

**W**omen have always played an important part in the work of the church, even in biblical times. In the history of the Adventist church, women have served in almost all capacities, filling a wide variety of roles. It is important that we take note of their accomplishments, to encourage us to persevere and to inspire future generations to take up the tasks their forebearers faithfully carried.

Each of these women is important in her own right. She is also a representative of the thousands who have labored and worked in each of the fifty-year periods of Adventist church history indicated in this brochure. Still today, distinguished women are often unknown and unnoticed.

Thousands of other women could, and should be mentioned, but we trust that the example of these faithful women will be a blessing as you use your gifts for God.



*When a great and decisive work is to be done, God chooses men and women to do this work, and it will feel the loss if the talents of both are not combined.*

-Ellen G. White, *Evangelism*, p. 469



**Hepzibah Kore**

Teacher, evangelist, leader. Founder of adult literacy program in India, "Never Too Late to Learn," helping more than 50,000 women and their families, Southern Asia Division.

**Jerusha Muga**

Evangelist, writer. Union director for Women's and Children's Ministries and Sabbath School department. Ministers to dignitaries in Kenya, East-Central Africa Division.

**Olga Murga**

Evangelist, preacher, church planter. Women's Ministries pioneer in Russia. Under her evangelistic programs, 3,038 people were baptized in Euro-Asia Division.

**Ingrid Naumann**

Evangelist, motivator, mentor. Pioneer in establishing Women's Ministries, especially in German-speaking countries, Euro-Africa Division.



**Esther Dias Sablon**

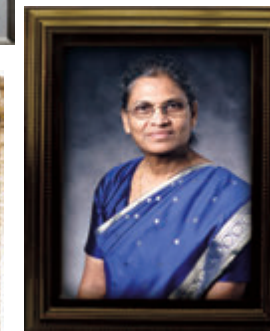
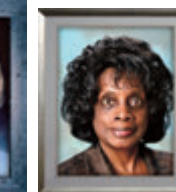
Educator. First woman president of Cuba Adventist Theological Seminary, Inter-American Division.

**Elizabeth Sterndale**

Registered nurse. First director of Women's Ministries in North American Division and Division Field Secretary. President of the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Nurses. Served the church in many areas, especially in ministry to women.

**Consolacion Tauro**

Leader, church elder, preacher, educator. Women's Ministries pioneer in the Philippines. Served for 47 years in Southern Asia-Pacific Division.



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT  
 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
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*women of*  
 DISTINGUISHED  
 SERVICE

1844 - 1894 | 1895 - 1945 | 1946 - 1996 | 1997 - PRESENT

GENERAL CONFERENCE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

## 1844 - 1894

### **Martha D. Byington Amadon**

**1834 - 1937**

First Dorcas Society president. Taught in one of the first church schools.

### **Maud Sisley Boyd**

**1851 - 1937**

Bible instructor, colporteur, educator. First single woman missionary to Europe. Served also in Africa and Australia.

### **Nellie H. Rankin Druillard**

**1844 - 1937**

Financier, treasurer. Helped found Riverside Sanitarium; Madison College; and Emmanuel Missionary College. Missionary in South Africa.

### **Sarepta Myrenda Irish Henry**

**1839 - 1900**

Temperance activist, personal evangelist, writer. Established first Women's Ministry. The General Conference voted her a ministerial license.

### **Maria L. Huntley**

**1847 - 1890**

President, Tract and Missionary Society, which later became the departments of Personal Ministries and Publishing Ministries. Addressed the 1888 General Conference Session.

### **Katherine (Kate) Lindsey**

**1842 - 1923**

Physician. Founder of first nurses' training school at Battle Creek Sanitarium. Missionary in South Africa.

### **Annie Rebekah Smith**

**1828 - 1855**

Early Advent hymn writer, editor. While James and Ellen White traveled, she published the *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*.



### **Ellen G. White**

**1827 - 1915**

Early leader and prophetess of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Author of 126 books and publications.

## 1895 - 1945

### **Ai Araki**

**1890 - 1982**

Japanese Bible worker, church leader. Although blind, she led and preserved her church throughout World War II, the only congregation in Japan to remain intact.

### **Lottie Blake**

**1876 - 1976**

First African-American Seventh-day Adventist woman physician. Established school of nursing at Oakwood University. Helped treat Ellen White.

### **Gertrude Brown**

**1866 - 1948**

Physician. Pioneered medical work in British Isles. Established sanitarium in Crieff, Scotland. Worked with J. Harvey Kellogg.

### **Georgia Burrus Burgess**

**1866 - 1948**

Educator, frontier missionary in India. Ministered for 40 years, especially to women.

### **Lora E. Clement**

**1890 - 1958**

Associate editor and editor of *Youth's Instructor* for 41 years.

### **Eva Dykes**

**1893 - 1986**

Musician, educator. First Seventh-day Adventist woman to receive a Ph.D. in the United States.

### **Anna L. Ingels Hindson**

**1862 - 1933**

Editor. Union secretary/treasurer, departmental director for Youth. Missionary in Australia.

### **Louise Kleuser**

**1890 - 1976**

Bible worker, pastor, evangelist, editor, seminary professor. Conference director of Education; associate secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association.

### **Anna Knight**

**1874 - 1972**

Nurse, educator. First African-American woman missionary. Union and conference departmental director. Served in India and the United States.

### **Ana Stahl**

**1870 - 1968**

Nurse, educator. Missionary in South America with her husband for 29 years. Instrumental in establishing Indian church schools.

### **Marinda (Minnie) Day Sype**

**1869 - 1956**

Pastor, evangelist, licensed minister for 54 years. Conference departmental director.

## 1946 - 1996

### **Ana Rosa Alvarado**

Cuban pastor, evangelist, educator, musician for 45 years.

### **Nancy Bassham**

Thai educator. First director of Family Life and Women's Ministries in the Asia-Pacific Division.

### **Lyn Behrens**

Australian physician. First woman president of Loma Linda University.

### **Del Delker**

Musician. Contralto soloist for the Voice of Prophecy radio broadcast with 70 recordings and 32 solo albums.

### **Chessie Harris**

Educator, humanitarian. More than 1200 children have received care at the Harris Home.

### **Jessie Halliwell**

Missionary nurse. With her husband supplied the only medical care to thousands along the Amazon River for 38 years.

### **Betty Holbrook**

Chairperson of first Women's Ministries Advisory. General Conference Home and Family Service director.

### **Juanita Kretschmar**

Humanitarian, prayer warrior, speaker. Started New York City Van Ministry and Good News Network.

### **Elsa Luukkanen**

Finnish pastor and evangelist.

### **Rose Otis**

First director of General Conference Women's Ministries Office and Department. General Field Secretary for the General Conference. Vice President for North American Division and Texas Conference.

### **Margaret Prange**

German pastor and evangelist. Member of the 1989 Women's Commission.

### **Leona Running**

Professor of ancient languages at the SDA Theological Seminary for more than 40 years.

## 1997 - PRESENT

### **Flora Nwamaka Abaribe**

Leader, mentor, educator, trainer. Responsible for helping destitute widows in Nigeria to have hope and a future, West-Central Africa Division.

### **Rosa Maria Taylor Banks**

B.S., M. Ed., Ed. D., L.H.D. Administrator, professor, speaker, writer, authority on diversity. First woman to serve as vice president of Oakwood College. Associate Secretary of the General Conference, General Field Secretary and officer of North American Division.

### **Miriam de Azevedo Berg**

Educator, teacher, mentor. Children's Ministries pioneer in South American Division. Frontier missionary in Mozambique under persecution. Dedicated her life to empowering women to serve.

### **Agness Bakuluma Chirwa**

Evangelist, teacher, mentor, entrepreneur, counselor. First volunteer Women's Ministries director. Known in Zambia as 'Mother General' because of her leadership qualities, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division.

### **Hong, Xiao Mei**

Pastor and evangelist. Raised up 800-member church congregation and training facility for Adventist leaders in China, Northern Asia-Pacific Division.

### **Carole Ferch-Johnson**

Bible worker, evangelist, counselor, writer. Women's Ministries pioneer in the South Pacific Division.

### **Birthe Kendel**

Teacher, physiotherapist, counselor for victims of sexual abuse. First director of Women's Ministries in the Trans-European Division. Missionary in many countries.