

The Woman's Pulpit

January-
March
2022

NEWS ABOUT ORDAINED AND LAY WOMEN IN MINISTRY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

IAWM to Co-Sponsor Women's Leadership Workshop

At the World Council of Churches Assembly XI in Karlsruhe, Germany, August 31 to September 8, the International Association of Women Ministers will co-sponsor, together with Mission 21, the Protestant Mission Basel and the Swiss Protestant Church, a workshop on Women's Leadership in the Church—Beyond Ordination.

Topics will include sharing experiences, addressing obstacles, encouraging one another and looking for ways to enhance equality for women in church leadership. Different women will share their experiences, their struggles and their successes. Some will be present but attendees will also hear virtually from members in different parts of the world who will tell their stories of women's leadership in the places where they live.

IAWM officers have also requested space in the Exhibit Hall in Karlsruhe. They hope in that space to arrange to hear virtually from IAWM members in many different places tell their stories of women's leadership in their countries and churches.

On page 7 the registration form invites members to request housing at the place of the IAWM Assembly in Karlsruhe in order to attend some or all of the WCC Assembly sessions, which will follow the IAWM Assembly immediately. Transportation to the Assembly meetings will be provided.

Both the WCC Pre-Assembly meeting of the Just Community of Women and Men (August 29-30) and Assembly XI will follow the IAWM Assembly immediately.

There also will be opportunity to include virtually interested IAWM members who cannot attend the Assembly in person. Officers are trying to arrange a hybrid Assembly that combines both in person and online participation.

A registration form on page 7 allows any one wishing to attend the WCC meeting to plan to also be at the IAWM Assembly (see columns 2 and 3) and in-

Assembly, (see the report below) and to indicate when they need housing in order to remain and attend World Council

Assembly meetings. Transportation will be available daily from the IAWM Assembly site to the WCC meeting place.

IAWM Assembly to Meet In Karlsruhe, Germany, Before WCC Assembly

By Margarethe Galbraith-Cordes

The 2022 Assembly of the International Association of Women Ministers will meet in Karlsbad, Germany, August 26 to 28, immediately before the World Council of Churches Assembly nearby in Karlsruhe. This will offer the possibility for IAWM members to remain and attend all or part of the World Council of Churches XI Assembly.

At the Bibelheim Bethanien—we are calling it the Bethany Retreat Center in English—we will begin with dinner on Friday, August 26, followed by an evening of getting to know one another.

Our featured speaker on Saturday will be Dr. Angela Bieler, a professor at the University of Basel, Switzerland.

Bethany is located about 20 kilometers outside of the city of Karlsruhe. That city is located south of Frankfurt and Heidelberg and north of Stuttgart. Assembly attendees will fly into Frankfurt. We are working on transportation to the Assembly site. So be sure to secure reservations before registering and provide the registrar with full details of your arrival time so plans can be made.

Housing

We ask everyone to register in the Spring of 2022. Request either a single or a double room; when choosing a double room, indicate who will be the roommate sharing with you.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included on the days after arrival.

Bethany is located on beautiful grounds that invite strolling. There are also woods to explore during walks around the campus.

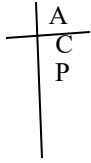
Accommodations can be arranged for early arrivals on Wednesday, August 24, starting with dinner and an overnight stay.

The Assembly will end on Sunday, August 28, with lunch. That will allow time to do some exploring in Karlsbad.

Following Assembly we have the choice to continue to stay overnight with breakfast for the Pre-assembly gathering of 'Just Community of Women and Men' from Monday, August 29 to Tuesday, August 30, 2022. This gathering will probably meet in Karlsruhe. It is about a 3 minute walk to the train station or the group may rent a van to drive into the city together.

We also have some rooms with breakfast reserved during the World Council of Churches (WCC) from Wednesday, August 31, to Thursday, September 8, 2022 so we can commute to the conference center in Karlsruhe by van or train. The theme for the WCC gathering is "Christ's Love Moves the World to Reconciliation & Unity".

IAWM vice president Margarethe Galbraith-Cordes is arranging the 2022 Assembly in Karlsruhe.



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Nat'l Council of Churches, USA, Elects All Women Officers

For the first time in its 70-year history the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. has elected an all-female slate of officers. On October 13 Bishop Teresa Jefferson Snorton, leader of the U.S. Fifth Episcopal District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church became chair of the NCC, for a two year term along with the other officers.

1st Woman Serves UAE Congregations

The Rev. Christine Trainor, former associate rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Belvedere, California, U.S.A. accepted a call to serve as the senior priest at St. Andrew's in Abu Dhabi and St. Thomas in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates in the Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, in the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East.

As the first woman to serve as an incumbent in the region, and as the Anglican priest for the Emirate, she will oversee the shared worship space for Christians in Abu Dhabi, act as an ecclesiastical ambassador and governmental representative of Christianity in the region, preside over a diverse international congregation representing 42 different nations and over a mission congregation in Al Ain with a specialized advocacy ministry to a migrant women's labor camp.

(Episcopal News Service)

Polish Lutherans Ordain Women

Meeting in Krakow, Poland last October, members of the Synod of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland voted to ordain women, beginning January 1.

Since 1963 theologically trained women have been able to teach, conduct services and engage in pastoral work in parishes. In 2009 the Commission on Theology and Confession concluded that there were no obstacles to ordain women to the ministry.

Since 1999 women could be ministers and served as deacons, leading services and administering the sacraments, including from 2016 the Sacrament of Holy Communion but were not allowed to run a parish on their own or stand for the ministry of bishop.

(Lutheran World Information)

She is joined by the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, who is vice chair; Kimberly Gordon Brooks, first vice president of the 3rd District Lay organization, African Methodist Episcopal Church, who is secretary, and the Rev. Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens, general minister and president, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), who is treasurer.

Three of the officers are women of color. Eaton is a Thursdays in Black ambassador who helps lead the push for a world free from rape and gender-based violence.

"At this pivotal time of the church in the United States, it is noteworthy that the NCC is modeling inclusiveness in selecting its leaders," Snorton said in a statement. "The denominations that make up the NCC demonstrate a commitment to embody the diversity of God's creation in so many ways. This commitment is a call for all of us to show God's love to all, promote unity in Christ Jesus and to resist the current culture trends of divisiveness."

The NCC Governing Board met virtually for its biennial board meeting on October 13.

"Serving in leadership in the National Council of Churches is both an honor and a privilege," said Snorton. I am humbled to be a part of the life of the NCC at this moment."

(World Council of Churches)

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Kenyan Anglican Province Defies Moratorium to Ordain Woman Bishop

Amid celebrations in predominantly Anglican region in western Kenya the Rev. Rose Okeno was enthroned as bishop of the Butere diocese of Kenya September 12.

Okeno, 54, was consecrated in a ceremony presided over by Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit, the primate of the Anglican Church of Kenya, making her to be the first full Anglican bishop in that east African country, where the consecration of women as bishops is still controversial.

“By the grace of God I accept to be your bishop,” the long-serving cleric said in her charge after the consecration. “Our election as the fourth bishop of the diocese is a strong confirmation that indeed God is doing a new thing in the history of the church.”

As bishop Okeno will serve a rural population where the majority of the faithful are small-scale farmers and traders.

The new bishop has promised to remain faithful to the truth, guiding people to celebrate virtue and shun vice. She also vowed to serve the disenfranchised and marginalized in her diocese.

“We will seek to remain faithful to the truth, denounce all evil that subverts justice and the welfare of those we serve,” said Okeno, while promising to advocate for the rights of women and children, and the empowerment of women and other disadvantaged people.

“We shall call out those who use positions of affluence, even within the church, to harm the weak,” she said.

Ole Sapit praised Okeno’s courage for putting herself forward as a contender for bishop of Butere and winning. As in many areas of Kenya, she will lead a patriarchal community where most of the top leadership positions—even in the church—are held by men.

“I congratulate her for rising above cultural norms and. . . Making history as the first ACK (Anglican Church of Kenya) woman bishop,” said the primate.

The cleric’s enthronement defies a 2018 moratorium of the Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON) on ordination of women. While meeting in Entebbe, Uganda, the GAFCON archbishops resolved to halt the consecration of women to the episcopate until a consensus is reached and, in the meantime, consecrate only men.

But Kenya and Uganda had pushed for consecration of women bishops. This year Kenya consecrated two women. On January 20 the Anglican Church of Kenya ordained the Rev. Emily Onyango, a 59 year old scholar and researcher, as an assistant bishop of Bondo, a diocese on the edge of Lake

Victoria. Months later Okeno was elected.

While the church in Kenya may appear to be defying the moratorium, some Anglican clerics say it depends on the diocesan synods. “The GAFCON moratorium is still in force, but it is not binding. We are in a loose fellowship where, when one diocese takes an action, the other does not have to do the same. Even with this we still claim to be together. It is unity in diversity,” said retired Anglican Bishop Julius Kulu of Mombasa.

In Africa Anglican women bishops remain rare. Okeno is probably the fifth after Onyango. In 2016 the Rev. Elizabeth Awut Ngor was consecrated as an assistant bishop in the South Sudan diocese of Rumbek. The South African diocese of False Bay elected the Rev. Margaret Vertue bishop in October 2012 and consecrated her in 2013. In 2012 Ellinah Wamukoya was ordained a bishop of the Swaziland diocese in southern Africa. She died from COVID-19 in early 2021.

(Religious News Service report by Fredrick Nzwili)

Malawi Lutherans Ordain 1st Woman

The Rev. Bertha Godfrey Munkhondya became the first woman ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi last September 26.

In a congratulatory letter to that church Lutheran World Federation (LWF) General Secretary Rev. Dr. Martin Junge expressed gratitude for Rev. Munkhondya’s willingness to serve the church as an ordained minister and for the ELCM’s commitment to gender justice.

“May Munkhondya’s ordination inspire girls and women to pursue theological education and respond to the call to ministry. Gender justice in the church and society is our shared commitment and our witness to the world,” he wrote.

“The LWF communion congratulates the church for the commitment and support to both women and men in theological studies, and we pray that many more women will receive support and be called to the ordained ministry,” the LWF leader continued.

Munkhondya, originally from Chisenga, Chitipa, Malawi, studied theology at the Tumaini University in Arusha, Tanzania, and will serve as the associate pastor of the ELCM cathedral in Lilongwe.

Bishop Dr. Joseph P. Bvumbwe presided at the event, and delegates from the Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LCUSA), Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (representing the LWF communion), women’s groups from the dioceses of ELCM, and state representatives participated in the ordination.

“The ELCM took time before it ordained a female pastor, but there is full acceptance of Rev. Munkhondya,” Bvumbwe said.

“We ask for your prayers for our church and encourage churches that are still meditating or discerning the process of ordaining female pastors,” he added.

The ordination closed three days of the ELCM’s Women’s Conference being held in Lilongwe last September.

(Lutheran World Information)

Assembly XI of the World Council of Churches will meet in Karlsruhe, Germany August 31– September 8, 2022.

IAWM will meet in Assembly At Bethany Retreat Cember Outside Karlsruhe Preceding the WCC Assembly.

See page 1 of this issue.

Rev. Chesney Lives Out Call to Rural Ministry

“A lot of ministry happens in the back of an ambulance,” says the Rev. Kathy Chesney. She serves as a paramedic and is the pastor at United Church of Philip in South Dakota.

Chesney grew up in Port Huron, Michigan. In 1988, after graduating with a degree in Music Education from Olivet College she found herself teaching in White River, South Dakota.

“I loved it. Some people would ask how you can love where there isn’t even a Wal-Mart,” says Pastor Kathy. “I am OK with that. I find joy in the rural communities and the simple things.”

While teaching music at White River and at Jones County School District in Murdo, Chesney pursued a degree in school counseling. She became the counselor for the Jones County School District. But God had different plans for her.

Through a rural health grant she was trained and became a certified paramedic. Chesney found herself on the ambulance crew. “I found myself with people when they need God the most,” said Chesney. I felt a nudge to get closer to God and somehow connect people to God.”

Occasionally she would lead worship, and before long she knew that being a minister in a rural church was what God was calling her to do. So she began taking courses at Sioux Falls Seminary to become a local pastor. Soon she found herself serving a local church.

“After 20 years in education I was called into ministry. So I decided to go to seminary in Sioux Falls to get my Master of Divinity.”

It was a 300-mile drive one way to seminary. She made the journey at least two times a month while serving Philip United Church.

“Today much of the course work is online. When I attended online learning had just started. So I put on a lot of miles and lost some sleep,” said Chesney.

Rev. Chesney completed her degree and was commissioned as a provisional member of the Dakotas Conference, United Methodist Church, the same year. In 2016 she was ordained an elder and became a full member of the Dakotas Conference. She has served Philip United Church which has congregations in Philip and Interior, South Dakota since 2008.

Rural ministry can be daunting.

Clergy can find themselves trying to lead congregations that are declining in resources, people and vitality. Chesney sees herself in a rural congregation and community that are flourishing. She is fulfilling two leadership roles; in the community and within the church. “Sometimes people say that we are a community church,” says Pastor Kathy. “We have people in the congregation who love everyone. They see the value of being rural and being concerned. We have people in the congregation that make a lot of connections and build relationships.”

Chesney uses all her skill sets and roles to connect people to God. “I see everything I have learned and all of my job roles in ministry,” says Chesney.

As a paramedic she finds herself asking questions as part of the response to a medical emergency. “Knowing the right questions to ask is an important tool of ministry,” says Chesney. “My experience helping people walk through medical issues helps me know what questions to ask.”

Music is another way that Pastor Kathy feeds people’s souls. “I love to use music to reach out to people, especially the youth,” said Chesney.

The congregations she currently serves are dedicated to children’s and youth ministry. Each summer Vacation Bible School is a community-wide event held at a barn just outside of Philip. Every Wednesday the church in Philip is full of families and kids for Early Release Time youth-led worship and confirmation. On Thursday the church building in Interior, South Dakota, hosts learning time for the kids.

“I tell people in the congregation never to grumble about noise in church,” she said. “My people know kids are an important part of everything.”

Her degree in counseling is a blessing. Rev. Chesney has been called upon by the school district, community members and organizations when needed. She sees the invitation to serve the rural community as a spin-off from her counseling experience and open and inviting churches.

Pastor Kathy sums it up this way: “I feel fortunate that the congregations that I serve have created a community and culture of invitation. We support each other to reach out and fulfill the mission that God has put in front of us. God is at work here in so many ways.”

(United Methodist News Service)

(By Doreen Gosmire)

Preaches After Four Month Lockout

A pastor who had been excluded from the church she was appointed to lead in June preached for the first time from her pulpit on October 31. The lockout was allegedly due to her gender.

“God is still worthy of praise,” preached Rev. Ratona Stokes-Robinson, pastor of St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church in Thorofare, New Jersey, south of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. “And for the rest of my life, I promise you that, no matter what happens, I come to serve the Lord.

Smith-Robinson’s cause has been taken up by AME Women in Ministry, which issued a statement in late October after learning of her situation.

“As we celebrate a woman as president of the Council of Bishops, a woman as president of the Council of General Officers, a woman as president of the Council of Presiding Elders, and an Executive Board of the National Council of Churches (USA) we are very distressed to hear that women in ministry are opposed at the same time by systemic strengths and discriminatory behavior,” the group wrote.

In its statement Women in Ministry noted that in 2016 it successfully requested that the denomination’s general board adopt a statement on eliminating gender role stereotypes and advocating for parity.

John Thomas III Editor of the Christian Recorder, said this was not the first time there has been a lockout in his denomination.

(AME News, New Jersey)

ELCA Installs Pastor Of Public Witness

The Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber was installed on August 20 as the first pastor of public witness for the largest Lutheran communion in the United States.

Bolz-Weber, who has often attracted controversy, is perhaps best known for her New York Times best-selling books, including "Shameless: A Second Reformation" and "'Patristic: The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner and Saint," the prayer-and-profanity filled memoir of her journey from alcoholic stand-up comic to Lutheran pastor.

She was called to the role of pastor of public witness by the Rocky Mountain Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, whose bishop, Jim Gonia, she said, has supported her ministry since she first applied to seminary.

Pastor of public ministry may be a new position for the ELCA, but other denominations have called clergy to similar public-facing roles. For example, the predecessor to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) ordained Fred Rogers of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" as an evangelist for television, noted Gonia during Bolz-Weber's installation.

Bolz-Weber laughed at the comparison to the beloved children's TV host calling it "counterintuitive". But, she said, it works.

She'd seen "Won't You Be My Neighbor," the popular 2018 documentary about Rogers and his show the day after she left the church she had founded, House for All Saints and Sinners in Denver, to pursue her current work as a public theologian. The film brought tears to her eyes, she said. It also made her believe maybe it was possible for her to do her new ministry she had opened her life to do.

"The motivation comes from having a pastoral concern and wanting to have a broader reach than a single congregation," she told Religious News Service.

The work, which is self-funded, won't look any different from what she has been doing since leaving House for All Saints and Sinners.

"I still pay my health insurance," she said. "It's not like I got a new job. I get to still do my job, and have my denomination say, "This work is pastoral in nature."

(Religious News Service/ELCA News)

Dr. Ofelia Ortega Honored As 'Illustrious Daughter' of Matanzas

On October 12 former IAWM officer Dr. Ofelia Ortega received an award designating her an "Illustrious Daughter of the City" of Matanzas, Cuba. Ortega, former World Council of Churches president for Latin America and the Caribbean, also served as a Bossey Ecumenical Institute professor as well as the WCC staff person responsible for Latin America and the Caribbean in the Program of Theological Education.

In a letter congratulating Ortega on her honor, WCC deputy general secretary Prof. Dr. Isabel Apawo Phiri said that Ortega has been an inspiration to so many across the world. "Ofelia, you have done your country proud. You have kept the faith and stayed on course," Phiri wrote. "You have been a trailblazer for the ordination of women in the Presbyterian Church in Cuba, an ardent feminist theologian who introduced ecofeminism at the seminary and opened the way for others."

In an interview Ortega reflected on the award, which came as a surprise, as well as on the publication of her doctoral thesis, "Cuban Feminist Theology: Visions and Praxis in English" published by Lexington Press.

What does the bestowal of the Illustrious Daughter of the city of Matanzas mean to you?

Ortega: It was a big surprise on the celebration of the 328th birthday of the city! The event was held at the city's beautiful Sauto Theater.

The nomination impressed us all. I believe that the government of the city evaluated the work done for the city to help and benefit the population, the most vulnerable people and the social institutions. This is what we call the ministry of diaconal service of the churches and ecumenical institutions.

Will you reflect a bit on your work in Matanzas?

Ortega: I returned to the city of Matanzas in 1997, after finishing my work in the World Council of Churches as executive secretary of the Theological Education Program for Latin America and the Caribbean.

When I arrived, I was appointed rector of the Theological Seminary of Matanzas. The first decision I made was to use the vision of the prophet Ezekiel 47:1-12 as the basis of the seminary's life and work philosophy. He states that the salutary waters must come out from

sacred places to heal and produce life. So for eight years as rector we brought about the construction of a Cultural Community center for the surrounding neighborhoods of the seminary. We emphasized the importance of taking care of creation by organizing a garden to produce vegetables for the seminary and the neighbors and managed the reforestation of the grounds of our institution.

We reached out beyond the seminary to help churches in rural areas organize ecological training workshops and provide financial support to jumpstart diaconal projects that have benefited churches and society. Ezekiel's vision came true in our theological Center in Matanzas.

We were also able to include the Gender and Theologies Studies group in the curriculum of our institution which was a great contribution to the social Cuban reality. When my task as rector ended, we organized the Christian Institute of Gender Studies in 2004 to continue stimulating the work of our women throughout the island.

Congratulations on the publication of your doctoral thesis: "Cuban Feminist Theology: Visions and Praxis"

Ortega: In writing the book I had the support of a network of women who had received their ministry doctorate, thanks to a project organized by Dr. Letty M. Russell. She inspired the movement initiated by the unforgettable Sarah Chakko, a South India citizen and member of the Syrian Orthodox Church who, as a delegate to the WCC First Assembly in Amsterdam in 1948 insisted on the rights of women in the ecumenical movement. Russell organized this project with the San Francisco Theological Seminary of San Anselmo, California and Bossey Ecumenical Institute.

Now we are trying to strengthen a network of women worldwide who have obtained their ministry doctorate.

(World Council of Churches)

Remembering—

The Rev. Margaret E. “Peggy” Howland

(1938-2021)

When IAWM member the Rev. Margaret E. “Peggy” Howland became the eleventh woman to be ordained a United States Presbyterian pastor at the age of 25, in 1958, there were no rules about what a woman in that office should wear or how she should act.

She wore black because that was what the men wore.

She spent two hours every Sunday morning washing and setting her hair, hoping that her curls would look like everyone else’s and not serve as a distraction.

She wasn’t sure if men should open doors for her or help her on with her coat. So she weighed each situation as it came up. She soon realized she was a curiosity, a mysterious figure, and that she would have to take all reactions in stride.

When she went to visit a parishioner who was a patient at Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, in New York City, where she first served as an assistant minister, she entered the hospital room to roars of laughter. “The front desk had called them and said, ‘There’s a woman coming up who says she’s your minister.’”

Looking back and remembering, Howland told a reporter who interviewed her as she celebrated 50 years of ministry, “‘If I didn’t think God was leading me, I couldn’t have put up with all that stuff.’”

Attitudes toward women ministers around the world changed gradually but they also changed greatly during her more than 40 years of active ministry.

She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia and earned her M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1958 (it was then a B.D.) and a Master’s degree from Union Seminary in New York City in 1966. Writing about her in the New York Times Sylvia Thornton said, “This extraordinary woman touched many of our lives and I give thanks for knowing her and, working with her for many years.”

Most of her active ministry was served in the state of New York’s presbyteries. She retired from pastoral ministry in 1998 after 40 years of serving congregations.

Ecumenical Service

During her lifetime after her ordination, right up until her death, Peggy Howland served both her denomination and the worldwide ecumenical church in countless ways.

In October 2018 she was honored at a luncheon held at Stony Point, New York, for a lifetime of service to the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship.

She became a member of the International Association of Women Ministers.

She arranged two International Assemblies for IAWM, one in Santa Fe, New Mexico and another in Cuba in 2004. In order to arrange permission from the U.S. Government for the 2004 Cuba Assembly she contacted and worked through the U.S. National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

IAWM maintains a presence at World Council of Churches Assemblies that Peggy created and designed when she attended the WCC 9th Assembly in Puerto Alegre, Brazil, in February 2006. At that Assembly she secured space for an IAWM booth where she photographed every ordained woman who visited her booth and posted each photo in a display revealing how widespread in the world the ordination of women is.

Her example has been followed at every WCC Assembly since by an IAWM team of volunteers who maintain a similar presence at WCC assemblies.

Peggy celebrated her 50th anniversary of ordination with a worship service and dinner at her church in White Plains, New York. A few years later she retired in Orlando, Florida, where she continued her support for LGBTQ+ persons’ rights. She sang in the Orlando Gay Chorus.

During the past few years her health declined slowly but steadily. Covid sped the declining.

She was a strong supporting member of the Park Lane Presbyterian Church, where her funeral was held on October 30. It was streamed electronically.

She is buried at White Plains Presbyterian Church in New York, where a service remembering her life will be held sometime in May. Information about the time and place will be reported when it is available. Watch for the time and place in a future issue.

Ordinations Roman Catholic Women Priests

Great Waters Episcopal Ordination

Springfield, Illinois

On September 4 presiding bishops Joan Houk, Andrea Johnson, Nancy Meyer and Suzanne Thiel ordained **Rev. Mary Kaldermans** bishop of the Great Waters area in a service at Wyndham-Springfield City Center.

Bishops from Canada and Europe were prevented from sharing in this service because of COVID.

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Rev Anne Tropeano was ordained at St. John Episcopal Cathedral in Albuquerque, New Mexico on October 16.

Association of Roman Catholic Women Priests

Sarasota, Florida

On July 2 Bishop Meehan ordained **Toni Kay Attanasio** a priest.

South Carolina

At All Faiths Chapel on August 15 Bishop Bridget Mary Meehan ordained **Jill Striebinger** to the priesthood.

Cleveland, Ohio

On August 26 Bishop Mary Eileen Collingwood ordained **Rose Mary Gordyen** to the priesthood.

Allison Park, Pennsylvania

Bishop Mary Ellen Collingwood ordained **Geraldine Mary Lococo** to the priesthood on October 21.

Registration Form IAWM Assembly, August 26-28, 2022 Karlsbad, Germany
Early arrivals and extended stay for WCC

___ Rev. ___ Ms. ___ Dr. Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____
and Street _____ City _____
State/Prov. _____ Zip/PC _____
Country _____ Office Phone _____ Home Phone _____
Cell Phone _____ Email _____
Special Needs or diet concerns _____
Extra charges for Lactose-free/Gluten-free meals - \$5/day _____
Registration fee: Full time, US \$175 _____ Single day registration, US \$100 _____ which day? _____
Commuter meals \$38/day _____

Housing options: (Aug 26-28 with 3 meals)

Single room w/sink - \$65/night _____
Single room w/sink and toilet -\$78/night _____
Single room w/sink, toilet and shower - \$90/night _____
Double room w/sink, toilet and shower -\$78/night/person _____
Roommate preference _____
Single room at side building w/sink - \$63/night _____

Housing option for early arrivals (August 24-26 with 3 meals)

Single room w/sink - \$60/night _____
Single room w/sink and toilet - \$72/night _____
Single room w/sink, toilet and shower - \$83/night _____

Housing option for extended stay for WCC meeting, August 28-September 8 (breakfast only)
(Registration for WCC Assembly needs to be made through WCC) date of departure _____

Single room w/sink - \$40/night _____
Single room w/sink, toilet and shower - \$63/night _____
Double room w/sink, toilet and shower -\$55/night/person _____
Roommate name _____

Send check or money order for **registration, housing and meals**, made payable to **IAWM**, with this form to:
Carol Brown, 1921 Palm St. Reading, PA 19604 USA

Any questions, contact Carol at csbrown550@hotmail.com or 484-926-2429.

Registration deadline is April 30, 2022. After this deadline housing and meals cannot be fully refunded.
Late registrations may be accepted if space is still available.

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In the News

East Asia

The Rev. Unzu Lee, a minister of word and sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a regional liaison for East Asia. She helps to implement regional strategies for God's mission in East Asia by liaising between the PC (USA) and ecumenical partners such as the Hong Kong Christian Council (HKCC), the National Council of Churches in South Korea (NCKK), Korea Christian Federation in North Korea (KCF) and the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical forum for Korea (EFK).

Switzerland

Referendum results announced on September 26 showed that Swiss voters approved resoundingly to allow same sex couples to marry. The measure passed with 65.1% of the vote; more than half of all voters approved in each of the 26 Swiss cantons. The vote, years in the making, wraps up an often tense campaign between rival sides. The new rules take effect July 1.

United States

In online virtual synodical meetings of synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America last year several women were elected bishops of synods. They include: **The Rev. Dee Pedeson**, bishop of Southwestern Minnesota; **the Rev. Paula Schmitt**, bishop of Alleghe-

ny Synod; **the Rev. Brenda Bos Surrey**, bishop of Southwestern California; and **the Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer** of Sierra Pacific, the ELCA's first transgender bishop.

In a special election held July 31 **the Rev. Betsy Monnot** was elected bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Iowa.

The Rev. Ruth Woodliff Stanley has become the first Episcopal bishop elected to serve in the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina.

This year IAWM member and ELCA pastor **the Rev. Ruth Bosch Becker** celebrates forty years of ordination.

Episcopal **Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce** began ministry December 1 as Bishop Provisional of the Diocese of West Missouri for a period of two to three years until the Diocese of West Missouri elects a bishop diocesan.

Trinity Episcopal School in Austin, Texas, officially celebrated **Jennifer Hill Morgan** as Head of School with an installation service in Jane Chapel on October 13. She became Head of School in June 2020 but the installation was canceled twice due to health and safety guidelines.

Vatican City

Andrea Dea reports from Australia that it's good news to see women being

appointed to significant roles within the Catholic Church, including several recent appointments of women to important positions in the Holy See. In early November Pope Francis appointed **Sr. Raffaella Petrini** as Secretary-General of the Vatican's governorate. This followed the earlier appointments of **Sr. Nathalie Becquart** as an under secretary of the Synod of Bishops, **Sr. Alessandra Smerilli** as the interim secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, and **Barbara Jatta** as director of the Vatican's Museums.

Wales

Welsh Anglicans will bless same sex partners but will not marry them, according to a decision taken last year.

(Sources: PC(USA) News, Living Lutheran, Episcopal News Service, Bridget Mary's blog, correspondence.)