

Biographical Summary for Rebekah Miles

Rebekah Miles is Associate Professor of Ethics at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. A native Arkansan, she grew up in a United Methodist parsonage family. (Indeed, she is the sixth generation to live in Methodist parsonages. One of her great great grandfathers was an early Methodist circuit rider in Texas.) She and her husband, Len Delony, a spiritual director and former hospital chaplain, are United Methodist clergy members of the Little Rock Conference where they once served as co-pastors for two rural farming churches. Her service to the United Methodist Church has also included active participation in national and world Methodist organizations. She was a member of the General Board of Church and Society and of the national Genetic Science Task Force as well as a delegate and group leader at a World Methodist Conference.

Miles received her B.A. from Hendrix College and her Master of Divinity Degree from the Iliff School of Theology. She and her husband also studied at the Eberhard Karl University in Tübingen, Germany. Her Ph.D. is from the University of Chicago where she was a Dempster, John Wesley, Century, and University Fellow. While working on her Ph.D. at the University of Chicago, Dr. Miles taught at Loyola University and was the Assistant Dean of the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel. She also was on faculty at Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University for more than six years before coming to Perkins.

Miles is a co-author of a book on Wesleyan theology entitled *Wesley and the Quadrilateral: Renewing the Conversation* (Abingdon Press, 1997) and is the author of *The Pastor as Moral Guide* (Fortress Press, 1999) and *The Bonds of Freedom: Feminist Theology and Christian Realism* (Oxford University Press, 2001). She has also written many articles on Wesleyan theology and ethics, clergy ethics, cloning and genetic ethics, and other topics. She is now working on two books – one on work and family in U.S. life and another on clergy ethics.

Miles is active in the academy, having presented many papers and convened many sessions at the annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Christian Ethics. She is on the Board of Directors of the Society of Christian Ethics, is the organizer and chairperson of the Society of Christian Ethics Women's Caucus, and a board member of the Kingswood Books Editorial Advisory Board for Abingdon Press.

Miles and her husband have two pre-school daughters, Anna and Katherine