a professor of Hebrew Bible, examines the phrase from Gen. 2 and concludes that God's intention at creation was for men and women to relate as equals. Subordination was the consequence of the Fall. The Order of Redemption "calls us to equality in every area of life."
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ ***Inclusive Language Handbook***, by Don Thorsen and Vickie Becker  
The authors define inclusive language and provide a theological rationale for its use. This user-friendly guide provides numerous examples.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ ***Satisfied: Women Hymn Writers of the 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Wesleyan/Holiness Movement***, by Keith Schwanz  
Fascinating vignettes of nine women. Several hymns are included.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ ***Reclaiming the Wesleyan/Holiness Heritage of Women Clergy: Sermons, A Case Study and Resources***, by Randy Huber and John E. Stanley  
Eleven sermons preached by Rev. Huber focus on women of faith in the Bible. They strongly endorse recognizing women's gifts in all areas of ministry. A brief section "New Testament Arguments for the Equality of Men and Women in Ministry" as well as a short bibliography are included.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ ***Cloud of Witnesses: Portraits of Women Ministers in the Wesleyan/Holiness Movement***, edited by Gloria J. Bell  
Illustrated chapters on women ministers, representing each of our supporting denominations.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ ***God's Call: From Infilling to Outpouring (Sermons by Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy)***, edited by Margaret Dunn  
Four sermons preached at the second international Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy Conference in Indianapolis in 1996. Commissioner Kay Rader, Rev. Janine Metcalf, Rev. Kits Monencillo and Rev. Dr. Diana Swoope addressed the conference theme.

<b>Price:</b>	\$3.00 each
<b>Price for Members:</b>	\$2.50 each
<b>Postage:</b>	1 booklet = \$1.00
	2 booklets = \$1.50
	3-4 booklets = \$2.00

Contact **Susie Stanley** for prices on bulk orders. (*Membership discount not available for bulk orders.*)

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Grantham, PA 17027

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City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## Mission Statement

“The mission of Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy is to equip and encourage divinely-called women in vocational ministry and professional leadership positions.”

## Additional Articles on WHWC Web Site

We'll be posting new articles this fall to the WHWC Web Site ([www.messiah.edu/whwc](http://www.messiah.edu/whwc)). Ultimately, we'll be doubling the number of articles. Check us out for some great Wesleyan/Holiness articles on the issue of women in ministry!

**It's not too early to get the next Come to the Water Conference on your calendar!!**  
Brochures will be available in Summer 2003. Who else would benefit by attending? Why not give a special invitation!

**Sixth International WHWC Conference**  
**April 15-18, 2004**  
**Cincinnati, Ohio**



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WHWC  
c/o Dr. Susie Stanley  
PO Box 4081  
One College Avenue  
Grantham, PA 17027

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