

"ELIZABETH," a one-woman play based on the life and work of Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902) was written by Rev. Sandra Stephens early in 1983. Research for the play had been done over a period of several years. It was first performed at Green Mountain United Methodist Church in May, 1983, and has been performed over 60 times since that date.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a contemporary and close friend of Susan B. Anthony, was instrumental in the struggle to achieve equal rights for women. Her work was done despite frequent opposition from the clergy, from public officials and newspaper editors, and, sometimes, from members of her own family. Although Elizabeth did not live to see passage of the woman suffrage amendment, her work laid the foundations for today's feminist movement.

Sandra Stephens is a graduate of the Iliff School of Theology (M.Div.) and Coe College (B. Mus. Ed.) In addition to serving as a pastor in the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church, she has served as director of Christian education and music in churches in Iowa and Colorado, and has taught vocal music, speech and theatre, as well as human sexuality and comparative religions, in public and private schools. She has been active in community theatre and church drama in Iowa and Colorado, as performer, director, choreographer and musician. Productions in recent years include "You're A Good Man, Charley Brown;" "Mame;" "Spoon River Anthology;" "The Apple Tree;" "The Fantasticks;" "Mary, Mary;" "Inherit the Wind" and "1776." Rev. Stephens is currently writing a book of poems about Denver, entitled "Denargo Cat."



Sandra Stephens as Elizabeth Cady Stanton

COE COLLEGE
1919-1920

Actually I have nothing but very positive feedback to report to you, from the faculty as well as the students. The latter, especially those who have been studying Elizabeth in their history courses, stress how meaningful the presentation was now that they feel they have really "met" her.

Thank you once more for a splendid evening.

[Handwritten signature]

Yours sincerely

Ruth Rogers
Education and Development
Counselor



A one-woman play based on the life and work of

Elizabeth Cady Stanton
1815-1902

Dear Sandra,

Your performance for EWI on Thursday evening was wonderful! I have received so many glowing and heartfelt compliments about you and the play.

Sandra
Thanks for the de
ing, delightful,
2 performance

How much the women enjoyed your presentation provided topics for several of the women requested more asked for your address, so don't be a part of them.

[Handwritten signature]

Dear Sandra:
Your presentation of Ms. Cady Stanton was for me, the highlight of very high week with copy of your play... long and short form. I'll buy it, borrow it, or whatever. The word through and I'd love share it with others.
Karen C. McClintock
Oroville, CA 95965



postcard

Sandra Stephens
1313 W. Sheppard Ave.
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80120

PO Box 1946

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Sandra C. Stephens
Associate Minister

December 8, 1986

Dear Carmen:

I am responding to your recent letter regarding the possibility of a performance of "Elizabeth."

I toured the play in California last February, and due to demand there, am planning another tour in that area this coming March (instead of the northeast tour as I had originally planned). However, I would be glad to explore the possibility of coming to the Boston area - this is what I propose if you think it might work for you: Depending on date (I'm in California March 12-28) and of course Holy Week I'm occupied here, dates would be pretty open. In terms of cost, I usually ask \$300 for the full play (one hour and forty minutes, with an intermission) or \$200 for a one-hour cutting (in either case, I'm glad to respond to questions after, visit informally at a reception, or, in an academic setting, meet with a class in connection with the performance). However, with just one show in your area, this would not cover travel. I wonder if you might be able to secure a second booking in the area - if so, it would take care of my needs and we would be able to do the show for you. (Have found with California bookings that United Methodist clergywomen in local parishes are a very good source).

In terms of staging...we can work on a very small area (12x20 is ideal but I've worked on much smaller). Furniture: A small table and two chairs and a free-standing podium. If there are lights and a technician available, it's a very easily-followed script. I just need a room in which to make up (takes about an hour and a half).

THE BEST MAN FOR THE JOB IS OFTEN A WOMAN

January 7, 1987

Dear Carmen...

I went to California the day after Christmas and am just back in the office. I will send you in the next day or two the publicity material, etc., requested, but I wanted to get back to you right away regarding dates.

I'm preaching here March 1 and need to back here for another program on March 8, but in between, I could be in your area. Other vacation schedules here on staff make this about the only time that would work well. I hope this fits into schedules on your end.

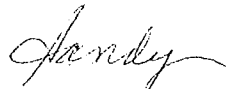
Re: references. Bishop Sano of our Rocky Mountain Conference, 2200 S. University, Denver, 80210, has seen a cutting from "Elizabeth." Others: Mrs. Virginia Held, 13288 W. Exposition, Lakewood, CO 80228; Sue Calvin, 2200 S. University, Denver, 80210; Elizabeth Brower, 852 S. Beech, Lakewood, CO 80228. Some of the material I send you will include letterheads with names and addresses.

You asked about performing for school groups. I have had, of course, young people from elementary up in audiences; however, I would say material is suited best for junior high on up. I did perform it in March of 1984 for Women's Week at Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa (my alma mater) but the person with whom I made arrangements has died. I have done a 45-minute "tight" cutting for groups with educational goals; this allows for 15 minutes of interaction in a one-hour period. In any case, when I perform in such a setting, I'm happy to engage in discussion immediately after, or, if feasible, to meet with a class ahead of time to discuss historical perspective, etc. Whatever seems best in the settings you have in mind, I'll be glad to do.

I want to drop this in the mail so you'll have my response as early as possible; I'll send other material as quickly as I can put it together for you.

Thanks for all of your help and encouragement; looking forward to the possibility of our meeting.

Sincerely,



Sandy Stephens