

the Adventist Woman

Volume 5, No.2

Publication of the Association of Adventist Women

April/May 1986

Paid team ministry

Marjorie Venden: Personal touch in a big church

by Kit Watts

Fresh-squeezed orange juice, food for a funeral dinner, quick phone calls, tears, home visits, quiet talks, much love. All these ingredients made Marjorie Venden's ministry a ministry of healing. She lives in Loma Linda, California, a medical community sometimes too busy for, but much in need of, a personal touch.

Margie and Louis Venden share a team ministry in Adventism's largest congregation in North America, the 5,500 member University church at LLU. Margie's position is unique because, even though she is a minister's wife, she is paid. Generous members of the congregation recognized her special talent for encouragement. For several years, working as a secretary, she visited members after working hours in hospital rooms and homes. Then at a time of job transition three couples intervened. The result is that they and others contribute regularly to the "Pastoral Subscription Fund" from which Margie is paid a monthly stipend.

For Lou, who with his brother Morris grew up on the front row of tent meetings conducted by his evangelist father and uncle, ministry has been a way of life. After receiving his doctorate in Homiletics and Liturgies from Princeton University, he taught at the SDA Theological Seminary in the Church and Ministry Department; then in 1976 he accepted a call to become senior pastor of the University church.

For Margie, this is the first opportunity she has had to focus her employment and her ministry toward the same objectives.

"This is the first time in our lives when our work has been in the same arena," Lou said. "It is one of the most rewarding periods of our marriage. And I believe my pastoring has been more effective because we share in a ministry that is bigger than either of us."



Cheri Richardson Leffler Photo

Marjorie Venden offers a ministry of healing with a personal touch



Cheri Richardson Leffler Photo

Louis and Marjorie Venden share a team ministry in the 5,500-member University Church in Loma Linda.

"What is difficult for me to explain," Margie confided, "is how my work with people affects me, and how it creates a deeper bonding between Lou and me."

"Margie is independent. She does her own work," Lou emphasized during the joint interview I conducted in their living room where Lou was serving us each *mikan*, a Japanese tangerine. "In other words, even though we often work together she is not my assistant or my helper. We each set our own agenda. But often our priorities and efforts intersect and converge."

The only church office Margie holds is a volunteer one as a deaconess. She does not meet with the pastoral staff. She does choose to sit in on Church board meetings to get a pulse of church life and to interact with its leaders. "But, I have the freedom to free lance," she says.

There is no typical week because each week is busy and varied. But in a community that is filled with elderly and retired people, medical students and faculty, a week usually includes hospital calls, funerals, visits with the widowed and the sick, and get-togethers (usually large) with students and other special groups.

For example, on a recent Sabbath afternoon, Margie and Lou hosted a meeting of 20 elders at their home. Afterward they made a call to a nearby nursing home to attend a private memorial service for the husband of a patient. Margie took along a cake she'd baked for the family.

On Tuesday of that week she made five visits, including one "to a beautiful woman, not old, in the final stages of cancer. I thought it would be a short call but she didn't want me to leave, and I sat with her for two hours," Margie remembers with emotion.

Wednesday was a large funeral, dinner, and time she and Lou spent with the family. On Thursday, they both stopped to see the widow of a doctor who had died. Later, Margie took fresh-squeezed orange juice to a

See VENDEN MINISTRY, p. 4

At Denver meeting

Chaplains urge hiring more women in ministry

Why report on a male-dominated chaplains' convention in a newsletter for women?

Precisely because the group is singular in the Adventist Church for its strong statement of support for the full participation, including ordination, of women in ministry. Here are five ways that support was extended during the Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries meetings held in Denver in early March at the time of the national conference of the College of Chaplains.

Women Active Participants

Each of the three women chaplains attending made presentations. Helen Tyler, pastoral counselor at Samaritan Counseling Centers of Denver, stimulated an active Sabbath school lesson discussion. Ardyce Sweem, chaplain at Washington Adventist Hospital in

Takoma Park, Maryland, responded as part of a panel to speaker Leland Kaiser, associate professor at the University of Colorado Medical School. She also wrote a report of the meetings for the *Adventist Review*. Penny Shell, director of pastoral care from Thorek Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago, presented a report on women in health-care chaplaincy.

Hiring More Women Encouraged

During a business meeting of the health-care chaplains, Ebenezer Pedapudi, Hadley Memorial Hospital, Washington, D.C., asked if there wasn't more that could be done to support women in chaplaincy. Walter Kloss responded, "Yes, hire them!" Joseph Blahovich, head chaplain at WAH, said staffs with three or four chaplains should all have a woman member.

See CHAPLAINS, p. 4



Six Adventist chaplains were among those to become Certified Fellows in the College of Chaplains during ceremonies on March 3 in Denver, Colorado. Back row: Forrest Kinzli, Donald Ham, Merlin Starr. Front row: Bruce Nicola, Ardyce Sweem, Penny Shell.

Wanted: Outstanding women

The Association of Adventist Women is seeking nominations of women who deserve recognition for their talents and spiritual gifts, and who have achieved in spite of difficulty or obstacles.

Nominations may be submitted in two categories: Home/Community Life and Work/Professional Life. From these a third nominee will be selected by the panel of judges for the Church Life Award.

All three women will be honored at the 1986 AAW Conference, November 28-30 in Loma Linda, California.

The purpose of the Women of the Year Awards is to provide recognition and inspiration to all Adventist women and to encourage women to reach their highest potential for service while providing role models for other women.

The following information must be submitted for each nominee:

1. Nominee's name, address, area code and phone number. (Include a 5x7 or 8x10 black and white glossy print of the nominee.)
2. A one-page statement as to why the individual is being nominated. (Please be as specific as possible. Provide supporting material where available.)
3. Nominator's name, address, area code and phone number.
4. Three letters of reference, including name, address, area code and phone number. (One letter must be from nominee's pastor or local elder.)

Please send COPIES of original documents and photos as we cannot return items. Send nominations to: The Association of Adventist Women, P.O. Box 3884, Langley Park, MD 20787. Attention: Peggy Harris. **Deadline for entries to be received is August 1, 1986.**

Presidential Communique

Join us—we'll all be stronger

Questions sometimes arise as to what relation exists between the national organization of the Association of Adventist Women and the local chapters of AAW. What is the purpose of each? What specific needs or functions do each fill? Would a person join only one, or both, and what benefits accrue from involvement in each?

Illustrating these questions are letters that the national AAW officers have recently received from Janet Ossa Boateng, a sister in Ghana; and from Judith Smith, a sister in British Columbia. Each expressed excitement about the growing interest among women to participate more actively in God's work. Both sought guidance and encouragement from AAW as they help women around them more fully develop and use their talents.

The national organization is, you see, a clearinghouse, a focal point. It's a place where Janet Ossa Boateng and Judith Smith and scores of others can expect to find a listening ear and a helping hand for Adventist women. The national organization is an umbrella organization.

AAW publishes the newsletter as the main arm of our outreach. Through it we share in setting goals and policies. We inform each other about issues in our church that affect all of us. We also encourage the development of local chapters.

Chapters, in their turn, are like the local church. They provide the arena where hands-on action takes place. Chapters create programs to meet needs and interests of people in their community. Chapters may take on particular projects meaningful in a local situation. And chapters may host and direct a national AAW conference for members of the entire organization—such as the Inland Empire Chapter in Southern California will be doing this Thanksgiving.

Your participation on the national level makes it possible for us to publish *The Adventist Woman*. We cannot fully support each other unless we get to know each other. The newsletter is one way to become acquainted.

Your national AAW membership also supports the organization's expenses for advertising and screening nominations for the Women of the Year awards. WOY is one way to acknowledge talented, dedicated Adventist women for the many ways in which they have built up the church. Awards are usually presented at the national conference.

Your participation in a local chapter, by paying dues set by the local group, makes local programs and projects possible. These vary widely depending only upon the creativity and vision of the group. Good ideas from one chapter may be picked up by another as they are reported in *The Adventist Woman*. For example, the Metro Washington Chapter invited Dr. Calvin Rock of the General Conference to talk about women who have influenced his life. His talk was so enthusiastically reviewed that members of the Michiana Chapter scheduled a special occasion for him to speak on the same topic when they learned he would be on the Andrews University campus.

If you have no chapter near you, subscribe to *The Adventist Woman* to keep current. Then find four other people in your area—and begin a chapter of your own! Judith Nembhard, our national Chapter Development Officer, will be happy to send you a packet of material to get you going.

Your communication and participation will encourage all of us. Please join us in national and local programs. When we raise our voices together we can be heard. When we join our hands we will be strong.

—Nancy Marter, President-Elect

From the Pulpit

Jesus is love, not coercion

by Esther F. Ramharacksingh Rosado

When I was an academy campus chaplain I frequently had to meet with students who were "in trouble" with the school. Through these experiences I learned something important about the atmosphere of love, acceptance, and forgiveness.

From the teenagers' perspective

Being called to appear in administrative committee is like being dragged before a group of adults to be interrogated about a "crime" you supposedly committed. You're not sure if the faculty can prove anything or not so you're not going to break down, snitch on your friends, or admit to anything. The battle begins. They question; you answer only what you have to. They hold up the threat of punishment, suspension, and expulsion; you act as though you don't care. (It wasn't your choice to attend this school anyway!) Then you're asked to leave as they discuss your case and you think about your story.

It was at this point that I often had the opportunity to talk to the student alone since the waiting period was often spent in the lobby of my office.

On one such occasion a girl was waiting. I knew she had resisted the committee and had not admitted to anything, maybe even lied. I invited her into my office just to talk about how she felt. She was very uptight and nervous and was feeling badly about herself. I talked about how I felt about her, what I had observed her doing in the past, the positive contributions she had made, the potential she had. I told her that a wrong act on her part did

not change the positive picture that I had of her. She believed me. It showed through her tears. Love, not coercion, "breaks" people. I hadn't asked for a confession, but that's what I got. The atmosphere was right. It was safe for her to admit imperfection and weakness when she was also getting support.

From the spouse's perspective.

A woman came into my office very distraught about her marriage. She loved her husband and wanted her marriage to work. But she found herself in a vicious cycle. Her husband claimed she was too independent, and threatened divorce. In turn, she pulled into herself being even more independent for fear of getting too close to him; she was afraid to depend on him, fearing that this support might suddenly be taken away. She confided, "If only he would show me that he loved me and cherished me. Then, no matter what, I'd do anything for him."

Love responds to love. What wrong tactics we often use.

From the sinner's perspective

Someone recently said, "If God is a tyrant, a mean dictator, unjust and unfair, then in the judgment as you are condemned to hell and you shake your fist in His face, you will be hailed by others as a hero—for to rebel against such a God would be heroic. But if God is loving, accepting, and forgiving then to rebel against Him would be utter foolishness."

How do we present Christ? Perceive Christ? Do we feel safe to admit our weak-



An agape meal designed especially as a gesture of hospitality for international students at Andrews University attracted women from 15 countries. Shown in the photo above are (Left to Right): Ethna Seretse of Botswana, Sally Phoon of Singapore, Mei Mei Cho of Taiwan, Cecly Leach of New Zealand, Yvonne Eager of Australia, Betty Gibb of Missouri, and Jasmine Jacob of Sri Lanka who also heads REACH International with her husband.

"Co-Bakers with God" theme for agape meal

by Jane Thayer

Women students from 15 countries were guests of the Michiana AAW Chapter in Berrien Springs for an agape supper on Friday evening, February 14.

Introducing the "Co-Bakers with God" theme, Stella Greig said, "All over the world women are baking bread to feed their families, to feed strangers, to feed those who hunger. . . . While we women are the bakers and the cooks, while we are the bearers of the water jars of this world, Christ is the Bread from God. He is the Water of Life."

During the simple meal of fruit, bread, cheese, and soup, AAW members read the Bible accounts of the widow who fed Elijah, the woman at the well, and Jesus' declaration that He is the Bread of Life.

Four international women were interviewed. Jasmine Jacob, founder of REACH International, said that in 1974 REACH was sponsoring 60 children. Today that number has grown to 2,500. When asked how she had the courage to direct such a project, she said, "I just push on in faith and don't look back." REACH provides food,

shelter, and education to children in third-world countries through the generosity of sponsors who provide \$15 a month.

Sally Poon from Singapore told of her work as a missionary in Sarawak and the Philippines. After completing a Ph.D in curriculum, she plans to return to Singapore. "I have only one hope, one that my mother passed on to me: to have a simple faith in Jesus and to do His will."

Antonia Elenes, a Bible worker from Mexico, told of working in her homeland teaching Sabbath school classes, preaching to young people and conducting baptismal classes, MV programs, and vacation Bible schools. In an area where she once worked with children a church has now been built! Elenes is one of three women recently ordained as local elders by the Berrien Springs SDA Spanish church.

While a student missionary in Taiwan, Jennifer Morgan decided to study theology. Growing up in Newfoundland, she has assisted her father in his work as a church elder. She is now enrolled in the SDA Theological Seminary. "I'm not saying that I am going to be a pastor, but if God calls me to be one, I want to be able to respond."

Countries represented by women attending the supper were New Zealand, Botswana, Singapore, Taiwan, Australia, Sri Lanka, St. Vincent, Mexico, Cuba, Panama, Canada, Lebanon, South Africa, France, and Iceland.

Gabrielle Roesch, an M.A. student from France, said, "The program was quiet and well done. I enjoyed being with other women who had the same basic goal—to serve the Lord."

Jane Thayer is Director of Public Relations for Andrews University. She has two sons. Her husband teaches in the School of Education.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

The Association of Adventist Women is a national organization that sponsors local chapters. Its newsletter, *The Adventist Woman*, is published six times per year.

I am enclosing \$10 in the U.S., \$12 elsewhere, to subscribe to *The Adventist Woman*.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

My tax-deductible contribution of _____ is enclosed.

Mail this form along with a check or money order payable in U.S. funds to

THE ADVENTIST WOMAN
Box 3884
Langley Park, MD 20787

Mark your calendar

May 16, July 18 and September 19 are the deadlines for the next issues of *The Adventist Woman*.

Mail your copy at least 5 days in advance of the deadline to have it in Berrien Springs on time. The editor schedules the Sunday after the deadline to put the material together. Use an airmail express service if you mail later in the week of the deadline.

Editorial Staff

The Adventist Woman
Volume 5, No. 2

Editor..... Kit Watts
Assistant Editors Beverly Rumble
Penny Shell
Circulation Vera Capman
Mailing Norma Osborn
Vera Capman

Introducing

Association of Adventist Women National Officers, Part II

Peggy Harris
Special Events

Tall and stately, Peggy Harris makes an impression when she enters a room. And making an impression is just what she has in mind as she enthusiastically pursues her duties as AAW Director of Special Events. She says, "I want people to find out about AAW who never knew it existed! I want women to find out what other women are doing in the church."

The mother of two and grandmother of one, Peggy is a third-generation Adventist who owns her own insurance agency, and with her husband has lived in a number of different states.

Stressing the importance of "terrific public relations," Peggy looks back on her first contact with AAW. After receiving a flier through the mail, she heard nothing more about it for some time. But she thought, What a great idea! We need to publicize the contributions of women in the church. When she saw a supper meeting of AAW advertised, she vowed to attend. The first annual AAW conference got her so excited about the possibilities of promotion and good public relations that she was asked to serve on the AAW board—where she continues, in her third year, to plan such events as the Woman of the Year awards and to be liaison with the chapter planning the national conference each year.

—Beverly Rumble

Dolores Maupin
Liaison with GC

When the AAW executive committee meets, Dolores H. Maupin is a valued member to whom the group looks for the incisive, analytical approaches to decision-making. She has been a member of the AAW board since 1982.

An ordained elder, Dolores is an active churchwoman. She was one of seven laypersons appointed at the 1980 General Conference in Dallas to serve on the General Conference Executive Committee for the 1980-1985 term. She also served on the historic Commission on the Ordination of Women last March and was a delegate to the New Orleans GC session.

Of her role as the AAW liaison with the General Conference she says, "I have tried to articulate our goals to church leaders and laypersons alike. I believe that in the process many misconceptions have been clarified."

A former educational administrator and university professor and now a Washington, D.C., area businesswoman, Dolores is a consultant for human resource development and designs and conducts training programs for the federal government. She and her physicist husband have one son, a first-year medical student.

—Judith Nembhard

Josephine Benton
Historian

Josephine Benton, the AAW's historian, not only records history, she also makes it! Back in 1973 she became Sligo church's first woman pastor.

When asked how she became interested in pastoral ministry, she reminisced about listening to her father's sermons and thinking how nice it would be if she were a boy and could, like him, have a job where she could help people.

Since the ministry wasn't a career open to women at that time, she did the next best thing—became a speech professor so she could train ministers.

After observing and reading about women pastors in other denominations, Josephine determined to begin theological training, which she undertook at Wesley Theological Seminary.

After serving at Sligo, she pastored Rockville SDA church for six years. She is currently the Associate Director of Columbia Union College's Adult Evening Program.

And has she achieved her goal of wanting to help people? Indeed she has. She is fondly remembered for not only her sermons, but also the practical assistance she offered—like recruiting people to make casseroles for a bedridden pregnant mother or counseling singles and college students. Even now, if the editor of *AAW Newsletter* or one of the officers needs something done, you're sure to hear someone say, "Call Josephine, she'll help you out!"

—Beverly Rumble

Viveca Black
Development

Who would make a more logical choice for AAW Director of Development than one of its founders, Viveca Black, who has an impressive record of professional fund raising? She is currently Director of Development for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington and has raised more than \$9 million.

Several years ago she began to wonder why so few women were in Adventist church administration. Among those who were in positions of responsibility she noted two common traits—stress and loneliness. They seemed to have no one to encourage them or help them along in their careers.

The solution, Viveca reasoned, was communication. An Adventist woman's organization would (1) increase knowledge about Adventist women's talents, (2) help women network as they define and reach for professional goals, and (3) help the church find qualified women for responsible jobs. Her vision for AAW is to see it appeal to all Adventist women whether they prefer traditional roles or wish to combine motherhood with a career outside the home.

Her personal interests include editing *Drama Dreamers*, an interdenominational newsletter for religious-drama enthusiasts; and involvement, with her husband, Roy Branson, in the Association of Adventist Forums.

—Beverly Rumble

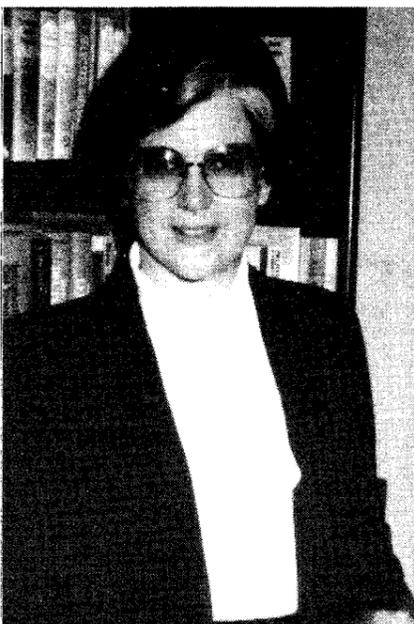
Kit Watts
Editor

"You are Kit Watts?!" Feeling the power of a courageous, prophetic woman in her frequent, well-crafted articles, people are often surprised to meet a person only five feet tall.

Since childhood she had questioned the limitations placed on girls. Her missionary/preacher father listened sympathetically and encouraged her to be all that she could—physically, mentally, and spiritually. At Union College she majored in religion and PE, and minored in English and education. She was accepted to the SDA Theological Seminary in 1966. When she realized she didn't have the financial resources to go, she studied journalism at Walla Walla College for a year.

As a writer/editor she has helped others think about the possibilities that are open—or should be open—to women. She has been a book editor for the Review and Herald Publishing Association, the minister of publications for Sligo church, and periodical librarian at Andrews University. She became the editor of *The Adventist Woman* last May. In addition to earning an M.L.S. from the University of Maryland and an M.A. in Religion from Andrews University, Kit served as a member of the Camp Mohaven Council on the Role of Women in 1973 and on the Commission on the Ordination of Women in 1985.

—Penny Shell

AAW BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1984-1986

President, Betty Howard, The Adventist Woman, P.O. Box 3884, Langley Park, MD 20787 (301) 891-4179.
 President-Elect, Nancy Marter, 407 Quaint Acres Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 622-4592.
 Secretary, Kathryn Fahrback, 8027 Glenside Drive, Takoma Park, MD 20912 (301) 445-5132.
 Treasurer, Delight Clapp, 10314 Floral Drive, Adelphi, MD 20783 (301) 439-7435.
 Editor, AAW Newsletter, Kit Watts, 205 Greenfield, Berrien Springs, MI 49103 (616) 471-4372
 Chapter Development, Judith Nembhard, 1400 Cricket Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 636-7749 H(301) 384-2537.
 Special Events, Peggy Harris, 3537 Spencerville Road, Burtonsville, MD 20866 O (301) 384-3727 H (301) 262-0296.
 General Conference Liaison, Dolores Maupin, 7516 Dundalk Road, Takoma Park, MD 20912 (301) 558-4297.
 Development, Viveca Black, 216-A Fifth Street NE, Washington, DC 20002 (202) 462-4438.
 Legal Counsel, Margaret McFarland, 806 Maplewood Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912.
 Historian, Josephine Benton, 8507 Hood Street, Takoma Park, MD 20912 (301) 439-8261.
 Atlantic Union; Director, Otilie Stafford, English Department, Atlantic Union College, South Lancaster, MA 01561.
 Columbia Union, Director, Shirley Zork, 8020 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, MD 20707.
 Southern Union; Director, Cheryl Craig, 1048 Blackwood Street, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701.
 Lake Union; Director, Thesba Johnston, Andrews University, 156 Bell Hall, Berrien Springs, MI 49104.
 Mid-America Union; Director, Ruthita Fike, 6116 Fleetwood Drive, Lincoln, NE 68516.
 Southwestern Union; Director, Judy Foll-Miles, Business Administration, Southwestern Adventist College, Keene, TX 76059.
 Pacific Union (North); Director, Winona Winkler Wendth, English Department, Pacific Union College, Angwin, CA 94508.
 Pacific Union (South); Alyce Pudewell, 58 Mount Vernon Avenue, Grand Terrace, CA 92324.
 North Pacific Union; Director, Bertha Dasher, 18404 NE 109th Avenue, Battle Ground, WA 98604



Spencer Freeman Photo

Robert H. Carter, President of the Lake Union Conference, prayed as three women were ordained as elders at the Spanish SDA Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan, on February 8. Pastor Luis Leonor discussed the concept of women elders with the nominating committee in the Fall, and during a later church business meeting the congregation voted overwhelmingly (250 to 4) to proceed. Those in the photo are (Left to Right): Pastor Luis Leonor, Marcia Gomez, Antonia Elenes, Vita Marquez and Robert H. Carter. (Second row): Gilberto Gatón, Vicente Rodriguez and Francisco Ramos. (Second row but not visible): Herold Weiss, David Gullon, Aecio Cairus, Eduardo Ocampo, Javier Diza, and Jose Barrios.

Chapter News

Inland Empire: Plans "Women of Courage"

Maryan Stirling, chapter president, reports that the steering committee for the fourth annual AAW conference has selected as its theme "Women of Courage." The conference, open to all AAW members new and old, will meet in the Loma Linda area on November 28-30 in connection with the

Thanksgiving holiday.

"In this year when we had two women astronauts aboard the Challenger spaceship, and when Corazon Aquino triumphed in bringing a new government to the Philippines, we think 'Women of Courage' is an appropriate theme!" Stirling commented.

Eugene, Oregon: Study and action

Nine leaders of the young adult group in the Eugene, Oregon, area are spearheading the organization of a new AAW Chapter. During the month of March they scheduled five weeks of study on women and the Bible including: "Women and the Old Testament" by Elizabeth Sterndale, General Conference; "Jesus' View of Women," with a guest panel; "Women and the Christian Church," by Di-

ane Forsyth, a Walla Walla church pastor; and "Women and the Seventh-day Adventist Church" by Merikay McLeod and Lorna Tobler. On March 29 their topic was "Celebration of Women," which was to include the formation of the new chapter.

Among those leading out are Charles and Lorie Boris and Sue Harrington.

Michiana: Speaker, hospitality seminar

A joint meeting of the Michiana AAW and the Seminary Regional Wives on February 24 heard GC Vice President Dr. Calvin B. Rock talk on "Female Influences on My Life."

From his grandmother, Mrs. R.L. Bradford, he said he gained inspiration. From his mother, Mrs. Eva Rock, he learned determination. From his wife, Clara, he learned to appreciate propriety and practicality. From his three daughters, Dr. Rock says, he has learned to exercise a less judgmental attitude and discover "what love and family togetherness is all about." The last woman he mentioned was not a relative but his current secretary, Phyllis Clendaniel. Said Rock, "She provides an atmosphere of intellectual honesty in the office. She is a Christian who doesn't know how to hate or be prejudiced;

she puts the love of God above everything else."

Rock concluded by saying that these women, and others he has worked with, have influenced his life and ministry for the church in very positive ways.

On the weekend of March 7 approximately 40 men and women attended a hospitality evangelism workshop conducted by Dr. Patricia Mutch. She called it, "Christian Hospitality Made Easy." The group spent about 14 hours together on Friday, Sabbath, and Sunday. Bible models of hospitality were explored; practical menus and decorations were demonstrated. But sharing Christ and caring for others was the focal point. Several practical plans were laid by hospitality teams formed at the workshop.

—Stella Greig

Metro Washington: Panel, workshop

Recent events sponsored by the Washington Metropolitan (D.C.) Chapter of AAW includes a panel discussion on women's role in the early SDA Church, a benefit concert by acclaimed soloist Faith Esham, and a workshop on assertiveness training entitled, "Putting Your Best Foot Forward," with Dr. Thesba Johnston of Andrews University.

Participants in the February panel discussion included Dawn Reynolds, moderator; Josephine Benton, and Bert Haloviak, and featured the accomplishments of such outstanding SDA women of mission as Mary Walsh, Lulu Wightman, and Anna Knight.

Miss Esham's concert, the proceeds of which will benefit the chapter's scholarship

fund for women students at Columbia Union College, is described on page 4.

On March 24, Dr. Thesba Johnston discussed the importance of all human beings, and especially women, developing a sense of self-confidence and a positive self-image. She linked assertiveness with a healthy sense of self. In so doing, she made a distinction between assertiveness and aggression.

Dr. Johnston also suggested techniques for dealing with conflict, and for getting in touch with one's own feelings. She and Susan Oms role played ways to say "No" and stick with it, despite personal attacks, begging, or guilt-provoking behavior by bosses, relatives, or even people who expect your participation

VENDEN MINISTRY

From front page

woman recuperating from heavy surgery. The two of them both attended a graveside service of a member on Friday, and Margie supplied another cake for the dinner. In the evening they delivered food to two families who were sick. Afterward they joined students in one of the university's dormitories for singing, Lou leading the music and Margie playing the piano.

Another important part of their team ministry is discussing Lou's sermons and developing good sermon titles. After the first service on Sabbath morning the two of them meet to talk about how it went and make clarifications and revisions.

"I am a footsoldier, not a general," Margie commented. "Other pastors' wives prefer counseling, giving Bible studies or taking leadership. And that is good. But I'm not an up-front person. I don't even consider myself a 'professional pray-er.' If a person requests prayer I honor that, but my style is simply to be there, to listen, to be a friend, to come and go quietly."

"This is an important point," Lou emphasized. "There is no more a 'typical pastor's wife' than there is a 'typical pastor.' All of us come to ministry as we are, with what we have. We do best when we build upon our interests and our abilities. What Margie and I feel happiest about in our team ministry is the flexibility we have to put our mix of talents and interest to work for God."

By contrast, Lou noted that Marvin and Shirley Ponder's approach to team ministry has taken a different course. Shirley became

active in the Loma Linda church because she saw the need for organizing and nurturing the 200 leaders of the Sabbath schools that care each week for 1,000 children. Eventually, the "Pastoral Subscription Fund" expanded to give her a stipend, too. Finally, she moved into a formal position as a pastor and became a member of the regular University church staff.

"We're glad to have Shirley in this capacity and we support it. There is room for more than one style of team ministry," Lou said.

Eighty years after Ellen White emphatically urged it, the Loma Linda University church is among the first to remunerate a dedicated minister's wife. Writing in 1915 in the book *Evangelism*, page 493, Mrs. White noted:

"Injustice has sometimes been done to women who labor just as devotedly as their husbands, and who are recognized by God as being necessary to the work of the ministry. The method of paying men laborers and not paying their wives who share their labors with them, is a plan not according to the Lord's order, and if carried out in our conferences, is liable to discourage our sisters from qualifying themselves for the work they should engage in. God is a God of justice, and if the ministers receive a salary for their work, their wives who devote themselves just as disinterestedly to the work, should be paid in addition to the wages their husbands receive, even though they may not ask for this."

Fresh-squeezed orange juice, a smile, a touch, a song—these are just some of the ways Marjorie Venden ministers to an ever-widening community as some church members take Ellen White at her word and nudge Adventism at large to do the same.

Esham concert helps students

Faith Esham, noted soloist and alumna of Columbia Union College, was featured in a March 22 concert sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington (D.C.) Chapter of AAW.

The concert, held at Takoma Academy, Takoma Park, Maryland, attracted a large number of enthusiastic music lovers and raised \$2,000 to provide scholarships for young women at CUC.

Miss Esham has been acclaimed for her concerts and performances in leading opera houses in the United States and Europe. In 1983 she won rave reviews for her starring role of Micaela in the film *Carmen*, opposite Placido Domingo. Miss Esham has performed at the New York Opera, the Kennedy Center, the Pittsburgh Opera as well as in concert halls in The Netherlands and France.

The AAW benefit concert included selections from *Susannah* and *Madame Butterfly*, as well as the music of Copland, Rachmaninoff, Puccini, Faure, and Wolf.

Laurel Ann Johnson, Miss Esham's accompanist, has won several awards at various music festivals and has played with two symphonies in Washington state.

Miss Esham received a standing ovation for her performance, which was recorded on videotape for future broadcast on the Takoma Park cable television channel.



Norma Osborn, Metro Chapter president, introduces the Faith Esham concert.

CHAPLAINS

From front page

Vote Supports Ordination

After Penny's report on women in health-care chaplaincy (Adventist women are excluded from *military* chaplaincy by a strict ordination requirement), the group of more than 100 Adventist chaplains gave a standing ovation.

Herman L. Kibble, Navy chaplain, immediately commented on the church's encouragement to ordained ministers who join Adventism to become Adventist pastors. "Now what will the church do if one of the called, dedicated, ordained women ministers with whom I work decides to become an Adventist? Defrock her?" Walter Kloss, head chaplain at New England Memorial Hospital, moved to express support for the ordination of Adventist women in ministry. The motion was strongly approved with only a handful of dissenting votes.

Standing Committee Appointed

Daryl Nicola, outgoing president of SDA Health-Care Chaplains, appointed Penny Shell chair of a new standing committee to report on progress of women in ministry and to foster and promote the ministry of women in chaplaincy.

New President's Goals

Incoming president of SDA Health-Care Chaplains Marty Feldbush of Hinsdale Hospital, listed as one of three major goals for his term of office "the ordination of qualified persons."

He spelled out his concern that those in hospital ministry be granted ordination with no more hesitation than those in parish ministry and that women—whether chaplains themselves or wives of ministers/chaplains who feel called to a partnership in ministry—be ordained to their ministry.

in every project that the church or school undertakes.

Following the workshop, a reception was held for the members of the General Conference Office of Human Relations' Women's Commission, which was meeting in Washington that week. Members of the commission who attended the reception included Ms. Elizabeth Sterndale, Mrs. Dorothy Williams, Mrs. Gerda Fish, Mrs. Helen Turner, Dr. Thesba Johnston, Mrs. Andre DuPuis, Mrs. Delphine Gates, and Mrs. Junell Vance, who sang a medley of the spirituals "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child" and "Hold On."

Future events planned by the Metro Chapter include a pizza party and a seminar on "Women and Stress" featuring Dr. Marion Jones, psychiatrist and Medical Director of the Reading Rehabilitation Hospital in Reading, Pennsylvania. —Beverly Rumble