

# Elizabeth S. Tapia

Dr. Elizabeth S. Tapia currently serves as Director of Mission Theology at the Global Ministries, the main mission agency of the United Methodist Church, based in New York City. She is an ordained United Methodist pastor, educator, and practical theologian from the Philippines.

Dr. Tapia has taught widely in mission, contextual theology, and ecumenism. Her commitment to these issues has kept her engaged beyond the classroom, involving her in multiple forms of direct action.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

2011- present- Director of Mission Theology, GB Global Ministries, New York City

[etapia@umcmmission.org](mailto:etapia@umcmmission.org)    <http://www.umcmmission.org>

2007 – 2010 Director of Drew Theological School’s Center for Christianities in Global Contexts, United States  
2006 Guest Lecturer in Tainan Theological College and Seminary, Taiwan  
2002 – 2005 Professor of Missiology at the Ecumenical Institute of the World Council of Churches, Bossey, Switzerland  
1991 – 2001 Professor of Christian Theology at Union Theological Seminary, Cavite, Philippines  
1989 – 1991 Faculty at Harris Memorial College, Manila, Philippines

## RELIGIOUS INVOLVEMENT

Elder in the United Methodist Church, Bulacan Philippines Annual Conference Manila Area, Philippine Central Conference  
Founding Member and Adviser, Association of Women in Theology  
Member, Asian Women’s Resource Center for Theology and Culture  
Member, Board of Trustees of Kapatiran Kaunlaran Foundation  
Member, Bilateral Dialogues between Roman Catholics and United Methodists 2000-2005  
Chairperson, Philippine Central Conference Board of Women’s Work, 1996 – 2000  
Vice Chair, Peace Committee of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines, 1980 – 1985  
Founding Member and Coordinator, Association of Women in Theology (AWIT), 1980-1983 and 1991 – 1994  
Member, EATWOT (Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians)

## SPECIAL LECTURES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2011-2014 – Lectures on Mission Theology in various UMC missionary formation and training, GBGM. Preached in several multicultural congregations in New Jersey, New York and Manila.

2012 - Adviser/ Participant at Mission Conference in Manila Conference of the Council of World Mission and Evangelism/ WCC.

2007 – Living Faith, Seeking Justice Conference  
2007 – General Assembly National Council of Churches in the USA  
2005 – International Mission Consultation of WARC  
2005 – International Mission Conference  
2003 – Presbyterian Women’s Gathering  
2003 – United Methodist Church Global Gathering for Mission  
2001 – General Assembly of Church Women United  
2000 – Korean Women Theologians’ Assembly, Korea

PUBLICATIONS

“The Local Church as *Bayanihan* in God’s Mission.”, *New World Outlook*. Jan-Feb 2014.

“Participation in God’s Mission: A Gift and a Responsibility,” *Response Magazine*, Women’s Division. April 2010 issue, edited by B. Wheeler.

“Health, Healing and Christianity in Asia,” entry in the *Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*, General editor, Dr. Daniel Patte.

“Cultivating Gardens of Ecumenism: Reflections from a Bossey Garden,” in *Windows into Ecumenism*. Introduced by Dr. Preman Niles, Essays to Honor Dr. Ahn Jae Wong, Gen. Secretary of Christian Conference of Asia, Hong Kong, 2005.

“On Power,” in *Echoes Magazine*, World Council of Churches, Geneva, 2004.

“Our International Task Today: A response,” 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Reformed Center, John Knox, Geneva, John Knox series no. 15. Geneva. 2004.

“Women in Mission: Moving Towards the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” Mission Volume of *Mission in the Third Millennium*, GBGM, NY 2003.

“*Reflectioner Av En Pastor Fran Filipinerna*” (Reflections of a Filipina Pastor) in *Drabbad*, edited by Valborg Lindgarde and Ake Viberg, published by Stockholm School of Theology, Stockholm, 2002.

“*Pista Lakbayan: Celebrating the Journey to Shalom in the year of Jubilee*” in *Dissident Daughters: Feminist Liturgies in Global Context*, edited by Teresa Berger, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.

“Earth Credo” and “Turn to God, rejoice in Hope” (poems) in *Women’s Spirituality. With Love and with Passion*, edited by E. Raiser and B. Robra, WCC, 2001.

“Asian Women Doing Theology: The Challenge of Feminism for Theologizing,” “In *God’s Image*, Journal of Asian Women’s Resource Center for Culture and Theology in Asia, edited by Hope Antone, Malaysia.

*Women Magazine*, Lutheran World Federation, March 2000

“Solidarity,” in *Dictionary of Third World Theologies*, edited by V. Fabella and Sugirtharajah, Orbis, NY 2000.

“Laity, Pluralism and Theology,” *A Letter from Christ to the World: An exploration of the Role of the Laity in the Church Today*, edited by Nicholas Apostola, Geneva, WCC, 1998.

Poems, articles and liturgies in *Seeing Christ in Others*, edited by Geoffrey Duncan, Canterbury Press 1998.

“My Life and Passion,” in *Women on Fire*, edited by Lorna Tirol, Manila: Anvil Press, Manila. 1997.

“Reflection of a Filipina Christian,” *Ecclesiology and Ethics*, edited by Tom Best and Martin Robra, WCC, 1997.

“Earth Credo,” in *Gifts of Many Cultures. Worship resources for the Global Community*, edited by Maren Tirabassi and