

# **Guide to the Barbara Troxell Papers**

1958-2013



## **ARCHIVES & HISTORY**

General Commission on Archives and History

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



## Barbara Troxell Papers

1958-2013

2.88 cubic feet

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The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers, followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

### Biographical or History Note

Barbara B. Troxell (1935-) is a United Methodist clergywomen, academic, former district superintendent, and leader. She was raised in Brooklyn, New York and grew up in King's Highway Methodist Church where her father was the choir director. Troxell graduated high school from the Berkeley Institute in Brooklyn in 1952, her Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Swarthmore College in 1956, and in 1959 her Bachelor of Divinity (with an emphasis in New Testament and Religion and Psychology) from Union Theological Seminary.

Troxell was ordained deacon in The Methodist Church in 1958 and elder in 1961. She was appointed pastor at Community Methodist Church in 1960 in Cold Spring Harbor, New York following a year abroad doing graduate theological courses at New College at the University of Edinburgh. She served three years at Community before transitioning to campus ministry, first at Ohio Wesleyan University as the Executive Director of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) and the Associate Chaplain for three years. She would leave Ohio for Stanford University to become the Executive Director of the YWCA there until 1970.

In 1970, Troxell went back to the local church to serve as an associate pastor at the First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto, California. During this time she held consulting and part-time instructor roles at the Pacific School of Religion and California State University. In 1978 she was appointed as the Golden Gate District Superintendent of the California-Nevada Annual Conference. Troxell was the first woman district superintendent in the Western Jurisdiction. She would serve as a DS until 1983, and during this time discerned a calling to run for the episcopacy, a discernment that led her to not put her name forward.

Troxell was the chair of the California-Nevada Commission on the Status and Role of Women from 1974-1976 and served as a member of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) from 1972-1980. She would then go on to serve as a member of the former General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns from 1980-1988. She was a delegate to the 1980 General Conference and the 1980 and 1984 Western Jurisdictional Conferences.

In 1984, Troxell was brought on staff at Pacific School of Religion as Dean of Students. In 1987 she served for a year as the Associate Pastor at Lake Merritt United Methodist Church in Oakland, California. In 1988, she would move to the Chicago area, and eventually was hired and appointed as the Acting Director of Field Education at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. After a year she became Assistant Professor of Practical Theology, Director of Field Education and Spiritual

Formation. She would retire from Garrett in 2000 as the Associate Professor of Practical Theology. She would be granted the title Professor Emerita of Spiritual Formation in 2003. During her time there she co-authored the book "Shared Wisdom: A Guide to Case Study Reflection in Ministry."

Troxell's research focused on questions of practical theology, spirituality and authority - primarily the relation of clergywomen to authority. Troxell led retreats for a number of organizations both before and during her retirement, including the Council of Bishops. Troxell currently resides in Claremont, California with her husband Rev. Gene Boutilier a United Church of Christ pastor.

## Scope and Content Note

This collection contains materials from the ministry of Rev. Barbara Troxell from 1980-2009. The collection is divided into three series. The first series contains materials from retreats that Troxell led along with sermons and other lecture materials. The second series contains materials and interviews Troxell conducted with United Methodist bishops and clergywomen about the concept of ministerial authority for an unpublished book. The interviews have been restricted from the public. The final series contains general materials from events Troxell attended, clippings, and other research material and notes from her ministry.

## Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner.

Public Ministry

*Retreats.*

*Sermons and Lectures.*

*Book Materials.*

*General Files.*

## Related Material

Records of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

## Access Restrictions

Please refer to the donor file.

## Use Access

Detailed use restrictions relating to our collections can be requested from the office of the archivist at the General Commission on Archives and History. Photocopying is handled by the staff and may be limited in certain instances. Before using any material for publication from this collection a formal request for permission to publish is expected and required.

## Preferred Citation

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, Barbara Troxell Papers, United Methodist Church Archives - GCAH, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the item's call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

## Index Terms

### *Subject Terms*

Women's rights and spiritualism

Authority Religious Aspects



Bishops  
Christian life  
Church work with women  
Ordination of women  
Sermons  
Theological seminaries

### ***Geographic Terms***

California  
Illinois  
New York (N.Y.)  
United States  
Wisconsin

### ***Genre Terms***

Articles.  
Newsletters  
Pamphlets  
Photographs  
Audiocassettes  
Church bulletins  
Correspondence  
Email  
Hymns  
Interviews  
Lectures  
Manuscripts  
Minutes  
Newspapers  
Resumes  
Sermons

### ***Subject Names - Corporate Bodies***

United Methodist Church (U.S.)  
United Methodist Church (U.S.). California-Nevada Annual Conference  
United Methodist Church (U.S.). General Commission on the Status and Role of Women  
United Methodist Church (U.S.). General Conference

### ***Subject Names - Person***

Shaw, Anna Howard, 1847-1919

### ***Occupation Terms***

Minister

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## Container List

### *Public Ministry Retreats*

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1586-3-4:1	In Search of Mother God	1975-1988
1586-3-4:2	Loving God-Self-Neighbor	1984
1586-3-4:3	Spirituality and Compassion: Ways of Growth - Walnut Creek FUMC	1984
1586-3-4:4	Sabbath Retreat	1987
1586-3-4:5	Sabbath Retreat	1987-1990
1586-3-4:6	Forms of Spirituality: Healthy/Unhealthy - Grailville, Ohio	1989
1586-3-4:7	Women's Friendships: Presentation 2	1989
1586-3-4:8	Women's Friendships: Presentation 3	1989
1586-3-4:9	Women's Friendships: Presentation 4	1989
1586-3-4:10	Spiritual Direction	1991-2006
1586-3-4:11	Diaconal Ministry Retreat	1992
1586-3-4:12	Contemplation	1994
1586-3-4:13	Companionship	1994
1586-3-4:14	Exploring Spiritual Dimensions for Diaconal Ministry	1995
1586-3-4:15	Upper Room	1995
1586-3-4:16	Facing Conflict Creatively	1995-1996
1586-3-4:17	Council of Bishops Retreat	1996
1586-3-4:18	Covenant Women	1996
1586-3-4:19	Wisconsin Conference Cabinet Retreat	1996
1586-3-4:20	West Ohio Conference Extended Cabinet and Spouse Retreat	1996
1586-3-4:21	Wisconsin Cabinet Retreat - Advent	1996
1586-3-4:22	Michigan Three Year Covenant Community	1996-1997
1586-3-4:23	Grailville Sabbath Retreat	1997
1586-3-5:1	Grailville Sabbath Retreat Session 1: Contemplation	1997
1586-3-5:2	Grailville Sabbath Retreat Session 2: Companionship	1997
1586-3-5:3	Grailville Sabbath Retreat Session 3: Compassion	1997
1586-3-5:4	Grailville Sabbath Retreat Eucharist	1997
1586-3-5:5	Grailville Sabbath Retreat Session 4: Taking Sabbath Home	1997-2002
1586-3-5:6	Asilomar Chaplains Retreat	1997
1586-3-5:7	Wisconsin Cabinet Retreat	1997-1998
1586-3-5:8	Sabbath Time: San Diego District Clergy	1998
1586-3-5:9	Wisconsin Cabinet Spiritual Retreat Day	1998
1586-3-5:10	Bloomington, Indiana Retreat	1998
1586-3-5:11	Clergy Retreats Illinois River and Spoon River Districts	1998-1999
1586-3-5:12	Sabbath for Our Souls	1999
1586-3-5:13	Wisconsin Cabinet Spiritual Retreat Day	1999
1586-3-5:14	Coulee District Clergy Retreat	2000
1586-3-5:15	Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation	2000
1586-3-6:1	Faith Alive	2001-2004
1586-3-6:2	Clergywomen's Consultation - Sabbath Workshop	2002
1586-3-6:3	Institute of Spiritual Companionship	2002
1586-3-6:4	Spiritual Directors International Regional Meeting	2002
1586-3-6:5	Texas Conference Christian Educators Fellowship Retreat Session 1	2004
1586-3-6:6	Texas Conference Christian Educators Fellowship Retreat Session 2	2004
1586-3-6:7	Texas Conference Christian Educators Fellowship Retreat Session 3	2004
1586-3-6:8	Texas Conference Christian Educators Fellowship Retreat Session 4	2004
1586-3-6:9	Texas Conference Christian Educators Fellowship Session 5	2004
1586-3-6:10	Claremont School of Theology Trustee/Faculty Retreat	2004
1586-3-6:11	California-Pacific Clergywomen's Retreat	2004
1586-3-6:12	Academy for Spiritual Formation #19 - Extra Materials	2004

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Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1586-3-6:13	Academy #19 - Day 1	2004
1586-3-6:14	Academy #19 - Day 2	2004
1586-3-6:15	Academy #19 - Day 3	2004
1586-3-6:16	Academy #19 - Day 4	2004
1586-3-6:17	Academy #19 - Day 5	2004
1586-3-6:18	Grail Retreat	2004
1586-3-7:1	Wisconsin Conference Clergywomen's Retreat	2004
1586-3-7:2	Claremont Presbyterian Church Women's Retreat	2005
1586-3-7:3	Presbyterian Women's Retreat - Extra Materials	2005
1586-3-7:4	2005 Women's Retreat at CPC	2005
1586-3-7:5	Academy #21	2005
1586-3-7:6	Spiritual Direction/Companionship	2006
1586-3-7:7	Academy #24	2007
1586-3-7:8	Academy #24 - Day 1	2007
1586-3-7:9	Academy #24 - Day 2	2007
1586-3-7:10	Academy #24 - Day 3	2007
1586-3-7:11	Academy #24 - Day 4	2007
1586-3-7:12	Academy #24 - Day 5	2007
1586-3-7:13	Claremont United Methodist Church - Advent and Epiphany Wondrous Wednesdays	2007-2008
1586-3-7:14	Streams of Christian Spirituality	2007-2008
1586-3-7:15	Lent Wednesday Two - Celtic/Franciscan Streams	2008
1586-3-7:16	Lent Wednesday Three - Ignatian and Carmelite Streams	2008
1586-3-7:17	Lent Wednesday Four - Wesleyan Streams	2008
1586-3-8:1	Lent Wednesday Five - Feminist and Liberation Streams	2008
1586-3-8:2	Lent Wednesdays	2009
1586-3-8:3	Streams of Christian Spirituality	2009

### *Sermons and Lectures*

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1586-3-8:4	Sermon - "Rainbows in Worship"	1980
1586-3-8:5	Creative Authority in Ministry	1982-1983
1586-3-8:6	Clergywomen and Friendship	1984
1586-3-8:7	Mary Vespers	1987-2007
1586-3-8:8	Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary Convocation Address	1990
1586-3-8:9	Spirituality in Liturgy Lecture	1991
1586-3-8:10	Leadership Dinner Talk	1993
1586-3-8:11	Sabbath - Rhythms for Renewal of Life	1993
1586-3-8:12	Jeanne Audrey Powers Event	1995
1586-3-8:13	Ecumenism and Feminism	1996
1586-3-8:14	Sermon - "The Way of the Heart"	1997
1586-3-8:15	Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Birthday of Anna Howard Shaw	1997
1586-3-8:16	Ordination of Women in The United Methodist Tradition	1997-1998
1586-3-8:17	Iliff Lecture - Clergywomen Claiming Authority	1999
1586-3-8:18	Presbyterian Homes Service	1999
1586-3-8:19	Pacific Northwest Academy for Spiritual Formation Homily - "Chaos and Clarity"	2000
1586-3-8:20	United Methodist Clergywomen 50th Anniversary Celebration	2002-2006
1586-3-8:21	Sermon - "No Shortage of Gifts"	2004
1586-3-8:22	Sermon - "Witness"	2006
1586-4-1:1	Almost 50 years and Counting	2006
1586-4-1:2	Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Full Clergy Rights for Women in the United Methodist Church	2006

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
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***Book Materials***

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1586-4-1:3	Abingdon Book Proposal	1998
1586-4-1:4	Authority Papers Written by Barbara Troxell - Folder 1	1981-2004
1586-4-1:5	Authority Papers Written by Barbara Troxell - Folder 2	1982-2004
1586-4-1:6	Authority Writings by Others	1977-1984
1586-4-1:7	Barbara Troxell Writings	1984-2013
1586-4-1:8	Book Proposal, Manuscript, and Chapter Outlines	1994-1998
1586-4-1:9	Honoring One Another With Our Stories	1993
1586-4-2:4	Items for Research	1994
1586-4-2:5	Letters to Interviewees	1990-1998
1586-4-2:6	Marion Kline Visit	1998
1586-4-2:7	Sabbatical Request and Report	1992-1994
1586-4-2:8	Sabbatical Request	1996
1586-4-2:9	Women and Polity Issues	1995

***General Files***

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1586-4-2:10	Anne McGraw Bennett	1986
1586-4-2:11	Barbara B. Troxell Clippings	1958-2006
1586-4-3:1	Barbara B. Troxell Items	1958-2003
1586-4-3:2	Bennett-Morton Lecture	2003
1586-4-3:3	Claremont School of Theology/Pilgrim Place Suppers	2007
1586-4-3:4	Clippings on Clergywomen	1975-1998
1586-4-3:5	Compassion	Undated
1586-4-3:6	Discernment	1996
1586-4-3:7	Diverse Images of God	Undated
1586-4-3:8	Expanding Images of God	1989-2001
1586-4-3:9	General Conference 2004	2004
1586-4-3:10	Introduction to Sabbath Time Retreat	1991
1586-4-3:11	Lectio - Isaiah 43	1995-2002
1586-4-3:12	"Living With Authority" - Alban Institute	1991
1586-4-3:16	Sabbath Time - Folder 1	1984-1991