



Email: sdaf.org@gmail.com

www.sandiegoadventistforum.org

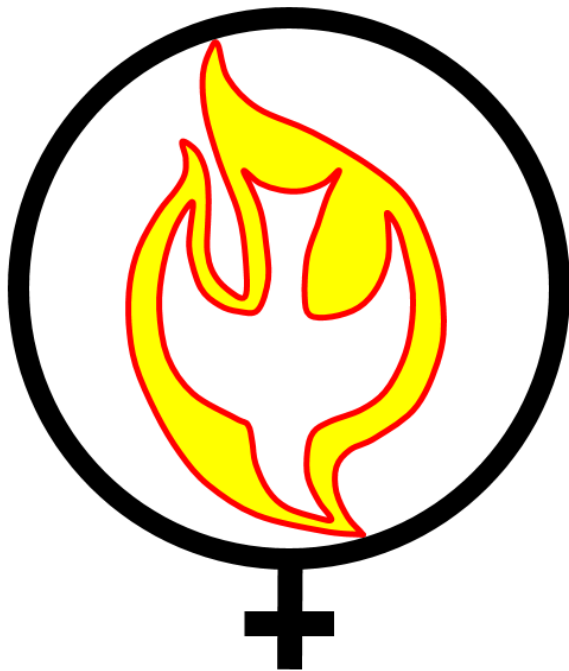
PO Box 421320, San Diego, CA 92142

2015 Summer Meeting

July 18, 9:30 a.m.

**Tierrasanta SDA Church
Fellowship Hall**

Ordination of Women: Past, Present, Future



. . . a panel discussion with participants from the first ordination service of Seventh-day Adventist women, including:

Kendra Haloviak Valentine, Ph.D.

Arthur R. Torres, Ph.D.

Fritz Guy, Ph.D.

Lawrence Geraty, Ph.D.

Louis Venden, Ph.D.

Join Us For Lunch With Our Guests!

A haystacks bar will be provided by the San Diego Adventist Forum in the Fellowship Hall following the 11 am church service. Donations to the SDAF to help defray the cost of the meal are appreciated.

Panel Introduction

On July 6, 1995, a vote was taken at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Utrecht, the Netherlands, on the question of whether to allow the ordination of women for gospel ministry. The proposal lost by a margin of more than 2-to-1, yet the movement whose roots took hold more than 100 years earlier at the 1881 General Conference Session, now began to bloom. The following day, the La Sierra University Church board voted to take the issue of women's ordination to their local church business session, at which they voted to request that the Southeastern California Conference and Pacific Union allow the ordination of women. Both entities narrowly rejected the request.

Some called what followed courageous, while others deemed it rebellious. Without the sanction of higher church authorities from the North American Division or General Conference, several SDA congregations chose to unilaterally ordain women to pastoral ministry. On September 23, 1995, the Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church in Takoma Park, Maryland, became the first by ordaining Kendra Haloviak, Norma Osborn, and Penny Shell. Our panel of guests includes participants from this service.

Kendra Haloviak Valentine. At 28, she was the youngest of the three



women ordained at Sligo. At the time she was pursuing a Ph.D. in New Testament and Ethics at the Graduate Theological Union at Berkeley. Currently, Haloviak Valentine serves as Associate Professor of New Testament Studies at La Sierra University.

Arthur R. Torres. As the Senior Pastor of the Sligo SDA Church, Torres delivered the homily during the ordination service, entitled *Let The Future Begin*. Prior to his service at Sligo, Torres was senior pastor of the Glendale City Church where he was instrumental in establishing a policy which promoted women in leadership positions, and he has returned to serve as Pastor Emeritus.



Lawrence Geraty. As President of La Sierra University, Geraty served as a sponsor for Norma Osborn during the ordination service at Sligo. Now retired, he spends his time volunteering for numerous committees, charitable organizations and foundations.



Fritz Guy. At the Sligo ordination service, Guy served as Penny Shell's sponsor. At the time, he was Professor of Theology at La Sierra University, a position he took after service as University President for several years. Guy continues to serve in that position currently.

Louis Venden. As Professor of Ministerial Studies at Pacific Union Collage, Venden delivered the ordination prayer at the Sligo service. Previously, Venden had served as senior pastor of the Loma Linda University Church. In 1996, Venden returned to Loma Linda as a Professor of Theology and Ministry, where he is currently Emeritus.



In the weeks preceding our July 18 SDAF meeting with these five guests, the 2015 General Conference Session in San Antonio will once again debate the question of women's ordination. Regardless of the outcome, we look forward to excellent analysis and thoughtful discussion led by our very own SDAF president, Steve Hadley. Join us!

2015 Fall Meeting

We are excited to host **Dr. Najeeba Syeed-Miller**, Assistant Professor of Interreligious Education at Claremont School of Theology, for our upcoming Fall Meeting.

More Details to Come!



www.sandiegoadventistforum.org

- Memberships
- Chapter News
- Chapter History
- Make a Donation
- Media Subscriptions
- Media Orders
- Officer Information
- 300 MP3 Downloads

