



# BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

*advocating • connecting • networking*

## October 2016

### And So It Ends

by Pam Durso



I am back! My three months of sabbatical are officially over, and I have returned to the office and to work. These months have been for me a beautiful time of renewal—with time and space for my body, mind, and spirit to rest and to heal. I am and will be forever grateful to the Baptist Women in Ministry Leadership Team for providing this gift of sabbatical!

Many of you may not know that a month prior to the beginning of my sabbatical I had gallbladder surgery—I did not plan my sabbatical to be a time of physical recovery, but goodness knows health challenges never come at convenient times or give prior notice. And my sneaky gallbladder spent seven months tormenting me—while also masking its defectiveness on a myriad of scans and procedures. Fortunately for me, I have a persistent primary care physician who was able to untangle my crazy symptoms even though all tests came back clear. And fortunately for me, I had a surgeon who insisted that I not wait to take care of myself. The end result is that ten days before BWIM's annual gathering, I had surgery. It was not a fun experience—and the surgery and the seven months of pain left me exhausted and unsettled.

One month later I walked away from all my responsibilities with BWIM and my church. I spent three months sleeping late, walking and hiking, praying and dreaming. I read—selecting from the huge stack of books that I have accumulated in the last few years. I decluttered my house and worked in my yard. I visited several of my favorite places—my parents' home, the beach, and Washington, D.C. And I found a new favorite place—the Sacred Heart Monastery in Cullman, Alabama. This sabbatical



was a gift—in ways I can't even begin to articulate and for which I am so very thankful.

This past weekend my sabbatical ended—and what better way to end this time than to attend two ordinations and preach at my church! On Saturday, I drove to Commerce, Georgia, and along with the congregation of First Baptist Church and with the family and friends of JD Granade, I laid hands on this gifted young man, a third-generation minister. His pastor grandfather and his pastor father both spoke during the service, passing on to JD a heritage of faithfulness and commitment to God's good work in this world.

On Sunday morning I returned to my church, Cornerstone Church, in Snellville. I have missed my church family in these months—and welcomed the opportunity to preach to them on my first Sunday back. Later that afternoon, I drove to Decatur, where I participated in the ordination of Sarah Reddish. I cried while listening to Sarah's pastor father in his ordination prayer give thanks to God for the light that Sarah brings to life's chaos.

My sabbatical was a gift—yet my first days of being back at work were a special gift, reminding me of the importance of this ministry. I am grateful, always grateful that God has entrusted to me the work of connecting, networking, and advocating for women called and gifted for ministry AND affirming and blessing men called and gifted for ministry as well.

With excitement for the days ahead and grateful for the new dreams and new energy that God provides,

*Pam Duro*

## Support Baptist Women in Ministry

**We recently wrapped up our annual monthly giving campaign. We are so grateful for all of our current givers, and the new givers that signed up during our campaign.**

**Yvonne Harold shared this story about why she is a monthly giver to Baptist Women in Ministry:**

"While attending The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor as an undergrad, I was introduced to Baptist Women in Ministry through a retreat held in Brownwood, TX. Although I did not know anyone attending the retreat, I was determined to be there. Little did I know, this event would change my life. For the first time, I not only met women who encouraged me, but who also embraced my calling, genuinely cared about me, and wanted to be a part of my life's journey. The retreat, coupled with one encounter after another with God-filled women, confirmed my calling as a pastor. Not only was I given the space to acknowledge my calling, but I was also able to give life to the voice within while exploring my fears. A platform of other women, who were serving as pastors in their churches, provided endless possibilities of what God could and would do through me, a woman in ministry.

I support Baptist Women in Ministry because BWIM is a reflection of me and is instrumental in transforming the lives of women. Baptist Women in Ministry provided a safe, nurturing place for me to step boldly into who God called me to be, and who God purposed me to be. I give to Baptist Women in Ministry out of love and gratitude."

*Yvonne Harold is pastor of Destined Ministries in Killeen, Texas.*

**We welcome you to join Yvonne in being one of our givers. Give a one-time gift or become a monthly giver! A small monthly gift of \$10 or \$20 or a larger monthly gift of \$50 or \$75 makes a significant difference in this work that God has entrusted to us! Every contribution matters, and we are grateful for the faithfulness and generosity of all who support this ministry.**

## Ordination Resources

In Baptist life, ordination to the gospel ministry is a church's recognition of God's calling and gifting. Baptist churches are widely diverse in the process of ordination, but most Baptist churches are unified in that the service of ordination provides a time of affirmation and blessing for the minister.

Because careful planning and preparation can add depth and richness to that time of worship, Baptist Women in Ministry has gathered resources meant to assist in the planning of an ordination service. Those resources may be found on the **BWIM website** and include litanies, poems, blessings, responses, and charges, all used in previous ordination services. We hope these resources will be helpful to you.

## Placement Resources

Searching for a ministry position can be a full-time job. Knowing where to start can even be challenging. To help reduce some of the anxiety of the search, Baptist Women in Ministry has compiled a variety of resources to help those who are in search mode, including:

**"Finding a Ministry Position: Tips for the Journey"** by Pam Durso

**"Questions for the Candidate"**

**"Questions for the Candidate, Congregation, and Committee"**

More resources are coming soon. If you have suggestions or have found a helpful resource, please email Ashley Robinson at [ashleyrobinson@bwim.info](mailto:ashleyrobinson@bwim.info).

## Monday Devotions

Each Monday Baptist Women in Ministry posts a devotion written by our friend, **Nikki Finkelstein-Blair**. The devotions are based on lectionary texts and the church calendar.

In her most recent lectionary devotional, **"God Pours Out,"** Nikki wrote:

"The God of abundance will pour out, filling more than fields and cups and stomachs. God will pour out God's own Spirit, filling the hearts and minds and mouths of men and women, young and old, master and slave. From the top of the ladder to the bottom-most rungs, the Spirit, that abundant, uncontainable, irrepressible Spirit will pour into—and out of—the most unlikely prophets. Their heads will be full of divine dreams, and their eyes drawn to bright visions. Inspired by the Spirit, they'll proclaim the Kingdom, interpret God's works, show the way to redemption. Inspired by the Spirit, the people who listen will perceive the wondrous overflowing love of God, and "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Joel 2:32a)



*Nikki Finkelstein-Blair blogs at [One Faithful Step](#).*

Read more on the BWIM blog

**Katie Bray** will be ordained by Westwood Baptist Church, Cary, North Carolina, on October 23, 2016.

**Rachel Freeny** will be ordained by First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Georgia, on October 23, 2016.

**Kim Munns Johnson** was ordained by FaithSpring Church, Little Rock, Arkansas, on September 18, 2016.

**Elizabeth Nance-Coker** was ordained by Emmanuel Baptist Fellowship, Lexington, South Carolina, on September 18, 2016.

**Pam Neal** will be ordained by First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee, on October 23, 2016.

## On the Move

**Alyssa Aldape** is associate pastor for young adult and youth ministries at First Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.

**Emily Beltram** is minister of children, youth and families at First Baptist Church, Des Moines, Iowa.

**Christy Butler** is associate pastor of connections at First Baptist Church, Denton, Texas.

**Amy Hamilton** is minister of preschoolers and children at First Baptist Church, Kannapolis, North Carolina.

**Karen Hargett** is pastor of Freedom Baptist Church, Waveland, Indiana.

**Andrea Huffman** is youth pastor at Chandler Baptist Church, Liberty, Missouri.

**Rachel Pierce** is minister of worship at First Baptist, Ashland, Virginia.

**Marcia Shaffer** is interim pastor at First Baptist Church, Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.

**Janee' Tisby** is director at Together for Hope, West Helena, Arkansas.

## Central Tennessee Women in Ministry

Fall 2016 Scholastica Luncheon Series is an offering of the [Women's Leadership Initiative](#) at Central Theological Seminary's Tennessee site and is open to all women in ministry in Tennessee (or beyond if you would like to travel). Register today for these lunches. Topics and dates for the lunches are below.

**October 21:** Self Care & Sabbath

**November 11:** Anatomy of a Schism (Interview with Author Eileen Campbell-Reed)

Cost: \$11 per person

Time: 11:45am to 1:15pm

Location: Scarritt Bennett Center, Nashville, Tennessee.

For more information contact Eileen Campbell-Reed at [ecampbellreed@cbts.edu](mailto:ecampbellreed@cbts.edu).

## Alabama Baptist Women in Ministry

Alabama Baptist Women in Ministry will host a gathering on **Thursday, November 10** from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana, Alabama. Join other women in ministry for a day retreat in a beautiful setting. **Alica Kirkpatrick Bremer** will lead in exploring "Holy and Wholly Women."

The cost is \$20.00. For more information, contact Terri Byrd at [terri@alabamabwf.org](mailto:terri@alabamabwf.org).

# The 21st York-Hall Women's Preaching Annual

Wayland Baptist Theological Seminary will host the 21st York-Hall Women's Preaching Annual on **November 28-December 2, 2016** at the Sheraton Four Seasons Hotel in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The theme is "Every Hero Has Herstory!" Confirmed preachers, presenters, and personalities include Pam Durso, Marissa R. Farrow, Bernadette Glover, Joel Gregory, John Harris, Carolyn Ann Knight, Thomasine Reid, Sophia Steibel, and Deshawnda Williams.

Early Bird Registration is \$125.00 through August 20. General Registration is \$200.00. For more information [visit their website](#).

## Leading Women Gathering

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Baptist Women in Ministry will host **Leading Women**, a three-day gathering that will include conversation, worship, leadership development, and networking opportunities and will be held **April 26-28, 2017**, at First Baptist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Join us in celebrating the influence and voices of women from across the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship movement. All women, laity and clergy, are welcome.

## Open Ministry Positions

*Positions are listed by state, city, open position, church name.*

*BWIM collects these openings from a wide variety of sources, and the degree of openness to women ministers among the listed churches varies. In its effort to advocate, network, and connect, BWIM provides this list as a resource to those searching for ministry positions.*

### ALABAMA

**Huntsville**-Minister to Young Adults-First Baptist Church  
**Huntsville**-Student Ministry Residency-First Baptist Church  
**Mountain Brook**-Minister to Children and Families-Brookwood Baptist Church

### CALIFORNIA

**Anaheim**-Pastor-Anaheim Baptist Fellowship  
**Oakland**-Church Business Manager-Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church

### DELAWARE

**Dover**-Senior Pastor-Calvary Baptist Church

### FLORIDA

**Jacksonville**-Minister to Youth/Students-Deermeadows Baptist Church  
**St. Petersburg**-Minister to Children-First Baptist Church  
**Tallahassee**-Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church

### GEORGIA

**Augusta**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Augusta**-Business Administrator-First Baptist Church  
**Claxton**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Decatur**-Graphic Design Specialist-Cooperative Baptist Fellowship  
**Decatur**-Pastor of Christian Education and Community Engagement-Oakhurst Baptist Church  
**Hawkinsville**-Minister to Youth and Children-First Baptist Church

### KENTUCKY

**Bowling Green**-Minister of Music-First Baptist Church  
**Brandenburg**-Minister of Youth and Children-First Baptist Church  
**Carlisle**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Elizabethtown**-Youth and Families Minister-Living Faith Baptist Fellowship  
**Georgetown**-Music/Worship Position-Faith Baptist Church  
**Georgetown**-Associate Pastor of Children and Family Ministries-Georgetown Baptist Church  
**Louisville**-Minister to Families-Ridgewood Baptist Church  
**Louisville**-Pastor-Okolona Baptist Church  
**Louisville**-Youth Pastor-Mount Everest General Baptist Church  
**Midway**-Student Minister-Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church  
**Owensboro**-Pastor-Third Baptist Church  
**Shepherdsville**-Minister of Children/Youth-First Baptist Church  
**Williamsburg**-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church

## **MARYLAND**

**Baltimore**-Associate Pastor of Worship and Adult Discipleship-University Baptist Church  
**Baltimore**-Associate Pastor of College, Youth, and Children-University Baptist Church  
**Dunkirk**-Senior Pastor-Dunkirk Baptist Church  
**Rockville**-Minister/Director of Music-Twinbrook Baptist Church

## **MISSOURI**

**Clinton**-Children's Minister-First Baptist Church

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

**Boiling Springs**-Associate Pastor for Music and Adults-Boiling Springs Baptist Church  
**Burgaw**-Pastor-Burgaw Baptist Church  
**Cary**-Associate Pastor-Greenwood Forest Baptist Church  
**Canton**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Charlotte**-Minister of Music-Myers Park Baptist Church  
**Clayton**-Pastor-White Oak Baptist Church  
**Clinton**-Associate Pastor for Music Ministries-First Baptist Church  
**Durham**-Minister of Discipleship and Children-Durham Memorial Baptist Church  
**Durham**-Interim Director of Child Development Center-Yates Baptist Association  
**Edenton**-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Elkin**-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Elon**-Senior Pastor-Elon First Baptist Church at Morgan Place  
**Henderson**-Pastor-Providence Baptist Church  
**Huntersville**-Minister of Worship-First Baptist Church  
**Kernersville**-Minister of Church Life-First Baptist Church  
**Lenoir**-Student Minister-College Avenue Baptist Church  
**Locust**-Minister to Children and Youth-First Baptist Church  
**Marble Springs**-Youth Minister-Marble Springs Baptist Church  
**Mt. Airy**-Pastor-Antioch Baptist Church  
**Mt. Airy**-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**New Bern**-Minister of Youth and Family Life-First Baptist Church  
**North Wilkesboro**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Raleigh**-Associate Pastor of Families-Tabernade Baptist Church  
**Raleigh**-Camp Mundo Vista Year-Round Program/Summer Camp Director-WMU of NC  
**Raleigh**-Associate Chaplain- Springmoor Retirement Community  
**Richlands**-Pastor-Bethany Baptist Church  
**Shelby**-Minister of Discipleship and Administration-Elizabeth Baptist Church  
**Sims**-Pastor-Nobles Chapel Baptist Church  
**Wake Forest**-Minister of Youth and Missions-Wake Forest Baptist Church  
**Wilmington**-Pastor-Temple Baptist Church  
**Wilmington**-Associate Pastor-Masonboro Baptist Church  
**Winston-Salem**-Associate Pastor for Youth, Adults, and Missions-First Baptist Church on Fifth  
**Winston-Salem**-Associate Pastor-Ardmore Baptist Church  
**Winston-Salem**-Programs Manager-Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina  
**Winston-Salem**-Chaplain-Forsyth Jail & Prison Ministries

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Clemson**-Minister of Youth and College Students-First Baptist Church  
**Clinton**-Associate Pastor for Music Ministries-First Baptist Church  
**Columbia**-Minister to Families-St. Andrews Baptist Church  
**Easley**-Children's Minister-First Baptist Church  
**Greenville**-Associate Pastor for Children and Families-First Baptist Church

## **TENNESSEE**

**Jefferson City**-Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Maryville**-Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Memphis**-Minister of Music and Worship-Second Baptist Church (PT)  
**Murfreesboro**-Coordinator-Tennessee Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

**Nashville**-Senior Pastor-Crievewood Baptist Church  
**Nashville**-Senior Pastor-Woodmont Baptist Church

## TEXAS

**Aspermont**-Pastor- First Baptist Church  
**Bagwell**-Pastor- Leesville Baptist Church  
**Bartlett**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Chappell Hill**-Associate Pastor, Worship and Ministry Development-First Baptist Church  
**Conroe**-Pastor- Riverpointe Baptist  
**Corpus Christi**-Pastor-Calallen Baptist Church  
**Granbury**-Pastor to Families and Children-First Baptist Church  
**Jewett**-Pastor- First Baptist Church  
**Kilgore**-Associate Pastor of Student Ministries-First Baptist Church  
**Kingwood**-Pastor- Woodridge Baptist Church  
**New Braunfels**-Music Minister- First Baptist Church  
**Queen City**-Worship Leader- First Baptist Church  
**Rosebud**-Pastor-Cedar Springs Baptist Church  
**Sandia**-Associate Pastor- West Shores Baptist Church  
**San Antonio**-Pastor-Oak Ridge Baptist Church  
**San Antonio**-Minister of Music and Worship Arts-Trinity Baptist Church  
San Marcos-Music of Music and Church Administration-First Baptist Church  
**Van Horn**-Pastor- First Baptist Church  
**Waco**-Minister of Music-Bosqueville Baptist Church

## VIRGINIA

**Blacksburg**-Minister of Youth and Communications- Blacksburg Baptist Church  
**Blacksburg**-Associate Minister to Students-Blacksburg Baptist Church  
**Bremo Bluff**-Pastor-West Bottom Baptist Church  
**Charles City**-Associate/Youth Pastor-Samaria Baptist Church  
**Collinsville**-Associate Pastor of Families and Youth-First Baptist Church  
**Culpeper**-Senior Adult Minister/Chaplain-Culpeper Baptist Church  
**Earlysville**-Associate Pastor for Youth-Chestnut Grove Baptist Church  
**Greenville**-Senior Pastor-Greenville Baptist Church  
**Lynchburg**-Senior Pastor- College Hill Baptist Church  
**Manakin-Sabo**-Interim Pastor- Goochland Baptist Church  
**McLean**-Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Mechanicsville**- Youth Minister-Mechanicsville Baptist Church  
**Mechanicsville**-Senior Pastor- New Highland Baptist Church  
**Mechanicsville**-Associate Pastor to Youth and Families-Black Creek Baptist Church  
**Mechanicsville**-Minister to Students and Families/Associate Pastor-New Bethesda Baptist Church  
**Midlothian**-Pastor-Tomahawk  
**Milford**-Minister to Students and Families- Salem Baptist Church  
**New Kent**-Pastor- Hopewell Baptist Church  
**Newport News**-Associate Pastor of Student Ministries- Orcutt Baptist Church  
**Norfolk**-Senior Pastor-Freemason Street Baptist Church  
**Richmond**- Minister of Music- Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church  
**Richmond**-Pastor-Jahnke Road Baptist Church  
**Roanoke**-Director of Children and Youth Ministries-Rosalind Hills Baptist Church  
**Troutville**-Pastor-Pleasant Hill Baptist Church  
**Virginia Beach**-Senior Pastor-King's Grant Baptist Church  
**Williamsburg**-Senior Pastor-Walnut Hills Baptist Church

# State and Regional Baptist Women in Ministry Contact Information

## Alabama

Terri Byrd  
[terribyrd@aol.com](mailto:terribyrd@aol.com)

## Arkansas

Megan Pike  
[mpike@cbfar.org](mailto:mpike@cbfar.org)

## Florida

Rachel Gunter Shapard  
[rachelguntershapard@gmail.com](mailto:rachelguntershapard@gmail.com)

## Missouri

Robin Sandbothe\_  
[rsandbothe@cbs.edu](mailto:rsandbothe@cbs.edu)

## North Carolina

Amy McClure  
[amcclure@firstonfifth.org](mailto:amcclure@firstonfifth.org)  
[www.bwim.nc.org](http://www.bwim.nc.org)

## South Carolina

Merianna Neely Harrelson

## Georgia

Amanda Harper  
[amandamichellew@gmail.com](mailto:amandamichellew@gmail.com)  
[www.bwimga.org](http://www.bwimga.org)

## Kentucky

Alix Davidson Keller  
[alix.davidson@yahoo.com](mailto:alix.davidson@yahoo.com)

Emily Holladay  
[emilyholladay@gmail.com](mailto:emilyholladay@gmail.com)

[merianna@merianna.net](mailto:merianna@merianna.net)

## Tennessee

Eileen Campbell-Reed  
[ecampbellreed@cbs.edu](mailto:ecampbellreed@cbs.edu)

## Texas

Ellen Di Giosia  
[txbwim@gmail.com](mailto:txbwim@gmail.com)

## Virginia

Colleen Swingle-Titus  
[dinglecole@gmail.com](mailto:dinglecole@gmail.com)  
[www.vbwim.org](http://www.vbwim.org)

Baptist Women in Ministry exists to be a catalyst in Baptist life, drawing together women and men, in partnership with God, to illuminate, advocate and nurture the gifts and graces of women.

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Baptist Women in Ministry | P.O. Box 941294, Atlanta, GA 31141-1294

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