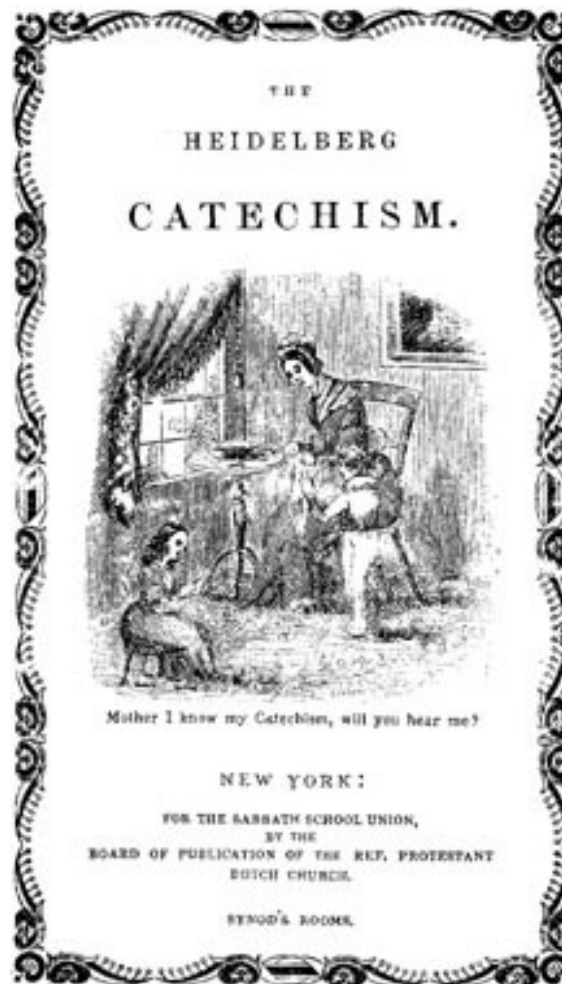


## Images of Women in Mission



From the earliest times in the church, women were traditionally associated with the function of education. Here in the Heidelberg Catechism cover, the child asks the question, "Mother I know my Catechism, will you hear me?"

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## Images of Women in Mission



Within the RCA the earliest work of a woman was in the mission field as a help-mate for her husband. However, this wasn't just homemaking, but also involved ministry to women and, often, children.



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## Images of Women in Mission



John and Harriet Scudder left to start a mission in Ceylon in 1819. Some significant individuals in mission history, including some very prominent women were the heirs of that family heritage.



Sarah Doremus was a member of an RCA congregation in New York City and a leader in mission and ecumenical work, which often went hand-in-hand. She opened her home to visiting missionaries, including David Abeel and there he issued the call of women working for women in mission. She organized the Women's Union Missionary Society in 1861.



Mrs. Paul Van Cleef accepted the presidency of the Women's Executive Committee of the Board of Domestic Missions in 1895, when "not many women did that kind of thing." Many ministers responded to her request to interest the women of their churches in home missions with the reply that "women's place was in the home, not out attending meetings."



Mrs. John S. Bussing, president of the Women's Executive Committee of the Board of Domestic Missions (1893-1925) was interested in the cause of the American Indians and was instrumental in securing the services of the Rev. Frank Hall Wright.



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## Images of Women in Mission



Mrs. E. Rothsay Miller, who as Mary Kidder, began teaching Japanese girls in 1870, the beginnings of the Ferris Seminary in Yokohama, Japan.



Ferris Seminary was established by the RCA as a school for girls and still provides a first-rate education to the modern Japanese woman.



Lily Duryee was sent by the Women's Board of Foreign Missions to China, where she served 42 years.



Mary Bruins Allison served as a medical doctor in the middle east. Her infectious sense of humor and love for the gospel endeared her to both Christian and Muslim. Her story is told in Dr. Mary of Arabia.



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## Images of Women in Mission



Ida Scudder with Gandhi and some of his followers. In 1900, she had taken her medical skills to South India, where she founded a center to train Indian women as nurses and doctors and she served as a physician.



Ida Scudder heard the call to mission work and medicine when she realized the need for women to work among women in situations in which men were prohibited. So loved by her friends and admirers, at her funeral, the processional reached almost one mile in length.



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