

# the Adventist Woman

THE ADVENTIST WOMAN  
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AAW Conference set for October 15-18 in Loma Linda

## Internationally known speakers focus on "Women for All Seasons"

A pool of extraordinarily talented Adventist women living in Southeastern California have banded together to plan and organize the 16th annual conference of the Association of Adventist Women (AAW) in Loma Linda, California, October 15-18. Under the leadership of Alyce Pudewell, AAW president, and Pat Foster, chair of the conference planning committee, they have chosen to focus on the theme, "Women for All Seasons."

"Our goal is help women evaluate the many opportunities and challenges that face them in their professional and personal lives," Foster states. "Women's lives are complicated by many roles. In public—through our professions and vocations—we expect opinions and aspirations, our work and our votes to count equally with men's. In private we often change our roles and become care-givers for a spouse, children, parents, or others."

The purpose of the conference is not to urge women to be superwomen. Foster says, "We can't have it all or do it all. Rather, as 'women for all seasons,' we recognize that we must balance our care-giving of others with healthy choices for our

own minds, bodies, and spirits."

### Plenary Speakers

• Hyveth Williams, pastor of the Campus Hill Church in Loma Linda, California has invited AAW to be guests at her church for the 11 o'clock worship hour on Sabbath morning, October 17. A dynamic preacher and organizer who is a sought-after speaker through the world church, Williams completed her doctor of ministry degree in May at Boston University's School of Theology. She is also the first woman to be senior pastor of a large Seventh-day Adventist congregation. At Campus Hill, the 1200 multicultural members generated nearly \$1 million in tithes in 1997. Prior to coming to California, Williams was senior pastor of the Boston Temple in Massachusetts, and an associate pastor at Sligo Church in Takoma Park, Maryland.

• Kendra Haloviak will speak for the



Hyveth Williams

opening session of the AAW conference on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 7:30, in the Wong-Kerlee Convention Center located next door to the Loma Linda University Medical Center. She will also present the lesson study at the Loma Linda University Church on Sabbath morning, Oct. 17.

Haloviak is assistant professor of religion at Columbia Union College in Maryland. A sixth-generation Adventist, she has also served as a pastor in Kettering, Ohio; the All Nations Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan; and at Sligo Church in Takoma Park, Maryland. The latter congregation ordained her to gospel ministry in September 1995. She has recently completed her doctoral classes in New Testament studies and ethics at the Graduate Theological Union at Berkeley, California.

• Keynote speaker Marchiene Vroon Rienstra is the author of four books, a pastor, seminary teacher, former missionary



Kendra Haloviak

in India and Africa, and a member of the board of editors of *Perspectives* (formerly *The Reformed Journal*). An engaging and energetic speaker, Rienstra was the

first woman to enter the M.Div. program at Calvin Seminary and the first woman to apply to the Christian Reformed Church's Synod for permission to be a candidate for the ordained ministry in 1978, a request which was denied.

"Rienstra understands the journey Adventist women have been taking in search of acceptance and equality," stated Kit Watts, a member of the AAW conference planning committee. "Despite some difficult setbacks, she has flourished spiritually. Through her international travels and her books, she has led thousands into a deeper and more meaningful relationship with God."



Marchiene Rienstra

### Keynote speaker qualified by experience

Keynote speaker Marchiene Vroon Rienstra is a citizen of the world and a woman ahead of her time. She is also a deeply spiritual person whose books such as *Swallow's Nest: A Feminine Reading of the Psalms* (published by Eerdmans in 1992) have inspired thousands of Christians to seek a more meaningful relationship with God.

Born en route to India of missionary parents, a doctor and a nurse who were serving the United Presbyterian Church, she lived in India and Pakistan until age 15.

In 1969, while still in college, she spent a year in Nigeria doing volunteer work for the Christian Reformed Church. There she met her future husband, Dr. John Rienstra. Returning to the U.S., she completed majors in English and speech at Calvin College. Later, she, her husband, and children took short-term mission assignments in Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Mexico.

### Woman Pioneer

When the youngest of their children was ready for preschool, Rienstra began classes at Calvin Seminary, the first woman to enter their M.Div. program. When she graduated in 1978 she was the first woman to apply to the Christian Reformed Church's Synod for permission to be a candidate for ordained ministry. Her request was denied.

Subsequently she received a call issued by the Presbyterian Church and accepted. In 1979 she was ordained and helped to found a new congregation. In 1984 she accepted a call to be senior pastor of the Hope Reformed Church in Holland, Mich.

Seeking depth in her Christian experience, Rienstra undertook training in spiritual direction at the Church of the Savior in Washington, D.C., and in the Academy of Spiritual Formation. She has led many retreats for churches, women's groups, seminaries, retreat centers, and missionaries.

In 1989, after a struggle with cancer,

Rienstra sensed a call to a more contemplative life of prayer, study, spiritual direction, art, and writing. In 1994 she became pastor of the First Congregational Church of Saugatuck, Mich., for two years. In the spring of 1998 she began a doctor of ministry program at Western Theological Seminary. One of her goals is to help implement a certification program at the seminary for individuals who feel called to be spiritual companions and/or initiators of spiritual renewal in their churches and communities.

### AAW celebrates two key anniversaries for women

Two major anniversaries for women will be celebrated during the 1998 AAW conference in Loma Linda, California.

The first is the 150th anniversary of the first Women's Rights Convention. Five women, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, organized the event for July 1848, in Seneca Falls, New York. All had been active in the abolitionist movement. A group of 300 women and men filled the Methodist church and called for women's equality. The resolution calling for women's ordination passed easily. Calling for women's right to vote was far more controversial.

This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the Camp Mohaven Council on the Role of Women in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. About 25 Adventist administrators, scholars, pastors, and lay people—half of them women—met at the Ohio youth camp in September 1973. By majority vote they recommended that Annual Council adopt a pilot plan for women in ministry that would lead to their ordination as early as 1975. The Annual Council voted to "receive" rather than to accept these recommendations. The scholarly papers that supported the Camp Mohaven recommendations were not released until more than 10 years later at the 1984 AAW "Women of Mission" Conference at Andrews University.



Several women chaplains attending SDAHCA meetings in Oregon paused for a photo.

### Adventist women attend chaplains meetings

Fifteen women in ministry were among approximately 75 Adventist healthcare chaplains who met in Portland, Oregon, in late April. The Seventh-day Adventist HealthCare Chaplains Association (SDAHCA) met in connection with the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC).

The good news and the bad news that women heard during the conference is that powerful healthcare accrediting bodies are moving strongly toward demanding board-certified chaplains. This will encourage all chaplains to get recognized professional training. But Adventist women who lack an M.Div. degree, church endorsement, and four units of CPE (clinical pastoral education) will find it more and more difficult to qualify for jobs.

"Friends who were trying to be helpful told me I didn't need the same qualifications as men," said Brenda Johnson, one of the co-chairs of the Adventist Chaplains for Women in Ministry Committee. "And while this was a compassionate view, it was very bad advice." Johnson and other Adventist women are now trying to play catch-up—finishing college degrees, getting their M.Div. degrees as they can, and taking CPE from accredited programs. Many have to do this

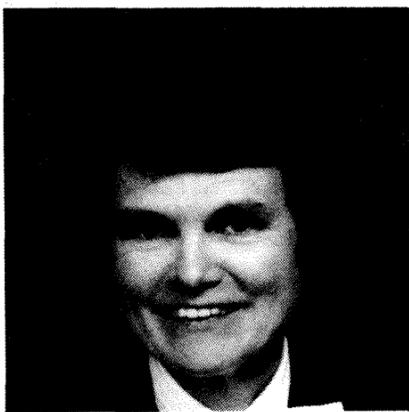
while working full time.

Johnson said she felt it was essential to speak to academy and college-age young women who feel called to ministry and explain the requirements. "We must let them know that they must follow the same course that men do," she added.

"The impact of these tighter standards is that fewer women will come in the side door," said Marty Feldbush, associate director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries at the General Conference. "That is hard news for Adventist women, many of whom have been discouraged from ministry while they were still in school, and who now find themselves lacking the needed qualifications."

Among the women attending the professional meetings who are currently employed as chaplains were: Beulah Stevens and Wanda Davis, Portland Adventist Hospital, Ore.; Juanita Bartel, Shawnee Mission Medical Center, Kan.; Judy Crabb, St. Helena Hospital, Calif.; Shari Chamberlain, Ukiah Valley Medical Center, Calif.; Fay Rose, Florida Adventist Hospital, Waterman, Fla.; Gloria McLaren, The Hospice of the Florida Suncoast, Fla.; Tricia Treft, Hinsdale Hospital, Ill.; and Penny Shell, Adventist HealthCare, Md.

## Seven Adventist women receive awards for epitomizing



**Healthcare Administrator  
Maxine Blome:  
Community Life Award**

During a 40-year career marked by dedicated leadership and innovative ideas, Maxine Blome has made an extensive and substantive contribution to Adventist healthcare leadership. In 1983 when she joined AHS/West as a vice president she spearheaded the drive to computerize patient charts. Despite setbacks over several years, her idea of using a portable wand and bar codes finally became reality, making charting quicker, more reliable, and complete. In the early 1990s, Blome developed a parish nurse program in Adventist Health System/West. (Parish nursing programs involve nurses in local churches where they attend to physical, mental, and spiritual needs.)

Blome obtained her R.N. in 1950 from the Portland Sanitarium and Hospital in Oregon, and later worked there a total of 18 years. She completed her B.S. in nursing at Columbia Union College (1956) and an M.S.

from the University of Oregon Medical School (1962). While at Paradise Valley Hospital (1962-1971) she was the first woman elected to the governing board and the first woman hospital board member in San Diego County. She received the National Nurses Award for Outstanding Achievement in 1972, and was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Nurses in 1979. Blome also traveled and lectured in Africa, the Far East, and Australia.

While Blome was becoming a highly skilled professional and valued nursing administrator, she also "got a life." Though single, she became surrogate mother to four nieces and a nephew. By purchasing fixer-upper houses, Blome and her children plumbed, sanded, and painted them into a profit. She financed three nieces and two grandnieces through Adventist schools.

Her commitment to her family's Christian experience led her into work for her local church including Sabbath school, Pathfinders, and other family ministries. Since her retirement, Blome has continued to be involved with church planting projects, children's story hour programs, and other leadership roles in her congregation. She currently chairs the board at Weimar Institute, and serves on the board of the Tillamook General Hospital in Oregon.

Vice-presidents and patient care directors from 17 Adventist hospitals signed a letter nominating Blome for an Adventist woman of the year award. Frank Dupper, chairman of Adventist Health System/West, summed up Blome's contributions by saying, "Maxine represents the best of Adventist professionalism and commitment to her Lord. She is vivacious, compassionate, caring, and it is always a challenge for others to keep up with her."



**Teacher and Author  
Dorothy Minchin Comm:  
Lifetime Achievement Award**

A prolific writer and widely recognized for her contributions to Seventh-day Adventist publishing and teaching, Dorothy Minchin Comm is known by countless former students, friends, and readers who live around the world. Born in Kansas, Dorothy soon traveled abroad when her parents became missionaries in Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and England. She earned her B.A. at Atlantic Union College in 1950, her M.A. from Andrews University in 1963, and her Ph.D. in English literature from the University of Alberta in Canada in 1971. She began teaching on the La Sierra University campus in 1978.

After her marriage to Walter Comm in 1951, she and her husband interspersed teaching in Canada with mission service in the West Indies and the Philippines. They adopted two children. Just 33 years later she

stood by her companion and friend when he lost a battle with cancer.

A person of many interests and abilities, Comm not only taught, parented, and moved on to the next station of duty, but also undertook a remarkable writing career. She has written news releases, radio scripts, multimedia programs, mission stories, devotionals, editorials, scores of articles, and more than a dozen books. She also served as associate editor or editor of *Adventist Heritage* magazine for 14 years.

Her list of special interests is not short. Beginning with classical music, photography, theories of creativity, and folklore it goes on to include swimming, needlecraft, and animals. She has been on an archaeology dig and directed a Christian writer's conference. She is listed in *Who's Who in the West* (1990), *Who's Who of Women* (11th edi-

tion), the *Dictionary of International Biography* (22nd edition), and *The International Who's Who of Intellectuals* (10th edition).

Excite, an Internet search engine, announced a contest in 1997 to locate the real Dot Com (.com). Dorothy (Dot) Comm emerged as the winner, leading to television appearances on CNN, the *Rosie O'Donnell Show*, and media interviews with the BBC, *People* magazine, *The London Times*, and the *St. Petersburg Times* in Florida.

Frank Knittel, pastor, friend and colleague, says of Comm, "I know no other woman who so ably meets the all-round qualifications for this honor...Her mind is a window into the church, and her pen is documentary of the church before the world. Everything about her shouts the embodiment of Seventh-day Adventist Christians ought to represent."



**Around-the-World Cyclist  
Charlotte Patterson Hamlin:  
President's Award**

Full of energy and a zest for life since her youth, Charlotte Patterson Hamlin took the first leg of what became a 12,000-mile cycling trip when she was 68.

Having earned her R.N. at Loma Linda University and B.S. in nursing education from Walla Walla College in 1945, Hamlin worked in several hospitals as her husband, Eugene, began pastoral ministry. From 1952 to 1960 the couple served as missionaries in Guam and Japan. She tackled many projects, from starting an English Bible school in Kobe, Japan, to teaching nutrition seminars. Returning to Loma Linda, she earned a M.P.H. in 1972 with majors in public health nutrition and health education. She became assistant professor of nursing at Andrews University from 1973 until her retirement in 1986.

The next year she and her son, Gene, founded Global Trek International, a non-profit organization that promotes the health

principles found in Ellen White's classic book, *The Ministry of Healing*. She was ever ready to teach classes in smoking cessation, stress management, weight control, health and spirituality. Meanwhile, she also began cycling and walking across the United States, parts of Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Japan, Guam, Hawaii, and Canada, finishing her journey on her 70th birthday in 1988.

Four years later she cycled from Brisbane to Sydney, Australia. At age 75 she biked from Vancouver to Newfoundland, granting 150 radio and TV interviews along the way promoting a healthful vegetarian lifestyle. Her newly released book, *Ride With the Wind*, documents her travels. For her 80th birthday (summer of 1998), she plans to bike north to the Arctic Circle.

"Charlotte doesn't achieve her amazing feats of physical endurance simply to gain notoriety," says Skip MacCarty, associate

pastor of the Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan. "She is driven by a passion to demonstrate that God's laws are both reasonable and powerful, resulting in optimum health and happiness. She wants the world to know that her God is a great God, a loving God who has prescribed the best for His children."



**Family Life Educator  
Kay Humpal Kuzma:  
Family Life Award**

With more than a dozen published books, a radio program airing on 600 stations, and monthly columns appearing in several union conference papers, Kay Kuzma is one of the best known family life speakers and writers in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She has two new books due off the press in 1998, *Blessings at Midnight*, and with co-authors Ron and Nancy Rockey, *Belonging*.

Born in Ogallala, Nebraska, she earned her B.S. in home economics from La Sierra University in 1962, an M.A. in child development at Michigan State University in 1963, and an Ed.D. in early childhood education in 1970. After teaching in a variety of schools for 10 years, she joined the Loma Linda University School of Public Health from 1972 to 1986. Since 1986 she has served as an adjunct professor.

With her husband, Jan, she founded Parent Scene in 1982, a non-profit organization

that became Family Matters in 1989. Radio, TV, videos, seminars, and book publications provided a broad foundation for this effort. In 1991 they moved the ministry to Cleveland, Tennessee. Here Kuzma launched the "Welcome Baby" program as a tool for local churches to reach families of newborns, and started a new publication, *Family Times*. In 1992 the first TV programs entitled, *Family Matters With Dr. Kay Kuzma and Dick Duerksen*, were recorded. In 1993 Kuzma expanded her radio outreach with the 60-second program, *Got a Minute for Your Family?*

Radio-spot producer Rees Evans says of Kuzma: "Her enthusiasm and practical insight has given [my own family] a firm handle on the many trials of raising three energetic boys. When I boil my career down at the end, all the advertising products and training films I've done will be long forgotten, but the *Family*

*Matters* programs will have affected the lives of thousands of parents and kids."

"Kay and her husband Jan are sincere and devoted Christians who tirelessly give of their time and talent to build healthy, Christ-centered families," says Steve Haley, pastor of the Bowman Hills Church where the Kuzmas attend. "Kay is a credit to her church and a witness for her Lord!"

# Christian service, professional excellence, moral leadership



**U.S. Ambassador to Malta  
Kathryn Haycock Proffitt:  
Outstanding Achievement**

In 1982 Kathryn Haycock Proffitt mortgaged her house to establish Call America, a long distance telephone company, and has become a nationally recognized leader in the telecommunications industry. She is vice chair of the Competitive Telecommunications Association, which represents telecommunications service providers with annual revenues of less than \$5 billion. She has spoken in economic conferences held in France and South Africa and was honored by President Bill Clinton in a speech on his campaign trip to Phoenix.

In September 1997 the Clinton administration nominated her to serve as ambassador to Malta, an island in the Mediterranean Sea south of Sicily. After winning Senate confirmation, she was sworn in at the White

House on December 15 by Vice President Al Gore. Two days later, she was sworn in at the State Department. Proffitt has sold her telecommunications business and is now serving full-time as ambassador.

Originally from Cornelius, Oregon, Proffitt graduated from Laurelwood Academy and earned her bachelor and master's degrees from universities in Oregon. A former dental hygienist, she co-founded and became president of the East Valley Dental Hygiene Society in Phoenix, Arizona. She is the mother of four children; Gari and Rachelle are high school age, Holly recently graduated from college, and Corbin is studying medicine at Loma Linda University. As a member of the Camelback Seventh-day Adventist Church in Phoenix, one of the larg-

est in Arizona, Proffitt served on the finance committee, youth ministries, the school board and on several conference committees.

"Kathy Proffitt has demonstrated her commitment to building people and organizations that serve people in numerous effective ways," says Dr. Ivan Blake, Camelback senior pastor. "She has the ability to electrify a discussion [and is] someone who cares about people more than policy. She has confronted enormous obstacles—moral and fiscal—and has discovered the only way forward is to trust in God's marvelous interventions. She is used by God to encourage people. Her insights and compassion point others to Jesus as a loving Friend of sinners."



**Pastor to Refugees  
Lang Van:  
Spiritual Life Award**

Cambodians around the world benefit from the ministry of Pastor Lang Van who has ministered to refugees in camps on the Thai border, in France, and currently in Southeastern California. Seeking to attract Buddhists to Christianity is just one of many challenges. In addition to this frontline evangelism and pastoral duties in her growing Cambodian congregation, Van also spends many hours translating Sabbath school lessons and books such as *Steps to Christ* and *The Bible Speaks* into her native tongue.

In the early 1970s Lang Van took teacher training courses and studied literature at a university in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She also discovered she could learn English at a nearby language school being conducted by Adventist student missionaries. On September 14, 1974, she was baptized into the Sev-

enth-day Adventist Church. With a friend, Iv Sopheareth, she decided to pursue a Christian education in Singapore. One week after leaving Cambodia, their homeland fell to the Communists. Van never saw several members of her family again, many lost to the killing fields. Political problems made it impossible to remain in Singapore; providentially, Van and her friend were able to transfer to Collonges, France. After six years of diligent study and hard work to earn her tuition, Van graduated with a B.A. in theology (1981). She also obtained a certificate to be a French teacher.

When the Southeast Asia Union invited Van Lang to become director of the Voice of Prophecy for the Khmer people and a Bible instructor, she accepted. In the refugee camps on the Thai border she helped raise up of church of 300 new believers. From 1984 to

1991 she served in the North France Conference as a full-time pastor to Cambodian refugees in Paris. In 1992 she moved to the United States and became a part-time Bible worker among Cambodians in the Southeastern California Conference. After four years of full-time ministry for partial pay, Van was recognized as a "sole pastor" for the Cambodian group. Since January 1997 she has been paid full-time. Forty attend the Loma Linda Cambodian church, 25 of whom are baptized.

Of her contributions, Lynn Mallery, president of the Southeastern California Conference, says: "Lang Van has an extremely visionary vocation. Her devotion and tenacity are great assets. We are very excited and proud of her accomplishments."



**TV Anchorwoman  
Brenda Blackmon Wood:  
Professional Life Award**

Characterized as "tough, driven, competitive," Wood determined to make her career in TV journalism despite warnings about losing her way spiritually. Today she has not only received numerous honors and awards—including 10 Emmy awards and five awards from the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists—but she is also an active and respected leader in the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Orphaned at age 5, she was adopted by Alma Blackmon, her aunt, and educated at Oakwood College and Loma Linda University. She earned her B.A. in speech communication and mass media on the La Sierra campus in 1977. She began her career in Huntsville, Alabama at age 23 working as a news reporter, anchoring news breaks, and producing a public affairs show. After her marriage to Dr. Keith Wood, an Oakwood

College professor, she worked for eight years in Memphis. Subsequently, she and her family moved to Atlanta where she first anchored news at a CBS affiliate. When that station was taken over by Fox, she decided to move to the NBC affiliate and became lead anchor.

Atlanta Magazine writer Vincent Coppola describes her as "a devout Seventh-day Adventist. . . cool, contained—the female version. . . of the network anchors of old, guys like Eric Sevareid and Walter Cronkite." Another colleague says, "Brenda Wood is the genuine article. You are getting the truth. You are getting the real person. Brenda Wood's personal strength and presence come through on the screen."

In her home church, Wood directs a mentoring program matching new members with established church members to assist them integrate with the larger church fam-

ily. She is active in church communication projects, children's church, and the choir. Pastor Eric Calvin Ward says, "I have seen Brenda Wood climb in technological prominence with our national media exponents. With all of her professional accomplishments, she has also grown spiritually, in her faithfulness to her family, and more importantly, in her relationship with God."

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## October 15 pre-session to bolster women in ministry

Believing that women pastors and chaplains, religion teachers, theology students, church administrators and supportive lay people need a chance to network, the Women's Resource Center and AAW are co-sponsoring a one-day event at La Sierra University (LSU) on Thursday, October 15.

"Our topic will be 'Women and the Word,'" states Kit Watts, director of the LSU women's center, who is organizing the event. "Anyone who is seriously interested in Scripture study and in professional issues that affect women pastors and chaplains is welcome. We need time to get better acquainted, share news and ideas, and see firsthand how women theologians can expand our understanding of the Bible."

### Presenters for "Women and the Word":

**Madelynn Haldeman**, retired professor of religion at La Sierra University, will explore themes from the Gospel of Matthew, a book on which she is writing a commentary.

**Hyveth Williams**, who recently completed her D.Min., will summarize her dissertation entitled, "Thelasia Theology: A Preaching Model for Women."

**Penny Shell**, a past president of the Seventh-day Adventist HealthCare Chaplains Association, will survey "Current Issues for Women Chaplains."

**Sally Andriamiarisoa** will report on her Th.D. dissertation (currently in process), which examines patriarchal issues in Christianity by studying the theologian Rosemary Radford Reuther and the Roman Catholic Church.

**Clarissa Worley**, a recent seminary graduate involved in establishing an Adventist congregation in the Northwest designed to appeal to contemporary people, will report on the church planting movement.

**Bernadine Irwin** will share highlights from her dissertation that focused on understanding Ellen White as both a person and a leader who pushed Adventists to adopt health reform and establish a network of schools.

**Registration information.** "Women and the Word" will meet on the La Sierra University Campus, Oct. 15, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Early registration: \$25 if mailed by Sept. 25. (Between Sept. 26 and Oct. 13 the cost is \$30; sorry, no walk-in registrations.) Students with I.D. may register for \$10 until Oct. 13.

A generous buffet lunch, handouts, materials, and refreshments are included. Register as part of the AAW conference (call 1-800-SDA-PLUS). Or mail your name, address, phone number, and check to: "Women and the Word," Women's Resource Center, La Sierra University, 4700 Pierce Street, Riverside, CA 92515. (Checks sent to the women's center should be made out to La Sierra University.)

Note: If you plan to stay at the San Bernardino Hilton the night of Oct. 14 and need a ride to the La Sierra University Campus on Thursday morning for the pre-session, please call the Women's Resource Center at (909) 637-0954 no later than Sept. 25.

### Presidential Communique



Alyce Pudewell

## God's Messengers

This year is the 150th anniversary of the first Women's Rights Convention held at Seneca Falls, New York. The purpose of this convention was to rally women to challenge U.S. laws restricting their rights and personhood.

### Women's right to vote

The right we women take for granted today—the right to vote—was won by a few women who believed in their equality of citizenship and began to speak about it forthrightly at the 1848 convention. For the next 70 years, women dared to stand up to ridicule, obstruction, and opposition of the worst kind; they never gave up, though all predicted their failure. Their perseverance finally won the day. We can, right now, stop and offer a prayer of thanks for them. They were God's messengers.

### The Mother Emancipator

Eighty years ago Jane Addams published her story, *Twenty Years at Hull House*. She opened a settlement house 109 years ago. Twenty-one years after opening it, there were 400 such houses across the nation. Her father had mentored Abraham Lincoln, and she always identified with him in her mission to save the poor who were enslaved by the Industrial Revolution. She was sometimes called the female Lincoln, reared, as the president had been, in rural Illinois and, like him, a symbol of integrity and honesty. She was the Mother Emancipator who would deliver poor immigrants into the mainstream of American life.

In 1931 Addams was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. She not only saved the poor, but also the well-educated and well-to-do women who were idle because they were not allowed by society to use their gifts and talents publicly. The settlement houses were dependent on these women's volunteer services. Addams likened her powerlessness as a woman to the powerlessness of the poor. She worked tirelessly to abolish child labor, sweatshops, tenements, unsafe factories, filthy streets, and prostitution. We can, right now, stop and offer a prayer of thanks for Jane Addams. She was God's messenger.

### Three women change L.A. law

This year, three women in Los Angeles have changed the city's policies toward the housing of the poor and non-English-speaking residents. Elisa Rivera and Lorenza Cruz, with the help of Anne Crawford, a tenant organizer for the St. Francis Center, led a tenants' rights movement focused on city hall. As the city council met to discuss a proposal for mandatory housing inspections, 200 tenants streamed into the room. They were organized and well-trained. They knew when to stand and applaud, even though most did not speak English.

The ordinance passed, and now a mandatory inspection of every one of the 700,000 rental units in the city will be made every three years. The inspections will be funded from a \$1 monthly fee on each unit. This movement sprang from deplorable living conditions reflected by 13,000 unanswered complaints backlogged in the Department of Building and Safety. We can, right now, stop and offer a prayer of thanks for these women. They are God's messengers.

### Adventists at Camp Mohaven in 1973

Twenty-five years ago a group of church leaders and lay people met at Camp Mohaven, Ohio, to study the Bible and "reason together" about the need for recognition and affirmation of the women who already were and who could in the future minister to the needs of Adventist congregations.

Just as women in the past were called to do a certain work for society that no one else would do, so our Adventist women pastors and chaplains are called to do a certain work for the churches that no one else would do. These women have a special outlook and vision that has been given them by God. They have a unique mission to families and to outreach that no one else has.

The consensus of the meetings at Camp Mohaven was a strong affirmation of God's freedom to call to women to minister and of the church's responsibility to officially recognize them as ministers. We can, right now, stop and offer a prayer of thanks for our Adventist women in ministry. They are God's messengers.

### AAW a voice for Adventist women

The Association of Adventist Women was founded to promote and support women in using their talents and gifts wherever God calls them—whether to improve the conditions of society or to become a spiritual force in the church. Whether a woman is a paid employee of the church, a volunteer, a homemaker, or someone with a professional career, she needs an environment that provides equality, respect, and appropriate recognition of her contributions. AAW stands as a watch and a voice for women. We are God's messengers.

### Three young women lead the way...

The church's greatest challenge today is to inspire young people in their twenties and thirties to listen for God's call and become leaders. Unfortunately, this generation is walking out of the church as fast as new converts are walking in.

Three young Adventist women felt inspired by God to turn that trend around. Shasta Emery and Jennifer Tyner are pulling together a national youth convention, eXcite 98, which promises to attract hundreds, even thousands of young people, ages 20 to 35, to La Sierra University in Riverside, California, August 6-8. One of the goals of the conference is to inspire and empower young people to become active in their faith now.

Yami Bazan, with her husband Dan, have sold their home and all their belongings to buy a motor home. With support from the Southeastern California Conference, the North American Division, and many well-wishers, they plan to spend the next two years as traveling evangelists, visiting academy and college campus, calling students to live for and serve the Lord.

These three women are called by the Holy Spirit to do a work no one else seemed to recognize needed to be done. We can, right now, stop and offer a prayer of thanks for these women. They are God's messengers.

## SECC appoints coordinator for women pastors

The Southeastern California Conference (SECC) has appointed Halcyon Wilson as assistant to the president for women pastors. More than a dozen women are full-time pastors in the conference and make up approximately 10 percent of the ministerial workforce.

"Women make an important contribution to pastoral leadership in this conference," says Lynn Mallery, president. Conference secretary Gerald Penick adds, "We once had 18 women pastors, but recently those numbers have declined. We are committed to turning this trend around. Hiring Pastor Wilson to keep in regular contact with this group is a first step in the right direction."

Wilson joined the La Sierra University Church in 1980 as an associate pastor with an expertise in family counseling. Since her retirement in 1997, she has continued to work part-time doing pastoral visitation. Her responsibilities with SECC are also part-time, set at approximately 20 hours per month. She took up her new duties on March 1.

Penny Miller, who teaches at the Loma Linda University School of Nursing and serves on the SECC executive committee, commented about Wilson's new work. "All pastors face difficult challenges," she said. "But because women may also meet discrimination or rejection because of their gender, they have additional burdens to bear. Our women need someone to turn

to who has experienced what they are experiencing. Elder Wilson will be a valuable resource both for them and for conference administration." Wilson was ordained to gospel ministry by the La Sierra University Church in 1995.



Halcyon Wilson

### Tentative Schedule 16th AAW Conference October 15-18, 1998

"Women and the Word"  
Pre-session co-sponsored by AAW  
and the LSU Women's Resource Center

Thurs., Oct. 15, 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
At La Sierra University, Riverside, Calif.:  
8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Registration  
8:30 - 12:00 Presentations and Discussion  
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch (covered by fee)  
1:15 - 5:00 Presentations and Discussion  
5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Close

"Women for All Seasons"  
16th annual AAW Conference  
Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, Calif.

Thursday, Oct. 15, 5 - 9 p.m.  
Wong-Kerlee Convention Center,  
LLU Campus:  
5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Registration  
7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Welcome & Introductions  
Opening Plenary Session:  
Kendra Haloviak

Friday, Oct. 16, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Loma Linda University Church  
8:30 - 9:45 a.m. Keynote Address:  
Marchiene Vroon Rienstra  
10:00 - 12:30 p.m. Workshops

At LLU Campus Cafeteria  
12:30 - 1:45 Lunch

Friday, Oct. 16, 2 - 9 p.m.  
Wong-Kerlee Convention Center,  
LLU Campus:  
2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Plenary session  
3:15 - 5:00 p.m. Workshops  
6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Agape supper, music,  
speakers

Sabbath School, Oct. 17, 9:45 a.m.  
Loma Linda University Church  
9:45 - 10:55 a.m. AAW Sabbath School  
Lesson study: Kendra  
Haloviak

Sabbath worship, Oct. 17, 1-2 p.m.  
Campus Hill Church, Loma Linda, Calif.  
11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Hyveth Williams, speaker

Sabbath lunch, Oct. 17, 1-2 p.m.  
LLU Campus Cafeteria  
1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Buffet Lunch

Sabbath, Oct. 17, 2 - 3:45 p.m.  
Wong-Kerlee Convention Center,  
LLU Campus  
2:00 - 3:45 p.m. Plenary session:  
David Larson

Sabbath, Oct. 17, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Loma Linda University Church  
4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Vesper Concert

Sabbath, Oct. 17, 6:30 - 10 p.m.  
Wong Kerlee Convention Center,  
LLU Campus  
6:30 - 10 p.m. Women of the Year Banquet;  
seven awards to be presented

Sunday, Oct. 18, 8 a.m. - noon  
Wong Kerlee Convention Center, LLU  
Campus  
8:00 a.m. Breakfast  
8:30 - 10:00 Plenary: Madelynn Haldeman  
10:00 - 11:30 AAW business session;  
all registrants should attend  
Closing  
11:30 - noon

### "Women for All Seasons" 16th annual AAW Conference October 15-18, 1998

Pre-session: "Women and the Word"  
Thurs., Oct. 15, La Sierra University  
Registration before Sept. 25 (lunch included) \$25  
Registration Sept. 26-Oct. 13 \$30  
(No walk-in registrations on Oct. 15)  
Students with ID, until Oct. 13 \$10  
To reserve: call 1-800-SDA-PLUS  
(credit cards & checks accepted)

AAW Conference Events  
Thurs., Oct. 15 - Sun., Oct. 18,  
Loma Linda University  
Registration before Sept. 25 \$65\*  
Registration after Sept. 25 and on-site \$75\*  
Students with ID no charge  
Half-day: Friday morning, Oct. 16 \$25  
Half-day: Friday afternoon, Oct. 16 \$25  
Half-day: Sunday morning, Oct. 18 \$25  
Thursday night, Sabbath no charge  
\*includes AAW newsletter  
To reserve: call 1-800-SDA-PLUS

Meals during AAW Conference  
Total of 5 meals - package plan \$70  
(includes Saturday night banquet)  
Thursday night, Friday breakfast, and  
Sunday night, on your own  
Individual meals:  
(1) Agape Supper—Friday evening \$15  
(2) Women of the Year Banquet \$30  
(3) Friday lunch \$10  
(4) Sabbath lunch \$10  
(5) Sunday breakfast \$5  
To order meals: call 1-800-SDA-PLUS  
(credit cards and checks accepted)

### Lodging: Ask for AAW rates, Oct. 14-17.

San Bernardino Hilton  
285 E. Hospitality Lane  
San Bernardino, CA 92408  
(909) 889-0133  
\$69/room/night  
To reserve: call (909) 889-0133

La Quinta Inn  
205 E. Hospitality Lane  
San Bernardino, CA 92408  
\$52-57/room/night  
To reserve: call (909) 888-7571

Transportation from Ontario Airport (CA)  
To San Bernardino Hilton or La Quinta Inn  
Reserve at least 24 hours in advance:  
Super Shuttle, one-way, \$17/person  
(45 min. to 1 hour drive)  
To reserve: call (909) 467-9600