

NEWSLETTER

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

FEB 18 1983

TO SOUTHEASTERN WOMEN

SEMINARY LIBRARY

February, 1983

I. 1

For some time I have been aware that there are a few bits and pieces of information around for those of us who are struggling with finding and claiming our unique places as women in the world and as women in ministry. Often I might have the very bit of information that someone else needs the week after she needed it. Also, others receive information and have no way to share it with a large number of people.

In an effort to provide a network for the sharing of information about enrichment activities both on and off our campus, about events directly related to women's issues within our convention, about resource persons and materials, and other vital concerns for the women of our seminary fam-

ily, this newsletter has been started.

Many women have had a part in providing information for this issue. Contributors have shared ideas and have done some of the writing. Names will be mentioned in connection with the specific contributions. A special word of thanks must go to Woody Catoe who through his office provided the paper and copying.

Information to be included in the next issue should be given to me no later than March 11th, 1983. Women who would like to work on the following issues (typist needed badly) should get in touch with me before March 11th.

In the hope that this is helpful,

Brenda Kneece

Women's Residence Counselor

ITEMS OF INTEREST

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BAPTIST YOUNG WOMEN

Four women met with Pat Richie, Baptist Young Women Director for N.C., on Thursday, January 27th, in order to organize a BYW on campus.

Plans are being made for the day and time to begin regular meetings. If interested in joining, call Gail

Hallman at 556-4522 (Women's Dorm Rm. 214).

MEDITATION SEMINAR (Feb. 4&5)

On Friday night and Saturday morning a group of women (representative of the students, staff, and families of students) met together for a quiet, spiritual meditaion seminar. The seminar was led by Brother Jim Gorman of the Holy Mother of God Monastery in Oxford, N.C.

It would be hard to express the experience of all who spent those few hours together. The following quote tells as well as any words could tell what the experience could

mean for anyone who meditates:

I
have come alone
to fill my cup of
quiet,
for
often
in the
company
of others
we lose
that
central
stillness
where
wisdom rest.

Author Unknown

TRIP TO MONASTERY WITH MEDITATION AND WORSHIP

A follow-up activity for those who expressed the desire to go has been planned for Sat., Feb. 19,1983. We will spend a good portion of the day at the Monastery participating in a variety of enrichment activities.

ON CAMPUS

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*THE WOMEN'S FORUM:

The first Thursday of every month, the women will invite a guest to speak to a particular issue for women in ministry. (A statement about our first Forum which was February 3rd follows below.) Forum guests and issues for March and April are:

March 3rd: Dr. Elmo Scoggin: "Ministry and Poli-

tical Involvement."

April 7th: Dr. Morris Ashcraft: "Controversies in the Southern Baptist Convention."

The Forum is open to any woman member of our seminary family and is held in the basement of the Women's Dorm from 8:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

Ms. Anne Neil, professor of Missions and retired FMB Nurse-Educator and Student Worker in Africa, made a presentation of "Women in Ministry: Then and Now". Reflecting on her own pilgrimage as a seminarian, a FMB appointed missionary, and other facets of her career in ministry, she talked frankly with the women about the differences that are apparent to her now. Major issues were (1) role models, (2) expectations, (3) ordination, (4) feminine theology, (5) options of study beyond the M.R.E. degree, (6) marriage, (7) two career families, (8) the "Women's Movement" and (9) women in administrative positions with SBC agencies or on boards of these agencies.

A discussion period followed Ms. Neil's presentation. The women were presented both the realities of where we are now and encouragement to remain faithful in these days and in the days to come.

Please share with Brenda any ideas you may have as to future Forum guests and topics for discussion.

*JOURNALING

March 18 and 19. (Watch the Campus bulletin for times and place.)

Efforts are being made to bring to our campus women to lead those who are interested in exploring the world of

journal keeping.

Among the "primary tools for growth" are "reflection, self-observation, and self-questioning. The journal is one of the most helpful vehicles we have for cultivating these great powers in ourselves." Elizabeth O'Connor

OFF CAMPUS

*A Women's Task Force meets formally once a month in the Triangle Area to share on women's experience in church. In the evening with coffee and dessert, a group of eight to twelve mostly Catholic and Baptist (lay, sisters, seminarians) meet to discuss these issues. The next two meetings are Feb. 21st and Mar. 21st. Anyone interested could contact Darrah Degnan, Simmons (556-6323).

*March 5, 1983
SOUTHERN BAPTIST FOR THE FAMILY AND EQUAL RIGHTS
Caroway Conference Center, Ashboro, N.C.
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Our own Anne Neil will speak on the role of women as leaders in ministry and mission in the S.B.C.
Ann Barnes will speak on family and equal rights legislation which will be considered by the N.C. General Assembly this year.

\$10 reservation (covers meal) mailed no later than Wed., Feb. 23, 1983. Make check payable to Southern Baptists for the Family and Equal Rights and mail to: Ms. Alice Miller, Treasurer, SBFER, 113 Milton Ave., Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514. (Off Campus Conferences Cont'd.)

*March 12, 1983 TEACHING/LEARNING ABOUT WOMEN Roanoke College, Salem, Va.



Four Southeastern women will speak. Paula Testerman will present a paper on "Latin American Women: Talking, Writing and Doing Liberation Theology". Darrah Degnan, Patty Powell and Nancy Unterzuber will co-present three segments on "Women in Theological Studies", "The Goddess Theology and Woman", and "Women's Roles in 'Human' Liberation". These presentations are scheduled for 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. and include time for discussion.

Inquiries to: Dr. Bobbye Au, English Department, Roanoke College, Salem, Va. 24153.

*March 18-20, 1983 NEW PROPHETS/NEW VISIONS 11th Annual Women's Interseminary Conference Candler School of Theology Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.

Speakers: Anne Wilson Schaef, author of <u>Women's Reality</u>; Jacqueline Grant; asst. prof.at Interdenomination Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga. Preaching: Leontine T.C. Kelly.

For more information write: Donna Springer, W.I.S.C.,
Box 21167, Emory Univ., Atlanta, Ga.
30322;
or call: Lori Loeve Bishop, (404)329-4446.

*On March 20th and 21st a group of fifteen to twenty women from various places of ministry in our denomination will meet in Louisville, Ky. to discuss organizing a network of support for professionally employed women in ministry. The Woman's Missionary Union and the Christian Life Commission have made very positive steps in affirming women in career ministry. Many women across

our convention want to build on the support offered by these two agencies.

This meeting will give guidance and direction toward organizing possible complimentary avenues of support for women in ministry, e.g., a newsletter, resume service, conferences, etc.

Nancy Sehested, Associate Minister at Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga. will chair the meeting. She writes, "This meeting is a matter of great prayer. We are Kingdom women, called to minister in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. In this spirit, we will gather together praying for God's presence and guidance in furthering support and encouragement for women in ministry in Southern Baptist life."

Anne Neil has been invited to participate in this meeting.

*April 7-9, 1983
THEOLOGY AND POWER: COLLOQUY FOR WOMEN IN MINISTRY
Intentional Growth Center
Lake Junaluska, N.C.

Tuition: \$25 includes registration fee. Housing and meals are extra (there are some options).

Registration deadline: March 10, 1983.

See Brenda for more complete details.

*April 16, 1983
Sr. Augusta Neal (nationally known sociologist) will speak
in Raleigh on "Call to the First World Church".
Call Marge Gragarek at Catholic Center (821-0350) or
at home (782-1672) for details.

*May 15-18, 1983 N.C. WOMEN IN MINISTRY RETREAT Camp Ashburn Acres, near Yadkinville, N.C. More later.

RESOURCE

BOOK REVIEW



Hartsoe, Colleen Ivey. <u>Dear Daughter: Letters from Eve</u> and Other Women of the Bible. Wilton, Conn.:

Morehouse-Barlow Co., 1981.

Using her own point of view of man and woman created in the image of God, Ms. Hartsoe has written fourteen lively, imaginative, theological letters from women of the Old and New Testaments to other women. These letters reflect their perceptions of the biblical events the women tell. The relevant scripture passages are provided and Ms. Hartsoe challenges the reader to study, compare and reflect.

As stated in the Preface, this book is designed to take a new look at the women in the Bible and their views of the events of their lives. The author's goal is to examine and identify the prejudices of the men writers and their views of the events. The reader will be challenged by the views expressed through the eyes of a woman and the new insights they provide.

Examples are many. How did Sarah feel about the sacrifice of Issac? How did Jezebel view Yahweh? What would Delilah have written Samson's mother? What would Mary of

Magdala have to say to Lydia?

These are some of the feelings examined in the letters in the book, <u>Dear Daughter</u>. Colleen Hartsoe admits that she is looking at these feelings from a woman's point of view. Maybe it's time.

Debra Collins

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