

WTS Liaison to the Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy Annual Report

MISSION: "The mission of the Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy, Intl. is to equip and encourage divinely-called women in vocational ministry and professional leadership positions." Women from the seven sponsoring bodies--The Brethren in Christ, The Church of God (Anderson), The Church of the Nazarene, The Free Methodist Church, The Salvation Army, and The Wesleyan Church--have worked to promote that mission in the following ways.

EVENTS:

- 4th International Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy Conference
Come to the Water: Grace for Such a Time as This
Jacksonville, FL, April 2000
292 registered, representing 15 denominations and including 83 students.
(The numbers were down from the previous years but this was expected since several denominations had major conferences last summer.)
- 5th International Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy Conference
Come to the Water: Where the Spirit of the Lord Is, There is Ministry, Hope, Power and Liberty Colorado Springs, CO, April 18-21, 2002

RESOURCES:

- ◆ 7 booklets that include a bibliography, a biblical study of women's place in creation, an inclusive language handbook, a study of 19th century female hymn writers in the Wes/Hol movement, sermons and historical portraits of women in ministry in the movement.
- ◆ Web site (www.messiah.edu/whwc) with conference info, booklet description and ordering info, conference tape ordering info, membership form (membership, like conference attendance, is open to women and men), full text of some above mentioned booklets, and articles about women's ministry.
- ◆ Listserv for women clergy to discuss issues of ministry, including those particular to women in ministry.
- ◆ A gallery with pictures of women clergy from each of the sponsoring churches along with a brief description of their ministries, is available on the web site.

ACTIVITIES:

- ✱ The WHWC has sold 810 booklets since the conference last April.
- ✱ In response to the Southern Baptist decision to limit the office of pastor to men, WHWC gathered statements from denominational leaders endorsing women's participation in church leadership. Individual members submitted letters to the editor and op-ed pieces to newspapers around the country.
- ✱ In addition, the WHWC had an article appear in *Christianity Today* on women clergy. ("What has Gender Got to Do With It?" *CT* September 4, 2000, p 105-107).

Respectfully submitted,
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