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For Immediate Release

**Emily Burke Receives Sixth Annual Nancy A. Hardesty Memorial
Scholarship from Christian Feminism Today**

Indianapolis—The sixth annual Nancy A. Hardesty Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Christian Feminism Today, has been awarded to Emily Burke, a Master of Arts in Theological Studies candidate at Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City, MO.

Ms. Burke, who lives in Columbia, MO, holds a bachelor's degree from Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, ID. After completing her advanced studies, Ms. Burke plans to teach feminist theology at the college level. Currently, she works as a parish administrator at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Columbia.

Ms. Burke credits Christian feminism with opening her world view. "Feminist theology has been a gate for me," she asserts. "Once I opened it, I was also introduced to many different types of theology from the margins, including womanist, liberation, black, and *mujerista* theologies. Studying these voices in theology has shaped my world view, as I am challenged to move beyond white, wealthy, patriarchal visions of the world, myself, and faith."

She says Christian feminism has taught her to "listen to voices on the margins" and has given her the goal to "further move Christian feminism to an intersectional space." Women, who have long been "put down," are able, she says, "to empathize and support other marginalized groups including refugees, immigrants, and LGBTQ+ persons." She also aims to challenge white Christians to be not just feminists but antiracists, as well.

The Nancy A. Hardesty Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a student who aspires to exemplify the values and achievements of Nancy A. Hardesty, a founding

member of the Christian Feminism Today organization. The purpose of the \$1,000 scholarship, awarded every June, is to help a student who wants to be in a leadership role that supports and promotes Christian feminism.

Nancy A. Hardesty (1941-2011) was a founding member of the Evangelical Women's Caucus, which, over the past 46 years, has grown into Christian Feminism Today. Until her death, Dr. Hardesty was a professor of religion in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Clemson University, in Clemson, SC. Previously, she had taught English and writing at Trinity College in Deerfield, IL, and had worked on the editorial staffs of *Eternity* magazine and *The Christian Century*.

Ms. Hardesty's first book, co-authored with Letha Dawson Scanzoni, was *All We're Meant to Be: A Biblical Approach to Women's Liberation*. Originally published in 1974, the book has gone through several editions and has influenced countless Christian feminists from evangelicals, to mainline Protestants, to Roman Catholics. In 2006, *Christianity Today* magazine ranked *All We're Meant to Be* among the top fifty books that had influenced the evangelical Christian movement over half a century.

Christian Feminism Today is an organization with a long history of working for gender equality. CFT welcomes members of any gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, color, creed, marital status, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, age, political party, parental status, economic class, or disability. Its biennial conferences sustain spiritual connectedness and foster learning about critical Christian feminist issues. The [Christian Feminism Today website](#) provides Christian feminist news, articles, book reviews, blogs, Bible studies, links to explore, and inspiration.

For more information about Christian Feminism Today or the Nancy A. Hardesty Memorial Scholarship, contact Jeanne Hanson, Christian Feminism Today Executive Council Coordinator, at office [at] eewc [dot] com or 317.721.3660.

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