



WHAT IS FEMINISM & FAITH IN UNION?

The Women Who Stayed ([the-women-who-stayed](http://the-women-who-stayed.org))
FutureChurch (FutureChurch.org)
Call to Action (cta-usa.org)
Women's Ordination Conference (Womensordination.org)

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Feminism & Faith in Union is an initiative of The Women Who Stayed – the women’s ministry of St. Francis Xavier – in partnership with Peace & Justice, Catholic Lesbians, Gay Catholics, and the many other ministries of the Church of St. Francis Xavier in New York City. Sponsoring partners include FutureChurch, Call to Action, and Women’s Ordination Conference.

Feminism & Faith in Union is comprised of events in the US and around the globe on January 21, 2018, as well as ongoing activities and prayer services to help us welcome feminine Wisdom into our faith communities.

We know from Galatians 3.28 that there is *no longer male and female; for all of us are one in Christ Jesus*, but you might still be wondering....

Am I a feminist? Just what is feminism? How does it relate to our faith?

Did you know...

- **Merriam-Webster declared "feminism" the Word of the Year for 2017.**
Feminism was the most looked-up word in its online dictionary, with 70% more searches than in 2016. Their definitions: “the theory supporting the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes” and “organized activity on behalf of women’s rights and interests.”
- **Feminism isn’t just for females. People of any gender can be feminists.**
“A feminist is anyone who recognizes the equality and full humanity of women and men.” — *Gloria Steinem*
- **Feminism is inclusive and empowering. It is NOT anti-male.**
Instead, feminists value the gifts and contributions of all people. Think of how much richer our world and our church would be if everyone’s voice was heard and everyone’s gifts were recognized and embraced.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit... To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. (1 Cor 12.4, 7)

*The same is true of many of my gifts and graces, virtues and other spiritual gifts, and those things necessary for the body and human life. I have distributed them all in such a way that no one has all of them. Thus have I given you reason - necessity, in fact - to practice mutual charity. For I could well have supplied each of you with all your needs, both spiritual and material. **But I wanted to make you dependent on one another so that each of you would be my minister, dispensing the graces and gifts you have received from me.** (From the Dialogue of Saint Catherine of Siena)*