

# Women & Diaconal Ministry in the Orthodox Church: Past, Present & Future

**Saturday, December 6, 2014 / 9 AM to 5 PM**

**Union Theological Seminary / 3041 Broadway @ 121st St., NY, 10027**

**THE PAST** Build a solid understanding of the female diaconate in the early and medieval Church with presentations and discussion that explore the ministry and the attempts at the restoration of the office in the modern era through the work of Evangelos Theodorou, the decisions of the Rhodes Consultation, and the churches of Russia and Greece.

**THE PRESENT** Learn about the 'diaconal' work that women are doing today as chaplains, spiritual directors, ministers of the Word, and parish administrators and outreach coordinators.

**THE FUTURE** Explore why an ordained ministry is necessary, how a deaconess would/could serve today, and what short-term and long-term steps could be taken for restoration of the office as well as rejuvenation of the entire diaconate—male and female—for the building up of the Church today.

**SPEAKERS** Sister Rebecca of New Skete Monastery; Valerie A. Karras, ThD., AnnMarie Mecera; PhD; Clio Pavlantos, MDiv; Teva Regule, PhD (candidate); Caren Stayer, PhD; Phyllis Zagano, PhD; and more.

**CONFERENCE WILL INCLUDE presentations, a panel discussion, breakout session, Q&A after each session, and the opportunity for networking.** Full program, speakers, and lodging information available at [www.orthodoxdeaconess.org](http://www.orthodoxdeaconess.org).

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## REGISTRATION FORM & FEES

***\$50 until November 15 / \$60 after November 15 / \$35 Students. Includes lunch, light refreshments & all conference materials.*** Make checks payable to 'St. Phoebe Center—Conference' and mail to: St. Phoebe Center, P.O. Box 24, Plain City, OH 43064.

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**STREET** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Upon receipt of your check and registration form, you will receive an email confirmation.

Questions? Email [annmarie.mecera@gmail.com](mailto:annmarie.mecera@gmail.com)

*Held in conjunction with the Sophia Institute Conference on Fri. Dec. 5 'Healing, Reconciliation, and Forgiveness in Eastern Orthodox Perspectives.' We encourage those interested to participate in both events.*



*In Association with the History Dept. of  
Union Theological Seminary, New York*