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For Immediate Release

Lynn Horan Receives Ninth Annual Nancy A. Hardesty Memorial Scholarship from Christian Feminism Today



Rev. Lynn Horan

Indianapolis—The ninth annual Nancy A. Hardesty Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Christian Feminism Today, has been awarded to Rev. Lynn Horan, a doctoral student studying in the Graduate School in Leadership and Change at Antioch University in Yellow Springs, OH.

Horan is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian church and links these roots and her involvement in the Presbyterian Women’s Association with her understanding of Christian feminism. Her research interests focus on “embodied leadership and boundary work of female Protestant clergy.”

Horan writes that, “conversations among other young female clergy have revealed that there is a systemic problem within congregational life and church leadership where female clergy continue to face certain risks, challenges and vulnerabilities that our male counterparts may not experience to the same degree.”

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In her application materials, Horan expressed that she has seen “Christian feminism have a powerful ability to challenge restrictions on women’s reproductive rights, unveil and address the prevalence of human trafficking particularly of young women and children, and advocate for survivors of sexual abuse and domestic violence alongside widespread efforts to prevent such abuse.” Horan’s work and research interests are deeply rooted in her personal commitment to both social justice and Christian feminism.

Horan’s commitment to working with and learning from many women, from a variety of contexts, is emphasized in the closing portion of her application essay. She writes, “it is my prayer and deepest hope that current expressions of Christian feminism explore new and creative ways to cultivate the life-giving possibilities of inter-generational female relationships.”

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 five decades, 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 taught English and writing at Trinity College in Deerfield, IL, and 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.

Nancy A. Hardesty was born in Lima, OH, and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL. She went on to earn a master's degree in newspaper journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, and a Ph.D. in the history of Christianity at the University of Chicago.

Her dissertation, "*Your Daughters Shall Prophecy*": *Revivalism and Feminism in the Age of Finney*, was published by Carlson Publishing in 1991.

Christian Feminism Today is a Christian feminist organization with a long history of working for gender equality. The organization 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.

The [Christian Feminism Today website](#) provides Christian feminist articles, reviews, blogs, Bible study, audio, links to explore, and inspiration.

For more information about Christian Feminism Today or the Nancy A. Hardesty Memorial Scholarship, contact Rev. Dr. Gail Ricciuti, selection committee chair, by emailing office [at] eewc [dot] com or leaving a voicemail at (317) 721.3660.

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