

Courageous Past **BOLD FUTURE**

TISHA JERMIN

It's Easter. Onstage, demons dressed in black, laugh hysterically because Jesus is dead. Satan and the forces of evil have won the victory. Suddenly angels appear; the devil is shocked and stunned. An angel rolls away the



stone and immediately the black garments fall away.

Everyone on stage experiences a transformation. No longer is Satan victorious. Jesus has arisen.

Through this dramatic interpretation and dance, Tisha Jermin helps church members experience the mystery of the Easter story. The songs and dances are visions God has revealed to her; and the children and adults who dance willingly transform their bodies to deliver an old story in a fresh way.

For 20 years, Jermin has used dance as a ministry. Producing several successful interpretations has stimulated her desire to be a dancing preacher. In her second year at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, Ill., Jermin is studying for a master's of divinity degree with a concentration in youth ministry. By May 2007, she will be an ordained elder.

Originally from Bronx, N.Y., Jermin comes from a family of ministers. After earning a bachelor's degree in therapeutic recreation, she worked as a community school director, organizing programs that increase educational opportunities and social connections for children and families. Jermin has always felt those programs were missing something: "God is putting on my heart that spirituality needs to be a part of what goes on in communities."

After attending a New Year's Eve watch night service, she realized she wanted to know God in a deeper way. Believing seminary was probably the best way to know God deeply, she enrolled at Garrett. She believes that God has called her to break barriers and build bridges, not only within communities, but economically and racially. Her experience as a recreational therapist will help her make God's word come alive in a creative way.

Women like Tisha Jermin make up just over 50 percent of seminarians

in United Methodist theological schools and their dreams for ministry are unique and exciting. The 50th Anniversary of Full Clergy Rights for Women honors these women and celebrates what their ingenuity and creativity means for the church's future.

Quiz

1. Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary is one of how many United Methodist theological schools in the United States? How many can you name?
2. Name some events that encourage youth to examine God's call on their lives and to consider the possibility of professional ministry.

lives. www.theplse.org/

gations and campus ministries to invite young people to explore God's call in their

istry. **Pastoral Leadership Effort (PLSE)** is a project designed to encourage congre-

lay professional ministry. Contact your annual conference board of ordained min-

college students through age 30—who are exploring a call to ordained ministry or

ship, Bible study, prayer, workshops and small group discussions for young adults—

NW/Content.php **EXPLORATION** is an informative and discerning weekend of wor-

coveryministries.org/ **National Youth Workers Convention** www.youthspecialties.com/

event for spiritual formation for 6th-8th graders, held in the local church. www.dis-

that challenge youth and adults. **Discovery** is a weekend **www.grouppworkcamps.com**

2. Group Workcamps provides high-impact Christian mission service experiences

Seminary, Washington, D.C.

City, Mo.; United Theological Seminary, Trovood, Ohio; Wesley Theological

Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Tex.; Saint Paul School of Theology, Kansas

Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Delaware, Ohio; Perkins School of Theology,

Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, Ill.; Iliff School of Theology, Denver, Co.;

Divinity School, Durham, N.C.; Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga.; Garrett-


: Drew University, The Theological School, Madison, N.J.; Duke University, The

Claremont, Calif.

of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.; Claremont School of Theology,

1. Thirteen. They are: Boston (Mass.) University School of Theology; Candler School

Answers

 Produced by The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW), established by The United Methodist Church in 1976 to advocate the full inclusion of women in the life of the denomination and to monitor the Church at all levels for gender bias. The Commission offers training at district, annual conference and churchwide events on organizing and empowering women to find their voices and ministries in the Church; works with bishops, superintendents and other church leaders to understand and eradicate institutional sexism; and educates church laity and clergy on dealing with professional sexual misconduct. For more information and resources, visit www.gcsr.org, or call (312) 346-4900.