



Rev. Lisa Sykes and Wesley Sykes

## *sacred* SPARK

"This book is an inspirational story of one family's struggle with autism, and one woman's determination to protect our children from the insidious poison of mercury. Thomas Jefferson once wrote that '[t]he care of human life and happiness and not their destruction is the first and only legitimate object of good government.' Reverend Sykes' long battle to uncover the truth about the link between mercury and autism is a painful lesson to us all that our government is failing this test when it comes to our Nation's epidemic of autism. Through her faith and trust in God, Reverend Sykes shows us all how to triumph in the face of adversity and reminds us that one person can indeed make a difference."

— **Congressman Dan Burton**

"If you have ever wondered if one person can make a difference, or if you question whether women in the church carry influence in today's political climate, or if you need confirmation that a network of women in congregations is engaged in issues that affect our world, this is the book for you. Rev. Sykes' journey from private pain to public advocacy is a testimony to the claim of God in her life and of God's care for women, children and families the world over."

— **Harriett Jane Olson**, Deputy General Secretary, Women's Division  
United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries

"When one in six American children has a behavioral or developmental disorder, clinicians and researchers must consider environmental triggers in the context of genetic predispositions when formulating differential diagnoses of neurodevelopmental disorders. Rev. Sykes takes you on a journey of personal anguish, political action and professional advocacy that reads like a novel and is punctuated with sobering quotes from current times that stand in stark contrast to sacred writings and the wisdom of the ages."

— **Elizabeth Mumper**, M.D., FAAP, Medical Director, Autism Research Institute,  
CEO, Advocates for Children, Founder, RIMLAND Center

"Sacred Spark is a wonderful, amazing, heart wrenching, inspiring story. I loved it!"

— **Michael Manning**, Parent

"Sacred Spark, full of complexity and suspense, it is a must read for everyone."

— **Lawrence P. Kaplan**, Ph.D., CEO & Founder of US Autism & Asperger Association

"Let us be optimists and pray that after hearing of Reverend Lisa Sykes' journey we will watch carefully and choose our steps the more wisely toward our own and the common good."

— **Harold T. Pretorius**, M.D., Ph.D., FACP,  
Attending Physician, The Christ Hospital, Cincinnati, OH

"In my fourteen years as an autism researcher, I have listened to countless parents tell me that their child was normal until a vaccination. This incredible book gives voice to these many parents and to their struggles to find help."

— **Janet K. Kern**, Ph.D., Autism Treatment Center, Dallas, TX; Adjunct Assistant  
Professor University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX

Book and cover design by Richard Stodart  
Back cover photo by Laura Ripol



Published by Fourth Lloyd Productions LLC  
[www.sacredsparkbook.com](http://www.sacredsparkbook.com)

*sacred* SPARK

REV. LISA K. SYKES



FOURTH LLOYD  
PRODUCTIONS LLC

# *sacred* SPARK

REV. LISA K. SYKES

A Minister-mom's Quest to  
Restore the Light in Her Son's Eyes  
Inspires Her Church to Protect  
Children from Harm and  
Ignites a Global Debate about  
Autism and Childhood Vaccines

Epilogue by Mark Geier, M.D., Ph.D. and David Geier