



Virginia Women in Ministry Reorganize

An *ad hoc* nominating committee for Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry met in February to select new officers and to plan directions for the organization in the coming months. The new officers include Judy Bailey as convener and Helen Wood as secretary/treasurer to replace Ellen Gwathmey and Holly Irvin, who were the convener and treasurer for several years.

Barbara Jackson will continue to produce the newsletter. Others were named to assist with event planning, meeting arrangements, memberships and exhibits.

The new organization came about following a discussion at a Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry dinner meeting in November, held in conjunction with the BGAV. At that dinner discussion focused on the purposes of VBWIM and how those purposes are best achieved. Purposes identified by the group included: networking and mutual support, professional development and conferences on topics of interest, as well as advocacies of women in church ministry. That discussion led to the February meeting at which a new structure and new officers emerged.

Several sessions later, additional people were enlisted for the steering committee and new plans made. Judy Bailey resumes the position of convener after having helped to organize and guide the young organization over ten years ago.

New plans include regional get-togethers around the state; a new mailing address; three-year rotation of officers; regular membership drives; the publication of ten years of *Synergy* in one volume to be made available as a purchase item; a Web page; financial contribution for a woman seminary student in Liberia; liaison with BTR women students; and new approaches to statewide events and programming.

Watch for announcements.

Grace Church to Host Scholarship Event

Anne Neil and Estelle McCarthy will be honored with a scholarship named for them at a dinner and celebration to be held at Grace Church in Richmond on September 15. The dinner and celebration marks the closure of the Women's Center, Inc., at the Richmond Theological Consortium of BTR, Union/PSCE, and Virginia Union. Writer and newly appointed professor of theology & ethics at Union/PSCE, the Rev. Dr. Katie Cannon will speak.

The dinner is a fund-raising event for the scholarship to be set up in honor of the two women who were instrumental in the establishment of the Center. The Women's Center, Inc., existed to foster women seminarians and to promote their professional development. The Center closed last year because of funding difficulties.

Invitations to the dinner and celebration and requests for contributions to the scholarship endowment have been mailed to supporters all over the state. The goal for the scholarship is \$10,000.

Ten years of *Synergy* available in one volume.

A new project for VBWIM is the publication of previous issues of *Synergy* as a historical record of the organization and its activities. It is more than that, of course. It has interesting articles, lists of resources, chronological lists of women in the news and the kinds of jobs they have held. Order now and reserve your copy. \$10. [Box 70970, Richmond 23255]

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