



Women and the Word, 1997

Welcome: Preaching Grace, Practicing Hospitality

The ways of the world assume that we are alone in our endeavors. Diversity isolates; difference from the dominant culture brings marginalization from the benefits of our society. Scarcity, hostility, and violence become part of life. Our faith proclaims otherwise: that God's grace reaches out with a hospitality that welcomes, accepts, and nurtures all creation.

Each baptism reminds us of our commitment to practice hospitality. Preaching about hospitality affirms that God's grace empowers us to reach out in welcome to all people. This act of friendship with God offers fellowship at a plentiful table, and invites participation in the transforming power of the community of God's people in the world.

Join us as Bishop Susan Hassinger and the Reverends Valerie Stiteler and Young Kim enlarge our understanding of our call to share with the whole community of creation the welcome and grace we receive.

Thursday, March 6, 1997

9:15-10:00 a.m.	Registration and Coffee—Oxnarn Lounge, STH
10:00-10:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer—Metcalfe Hall, Student Union
10:15-11:15 a.m.	"Milk and Honey: Experiencing Hospitality as an Act of Creation"—Valerie Stiteler
11:30-12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:00-2:00 p.m.	Worship—Bishop Hassinger
2:15-3:30 p.m.	Workshop I
4:00-5:00 p.m.	"Welcoming the Marginalized: Hospitality to the Insignificant"—Young Kim
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Break with Hospitality
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:30 p.m.	"Room at the Inn—Evening of Story and Song"

Friday, March 7, 1997

9:00-9:30 a.m.	Coffee and Conversation
9:30-9:45 a.m.	Opening Prayer
9:45-10:30 a.m.	"Hospitality in the Local Church: Beyond Potluck and the Coffee Hour"—Bishop Hassinger
10:30-10:45 a.m.	Break
10:45-12:00 p.m.	Workshop II
12:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m.	Closing Worship and Communion

Rooms are wheelchair accessible.





Susan Wolfe Hassinger

Bishop Susan Hassinger sees the local church as a "spiritual center" for hospitality and community in a world of violence and individualism. The task of the church is to nurture the members in growing discipleship and to equip them for faithful witness and ministry in the world. Raised in Pennsylvania, Susan has pastored several local churches, served as District Superintendent, and been a consultant to local churches, working in such areas as conflict interventions, strategic and long-range planning, and congregational mergers. She has served on many boards and agencies including the Board of Ordained Ministry, the Conference Council of Finance and Administration, and the General Board of Global Ministries and the Board of Discipleship. She was elected to the episcopacy in July 1996 and assigned to the Boston area.



Young Kim

The Reverend Young Kim is an ordained elder in the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church. While serving as a missionary to her homeland in Seoul, South Korea, she established "Women Church" to offer both a welcome and the opportunity to exercise authority and power to women who do not receive a gracious welcome in the traditional Korean church. Many World War II "comfort women" in her congregation led to the founding of "Story-Telling House." Here oppressed women who are victims of society can tell their life-stories through the arts. Young Kim conducts workshops with those who wish to start story-telling circles. She was a part of the leadership at the 1995 United Methodist Clergywomens' consultation. She has published five books, including two of poetry.



Valerie Stiteler

Valerie Stiteler is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. Until recently Valerie served as a chaplain within the interfaith disabled religious community. She was part of the U.S. delegation to the first pontifical congress on world religion and disability held at Vatican City in 1992. In 1994, Valerie represented the U.S. disabled religious community in Israel at the inaugural ceremonies celebrating the architectural accessibility of the Western Wall tunnels in the Old City of Jerusalem. Valerie now has a very active ministry centered around spiritual direction and hands-on healing. She has published several articles on worship and is a well-known speaker and teacher in several interdisciplinary arenas. Valerie is currently a Doctor of Theology candidate at Boston University School of Theology, majoring in theology and worship.

HOUSING

The Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA 02146
Reservations: 617/277-1200, ext. 102 or 103
Ask for the "Women and the Word Special Rate" of \$85.00.
To receive this special rate, reservations must be made by
February 19, 1997.

Free parking. Accessible by the MBTA Green Line, C train,
St. Paul's Street stop.
For other housing options, contact the Shaw Center at
617/353-3075.

DIRECTIONS

Boston University School of Theology, 745 Commonwealth
Avenue, Boston is accessible via Route 90 (Massachusetts
Turnpike), Allston-Cambridge Exit, to Storrow Drive, then to
Kenmore Square. By public transportation, use the MBTA
Green line, B train, B.U. Central stop. By foot, the school is
a ten-minute walk from Kenmore Square. For more
information, contact the Shaw Center at 617/353-3075.