



Christian Feminism Today's 50th Anniversary Gathering

June 21–23, 2024
Indianapolis, Indiana

*"Although She is one, She does all things. Without leaving Herself
She renews all things. Generation after generation She slips into
holy souls, making them friends of God, and prophets; for God
loves none more than they who dwell with Wisdom."*

Wisdom of Solomon 7:27–28

Friday, June 21

- 2:00 pm Welcome Party (games, refreshments, chatting)
- 4:30 pm Dinner Break
- 7:00 pm Welcome and Singing

Saturday, June 22

- 8:30 am Announcements and Singing
- 9:00 am “Batabas” with Dr. Alena Ruggerio (*page 4*)
- 10:30 am Break
- 11:00 am Memorial and Celebration (*page 5*)
- 12:15 pm Break for Lunch
- 1:45 pm “Buoyancy and Splash” by Rev. Gail Ricciuti (*page 6*)
- 3:15 pm Break
- 3:30 pm Business Meeting

Sunday, June 23

- 10:00 am Worship Service (*page 8*)

Dear Siblings,

In 1995, Virginia Ramey Mollenkott signed my copy of her book, *Sensuous Spirituality*, "For Paula, your sister in the joyous struggle."

The struggle continues, although it doesn't feel as joyous today as it did in 1995. We could look around and see many of our accomplishments unraveling and lose ourselves in despair.

Let's not.

As we celebrate our organization's fiftieth anniversary, let's rejoice that there *are* accomplishments.

Just as we have been encouraged and supported by our siblings who came before us or walked along with us, others will come along and move the joyous struggle forward. They may have different goals than ours, but it will be their joyous struggle.

Letty Russell wrote, "We can't do it alone. We all need each other."

Blessings, my siblings, in our joyous struggle.

Paula Familetti

Welcome to the Gathering!



Dr. Paula Trimble-Familetti
Coordinator

Reminiscing and Reflecting: A Group Discussion



Rev. Janene Cates Putman

Love and Agency in the Divine Feminine: Worship Service Sermon

Reminiscing and Reflecting, Friday, 7:30 pm

Janene Cates Putman, Moderator

It's been fifty years! What have we accomplished? Who made the biggest impression on your own life? What stories have you treasured over the years? What do you think lies ahead for the feminist movement? Is patriarchy invincible?

Love and Agency in the Divine Feminine, Sunday 10:00 am

Rev. Janene Cates Putman, Preaching

The **Rev. Janene Cates Putman**, a member of the CFT Executive Council, is an ordained Progressive Christian minister, certified abortion doula, writer, and activist. She is currently working on her first book with Tehom Center Publishing, an anthology of women's stories about detangling faith from toxic theology. When she's not spending time with her five kids and eight grandchildren, Rev. Putman lives her dream life advocating for women's

Saturday, 9:00 am

For more than twenty years, members of Christian Feminism Today have collaborated together on the Gracespeak Lexicon, based on the conviction that feminism is not just practiced via theology, legislation, and protest, but also via communication. In this plenary session, we will memorialize the language of our past, honor the linguistic creativity of our present, and collectively craft new vocabulary for our Christian feminist futures.

Dr. Alena Ruggerio (she/her) is a professor in the Department of Communication, Media, and Cinema at Southern Oregon University. She is the co-author of *Feminism in Practice: Communication Strategies for Making Change* (Waveland Books), and editor of *Media Depictions of Brides, Wives, and Mothers* (Lexington Press). Alena is a recipient of both the SOU Distinguished Teaching award and the SOU Distinguished Service award. She served for eleven years in various positions on the Christian Feminism Today Executive Council, including Coordinator and Assistant to the Editor, and currently sits on the Nancy A. Hardesty Memorial Scholarship selection committee.

Batabas:
*Communicating the Language
of Christian Feminism's
Past and Future*



Dr. Alena Ruggerio

Memorial and Celebration



Rev. Claire Beutler-Cruise



Linda Bieze

*Remembering Jeanne Baly, Jeanne Hanson,
Virginia Ramey Mollenkott,
Letha Dawson Scanzoni,
and Linda Williams*

Saturday, 11:00 am

Linda Bieze, MA, a writer and editor, has been a member of EEWC-CFT since the early 1990s. She has served on the organization's Executive Council (as secretary and coordinator) and on the Nancy A. Hardesty Scholarship Committee. She holds a certificate from the Women's Leadership Institute of the Hartford International University for Religion and Peace. In 2020, she retired as a senior editor from the Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Rev. Claire Beutler-Cruise celebrated her 25th *Ordiversary* in April. Claire has been a member of EEWC-CFT since 1990. She has worked as Interim Minister, and is adjunct staff for the Wisconsin UCC Conference as facilitator for Community of Practice groups for clergy. She lives in Milwaukee with her life partner Howie, four adult children and five grandchildren ages 2 to 30.

Saturday, 1:45 pm

Dr. Virginia Ramey Mollenkott—our late, beloved sister, mentor, founder, and friend—was brilliantly ahead of her time in all that put this organization at the vanguard of the arc toward gender- and social-justice. In theology, language, spirituality, justice advocacy, and equality of persons across all spectrums, Virginia's strong voice and insightful writings led the way on paths that most could not have envisioned decades ago. Today we celebrate the foundations she laid for how we might yet travel toward the Holy One's intended future.

The Rev. Gail Ricciuti is Professor Emerita at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, where she taught preaching and practical theology for 23 years. During the 25 years preceding her teaching career, she served churches in Ohio and, with her husband Anthony, pioneered the field of egalitarian co-pastoring in Byron and Rochester, New York. Gail earned degrees from the University of Puget Sound and Princeton Theological Seminary and holds an honorary Doctorate of Divinity conferred by Keuka College. She is a past moderator of Genesee Valley Presbytery and was Vice Moderator of the General Assembly (PCUSA, 1977), the first clergywoman and youngest person ever to hold the post.

Buoyancy and Splash: The Legacy of Virginia Ramey Mollenkott



Rev. Gail Ricciuti

We Gotta Sing!



Pam Blevins Hinkle

Saturday, 7:15 pm

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We will use song to metabolize the joy and grief of being alive in this world and to kindle kinship with Earth, each other, and the Sacred. Songs will be taught in call and response fashion with no paper to hold or projections to look at. All voices are welcome as they are in this perfection-free and judgment-free space.

Pam Blevins Hinkle is a songleader, songwriter/composer, arts administrator, and kazoo fanatic. She facilitates singing experiences that prioritize participation and community building over perfection and performance. She is certified by the Community Choir Leadership Training program of the Ubuntu Choir Network and has 30+ years' experience leading college, congregational, and community choirs, including 13 years as Artistic Director of the Indianapolis Women's Chorus and 28 years directing the Awesome Choir at the Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly. Her current work includes SongSquad Indianapolis (a non-auditioned, all ages choir), the Indy Winter Solstice Celebration, and Spirit & Place, an Indiana University project that brings together the arts, humanities, and religion to spark conversation, collaboration, and community building.

Sunday, 10:00 am

Share in uplifting music, inspirational messages, and communion today as we worship together.

Rev. Janene Cates Putman, preaching, is an ordained Progressive Christian minister, certified abortion doula, writer, and activist (read more on page 3).

Rev. Dr. Leslie R. Harrison, liturgist, is a listener, a friend, and a voice for the voiceless (until they find their voice!). She is the pastor of Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church in Riverton, New Jersey, and has worked as an addictions counselor.

Tiana Marquez, soloist, is a singer and storyteller. Since her first church solo at age three, Tiana has had an active singing career, contributing to the cultural life of her community. She has performed from California to Canada to the United Kingdom, in churches, libraries, schools, and concert halls.

Rev. Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton wrote the hymns we'll sing in today's service. Jann is an ordained minister, author, teacher, and chaplain. Several books of her hymns are available for purchase through her website, jannaldredgeclanton.com.

Worship Service





John Saxon

Piano Accompanist

A native Texan, John now lives in Franklin, Indiana. His early loves were math and the piano. He earned two mathematics degrees, intending to teach, but ended up making a career in computer programming instead while continuing piano study on the side. With his mathematical bent, he loved the axiomatic approach to the Bible of his boyhood Seventh-Day Adventist faith, but close scriptural

study eventually meant parting ways with inerrancy and, for a time, faith. In the meantime, his intuitive side began breaking through at rare moments with trivial bits of foreknowledge, troubling his analytical world view. An honest attempt to study and understand the phenomenon led him to clairvoyant training with Naomi Horii in 2005, then to an ongoing healer's apprenticeship with Michael Tamura and to a reaffirmation of faith. John's clairaudience gradually emerged, and he began giving "piano readings," improvisational piano performances that reflect the energy of the intended person or community. Visit his website at pianoreadings.com.

Got your gathering gear?

Order your gathering logo items at <https://eewc.com/2024-cft-gathering-gear/> to visit our gear store on TeePublic.



T-Shirts (dozens of colors) | Tote Bags | Sweatshirts | Hoodies | Long Sleeve T-Shirts | Stickers, Pins, and Magnets | Coffee Mugs

Making It Happen:

Conference Coordination: Lē Isaac Weaver, Marilyn McDonald, Paula Trimble-Familetti, and the Executive Council

CFT Executive Council:

Paula Trimble-Familetti, Coordinator; Catherine Bailey, Secretary; Gail Ricciuti, Treasurer; Janene Cates Putman; Rhondda MacKay; Marilyn McDonald, Coordinator Emeritus.

Contractors: Barbara Crews, Membership Coordinator; Lē Isaac Weaver, Operations

Nancy Hardesty Memorial Scholarship Committee:

Rev. Gail Ricciuti, Chair; Dr. Alena Amato Ruggerio; Dr. Reta Halteman Finger; Rev. Dr. Leslie Robin Harrison

Sustaining Members:

Marilyn McDonald, Susan Garrison, Deborah Saxon, Leslie Harrison, Janet Lundblad, Elizabeth Baker-Smith, Fran Mayes; Mary Lynn Porter; Barb Crews; Gail Ricciuti, Margaret Arighi



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