Nazarene Women and Religion

Sources on Clergy and Lay Women in the Church

with antecedent
and related materials

by
Stan Ingersol
Denominational Archivist, Church of the Nazarene
About Stan Ingersol

Stan Ingersol has been manager of the Nazarene Archives since 1985. He is a graduate of Bethany Nazarene College, the University of Kansas, Nazarene Theological Seminary, and Duke University, where he earned a Ph.D. degree in the History of American Christianity. He is co-author with Wes Tracy of *What is a Nazarene?: Understanding Our Place in the Religious Community* (1998) and of *Here We Stand: Where Nazarene Fit in the Religious Marketplace* (1999). He wrote the "Nazarene Roots" series in the *Herald of Holiness* from 1985 to 1998. His articles have appeared in *Christian Century, Wesleyan Theological Journal*, several reference works, and a variety of Nazarene publications.

About the Nazarene Archives

The Nazarene Archives has been part of the Office of the General Secretary since 1932. The Archives forms a vital link in the collective memory of the church by maintaining denominational records. It also collects other historical materials in the form of letters, diaries, reports, sermons, serial publications, microfilm, photographs, audio and video recordings, and other media.

About Clergy Services

Clergy Services has been positioned in the USA/Canada Mission/Evangelism Department of the Church of the Nazarene since 1981. Its chief purpose is to increase participation and effectiveness in a reproductive ministry that is engaged in Christian mission. The first duty in the General Board Bylaws is to “foster a climate in which capable men and women hear and respond to the call of God to full-time Christian service.

It is committed to provide resources, support systems, and developmental programs for all clergy. Consistent with its historical roots, Clergy Services endeavors to be an advocate for women clergy at all levels of the denomination.

*Nazarene Women and Religion* is a joint publication of Clergy Services and the Nazarene Archives. Questions on the sources and documents contained in this bibliography may be directed to the Nazarene Archives. Contact Clergy Services or the Archives for information on how to obtain additional copies.
FOREWORD

The involvement of women clergy was a defining characteristic of the early Church of the Nazarene. It is my hope that the vision and sacrifice of past female leaders will inspire and motivate Nazarene women to consider the call to full-time ministry. May this booklet be a valued resource to all women in the church, and also to church administrators and theological educators.

I want to express my gratitude for the excellent work that Dr. Stan Ingersol has done on behalf of women clergy in the Church of the Nazarene. We are indebted to him for this particular project.

Ronald J. Blake
Clergy Services Director
March, 2003

..........................................................
We sometimes go into the hovels of poverty and wretchedness where there is sickness and distress, and children unkempt and dirty, ministering to them in their temporal needs. We often times break down the barriers and are enabled to reach hearts.

We esteem it a blessed privilege to be workers together with Him who said in His word: “If a brother or sister be naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body: what doth it profit?”

Our manifold duties become pleasures under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost.*

*All quotes can be found in the “Deaconess Clippings Files” of the Nazarene Archives.
Entries are those of Nazarene authors or subjects unless indicated otherwise by title or notation

I. BIBLIOGRAPHIES


II. AUTOBIOGRAPHY


Cooke, Sarah A. *Wayside Sketches; or, the Handmaiden of the Lord*. Chicago: S. B. Shaw, 1900. Free Methodist.


Foote, Mrs. Julia A. J. *A Brand Plucked From the Fire: An Autobiographical Sketch*. Cleveland: For the Author, 1886. AME Zion Church.


Krikorian, Rebecca K. *Jerusalem: The Life Sketch of Miss Rebecca Krikorian and Her Nephew Rev. Samuel Krikorian, Together with Their Divine Call to Open a Field of Work in Jerusalem*. Kansas City: General Board of Foreign Missions, Church of the Nazarene, 1919.


### III. BIOGRAPHY


________________. *Messengers of the Cross in India*. Kansas City: Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Church of the Nazarene, n.d. Biographical sketches of Nazarene missionaries, including ordained elders Eltie Muse, Dr. Julia Gibson, Lela Hargrove Hatfield, Myrtle Mangum White, Nellie Ellison, Amanda Mellies, Myrtlebelle Walter Parsons, and Lou Jane Hatch; licensed ministers Bessie Seay and Bessie Beals; deaconess Agnes Gardner; and lay evangelist Daisy Skinner Fritzlan.

________________. *Messengers of the Cross in Latin America*. Kansas City: Woman's Missionary Society, Church of the Nazarene, n.d. Includes biographical sketches of ordained elders Santos Elizondo, Esther Carson Winans, Augie Holland, Mrs. E. Y. Davis (Mozelle Martha Davis), Lula Ferguson, Eugenia Phillips, and Pearl Dixon Ingram; deaconess Mrs. Carlos H. Miller; licensed minister Valora Mae True; and lay preacher Leona Gardner.


Swann, L. Alline. Song in the Night: The Story of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Mangum. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 1957. Biography of Emily and Thomas Mangum, founders of the Samaritan Hospital in Nampa, Idaho. Both were ordained elders and medical professionals.

Taylor, Marshall W. *The Life and Travels of Mrs. Amanda Smith.* 1886. AME Church.


**IV. APOLOGIA**

Booth, Catherine. *Female Ministry; or, Woman's Right to Preach the Gospel.* London: [1859]. Salvation Army.


_________________. *Woman Preacher.* Louisville: [1891]. Methodist.


V. THE PREACHING LIFE


Dell Aycock

Haldor and Bertha Lillenas


VI. THEOLOGICAL TEXTS AND WRITINGS BY WOMEN


Welch, Mrs. N. B. The Deaconess in History. n.p.: n.p, 1920.


VII. HISTORY AND ANALYSIS

Ahleman, Dorothy M. *Bodas de Oro: Iglesia del Nazareno, Distrito Argentina, 1919-1969*. District history. Documents labors of Lucia Carmen Garcia de Costa, Soledad Quintana, and other Nazarene women preachers in Argentina. [De Costa is credited with starting more than one third of the churches on the district by 1969].


Unpublished ms.


VIII. SHORT ARTICLES


**IX: SELECTED ARCHIVAL MATERIALS**

*All archival collections are in the Nazarene Archives, Kansas City, Missouri, unless otherwise noted*

Ahleman Collection. Basic biographical data on licensed and ordained women ministers of the Church of the Nazarene in Argentina, collected by Dorothy Ahleman, missionary.


Beals, Bessie. Correspondence. 1921-1944. Licensed minister. Missionary in India.


Carpenter, Eva. Correspondence. 1915-1932. Missionary in India.

Chapman, Rev. Louise Robinson. Correspondence from Africa: 1922-1942. Interviews, missionary society correspondence, photographs, recorded sermons, addresses, pamphlets, itineraries, and writings. Missionary in Africa and World Missionary Society president.


Church of the Nazarene (Los Angeles) Collection (1895-1907). Manuals, proceedings, and publications of a West Coast holiness denomination that allowed women to preach from its beginning and ordained its first woman in 1902. See especially the *Nazarene Messenger*, which contains information on numerous women, including home and foreign missionaries, church planters, ministers to ethnic minorities, evangelists, and pastors. Nazarene parent-body.


Diffée, Rev. Agnes White. Articles, clippings, photographs, and recording of her last sermon, which is reflective and autobiographical. Evangelist and pastor.

Eaton, Emma. Correspondence. 1911-1915. Missionary in India.


Gardner, Agnes. Correspondence. 1917-1941. Deaconess. Missionary in India.


Gibson, Rev. Dr. Julia R. Correspondence. 1912-1922. Teacher and physician. Missionary in India.


Hargrove, Rev. Lela N. Correspondence. 1911-1924. Missionary in India.

Hatch, Rev. Lou Jane. Correspondence. 1920-1926. Missionary in India.


Hillman, Rev. Pearl. Articles about Pearl Hillman and photographs. Pastor.

Holiness Church of Christ Collection (1904-1908). Manuals, proceedings, and publications of a Southern holiness denomination that ordained women from its beginning. See especially the Holiness Evangel, which details the ministries of several dozen women. Nazarene parent-body.


Kiehn, Anna. Peter and Anna Kiehn Correspondence. 1913-1943. 34 Files. Missionary in China.


Latham, Rev. Mary. Photographs, writings, correspondence. Children's ministries and audio-visual communications specialist.


McReynolds, Rev. Maye. Correspondence, photographs, and reports. Founder of Nazarene Hispanic ministries in the Western states.


Martin, Minnie. Correspondence. 1922-1943. Missionary in Africa.


Mayberry, Pallen. Correspondence, diaries, photographs. Educator. In the Archives of Point Loma Nazarene College, San Diego, California.


Munro, Dr. Bertha. Writings, correspondence, photographs. Educator and dean. In the Archives of Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, Massachusetts. Additional Collection at Nazarene Archives.


Pannell, Mary E. Correspondence. 1930-1942. Missionary in China.

Park, Mabel. Correspondence. 1921-1928. Missionary in Peru.


Rynerson, Rev. Lottie. Detailed article on ministry. Ordained minister in Wisconsin.

Schmelzenbach, Lula. Correspondence. 1931-1944. For earlier material, see Harmon Schmelzenbach correspondence. Missionary in Africa.


Seventh General Assembly Collection. Includes photograph titled: "Women Preachers in Attendance at the General Assembly, Church of the Nazarene, Columbus, Ohio, June 13th-26th, 1928."


Silfies, Mattie A. Brief account of the call and life's work of Mattie Silfies, who was ordained in 1936.


Tanner, Mary. Correspondence. 1931-1943. Missionary in Africa.


Williams, Janet Smith. Unpublished dissertation on "The Impetus of Holiness Women for Preaching the Gospel," 1981; collected photographs of over 100 Nazarene clergywomen; statistical materials on women in ministry; and materials pertaining to Williams's career. Pastor and Bible College educator.

Williamson, Audrey J. Writings, correspondence, photographs, and recordings. Christian speaker.


Winchester, Dr. Olive. Writings, correspondence, classroom materials. Professor of religion and academic dean of Northwest Nazarene College. In the Archives of Point Loma Nazarene College, San Diego, California.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society Records, 1919-1932. Constitutions, bylaws, minutes, reports, resolutions, and history. Original MS records and on microfilm.

Wynkoop, Dr. Mildred Bangs. Autobiographical sketch, published and unpublished writings, correspondence, photographs, recorded lectures, recorded sermons, recorded addresses, oral history, syllabi, class materials. Evangelist, educator, theologian.

Baptismal photo of women from the Nazarene Rescue Home in Bethany, Oklahoma.