



BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

advocating • connecting • networking

December 2016

The Most Interesting People by Pam Durso

"People who are committed are far more interesting to me than uncommitted ones.



Committed people risk things. They give things. They give their attention and their time. They give their money. Yes, it is risky to give those kinds of things in life; but, commitment is something we pay for in life. We pay for it, which is to say that sometimes it costs us sadness or conflict. When we are committed, we are often disappointed, and even betrayed sometimes.

In all these ways, commitment is a lot like love. The love which is true love, is very costly. But, glory hallelujah, true love is also worth it. True love lifts me up; it makes me glow. It makes me more interesting! But, when I love, I am also willing to give up things, to pay for things, to commit to things."

Several years ago I somehow stumbled across these words, which were written by Sam Candler,

dean of the Cathedral, St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Atlanta. I have pondered over his words a good bit.

I think Dean Candler is right - committed people are so much more interesting, and fortunately, I am surrounded by many, many who have deep commitments. Hundreds of committed people support Baptist Women in Ministry, and many of them take risks as they advocate for women ministers. They give of their time and money to sustain this organization. They speak out and speak up on behalf of women called and gifted by God. And they are surely among the most interesting people I know. I see in their lives a richness of relationships, a beautiful generosity, and a deep love of God and of God's people.

In this season of reflection and giving, I am grateful for those who love BWIM and for those who are committed to working on behalf of women called and gifted by God for ministry. They surely do add "interest" to my life, to all our lives.

I hope this season will be one filled by light and love, peace and hope!

Merry Christmas!

END OF YEAR GIVING: Support Baptist Women in Ministry

In this season of giving, Baptist Women in Ministry invites you to be



Julie Pennington-Russell

a supporter of our work. Your end-of-year gifts ensure a strong beginning for 2017!

All the work Baptist Women in Ministry does and all the ways in which this organization contributes to the shifting Baptist culture are happening because of people like you who believe in and support our ministry and who share in our mission of affirming all those whom God has gifted for ministry. Please consider this an invitation to be part of all these good things that BWIM is doing. Your support makes all of this and more possible.

You can mail in a check to BWIM at P. O. Box 941294, Atlanta, GA 31141-1294, or make an online contribution by clicking below on GIVE TO BWIM. Every contribution matters, and we are grateful for the faithfulness and generosity of all who support this ministry.

GIVE TO BWIM

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.

Faith Holman (right) was ordained on December 4, 2016 by Bethany Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. She is the first woman to be ordained by the church in its 133-year history.

Placement Resources Available

Have an ministry interview coming up soon!? Check out the Baptist Women in Ministry website for resources that will help you know what to expect and to prepare.

The Placement Page has real questions used by real churches in interviews like: "Describe your management and leadership style. What are your strongest skills and abilities as a leader? How do you work with and utilize lay leaders in your current position?"

Baptist Women in Ministry has compiled the following resources to help those of you in the search mode:

"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.

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, **"Living the Advent: Receive"** Nikki wrote:

"With our inboxes overflowing with advertising and our mailboxes jam-packed with catalogues, we practice the Christmas tradition of gift-giving that started with the Magi. From Black Friday onward, the Christmas season is a parade of possibilities for everyone on your shopping list; great gift ideas and great bargains are everywhere. Those trendsetting Wise Men might not recognize the mania they started, but in our best moments of gift giving, we still seek to bring joy to the hearts of those we cherish.

But if Christmas is about giving, perhaps Advent is about receiving."



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

[Read more on the BWIM blog](#)

Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching

Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching is fast approaching! **February 2017** will be here before you know it! Last year 211 churches joined together in affirming their support of women in the pulpit. We hope your church will be among those who will publicly voice a commitment to women in ministry.

If you already have made plans to participate, send in your church and preacher's name to Ashley Robinson at ashleyrobinson@bwim.info.

If you need help connecting with a preacher, please contact Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info.

For more information about Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching, visit the [BWIM website](#).

Deborah Reeves was the 2016 MSM preacher at Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Georgia.



Deborah Reeves

Leading Women Gathering



Carol McEntyre

Baptist Women in Ministry and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship will co-host Leading Women, a three-day gathering that will include conversation, worship, leadership development, and networking opportunities.

The gathering will be held **April 26-28, 2017**, at First Baptist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Preachers for the event are **Carol McEntyre** and **Meredith Stone**.

Key speakers include **Kasey Jones**, **Molly Marshall**, and **Suzi Paynter**.

Registration is open! Cost is \$90. Students can attend for \$50. [Learn more and register here.](#)

We hope you will join us in celebrating the influence and voices of women from across the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship movement. All women, laity and clergy, are welcome.



Ordinations

Arlicia R. Albert was ordained by Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, Beaumont, Texas, on November 27, 2016.

Ginny Brewer-Boydston was ordained by Lake Shore Baptist Church in Waco, Texas, on October 29, 2016.

Elizabeth Corney was ordained by Wake Forest Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina on November 12, 2016.

Elaine Hawkins was ordained by First Baptist Church, Shawnee, Oklahoma on November 27, 2016.

Ossie Heath-Crump was ordained by First Baptist Church, Ithaca, New York, on November 6, 2016.

Crystal Holic was ordained by Church on the Drive, Orlando, Florida on December 4, 2016.

Faith Holman was ordained by Bethany Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York, on December 4, 2016.

Deborah Sue Lynn was ordained by Glendale Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee, on November 27, 2016.

On the Move

Emily Beltrame is minister of children, youth, and families at First Baptist Church of Greater Des Moines, Johnston, Iowa.

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

Haley Cawthon is formations minister at Redeeming Church, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Kali Freels is outreach minister at Redeeming Church, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Merianna Harrelson is interim pastor at New Hope Christian Fellowship, Columbia, South Carolina.

Cayley Poggensee is director of worship at First Baptist Church, Harlan, Iowa.

Christine Powell Kellett is associate pastor for children and families at Augusta Heights Baptist Church, Greenville, SC.

Katie Shiner is minister to children and families at Culbertson Baptist Church, New Albany, Indiana.

Christa Warise is pastor at Westside Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Alisha Williams is preschool director at First Baptist Church, Owensboro, Kentucky.

Baptist Women in Ministry of South Carolina

Baptist Women in Ministry of South Carolina invites you to a "Week of Quiet and Writing for Women." This event will be held at Trinity Center, on Emerald Isle, North Carolina, on **January 1-8, 2017**. The cost is \$800 and includes lodging and meals.

For more information, contact RCWMS 919-683-1236 or rcwmsnc@aol.com

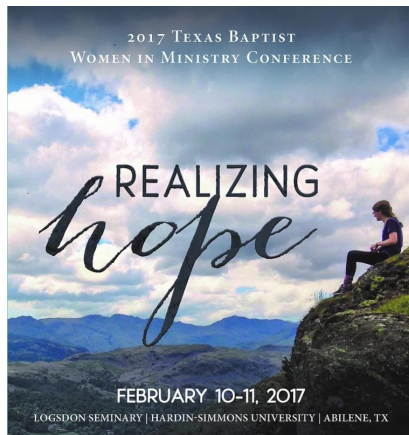
Texas Baptist Women in Ministry

Texas Baptist Women in Ministry invite you to its annual Women in Ministry Conference, "Realizing Hope" on **February 10-11, 2017** at Logsdon Seminary in Abilene, Texas.

The conference keynote speaker is **Reinta Weems**, a biblical scholar, academic administrator, writer, and ordained minister. The conference preacher is **Meredith Stone**, director of ministry guidance and Instructor of Christian Ministry and Scripture on the faculty of Logsdon School of Theology at Hardin-Simmons University.

The cost is \$25 and \$5 for students.

For more information about speakers, schedule, and registration, visit the [Texas Baptist Women in Ministry website](#).



Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia

Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia will host their annual gathering on **March 25, 2017** at Vineville Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia. Be on the lookout for more details in the coming months.

Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia has recently unveiled a new website. You may now visit Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia at www.bwimga.com.

Women's Pilgrimage to France

Beth McConnell and Christy McMillian-Goodwin are leading a pilgrimage to France on **April 21-30, 2017** to visit places that hold special significance for women of faith, who served and sacrificed much. The trip will include visits to the Shrine of Saint Genevieve and Saint Joan of Arc Church and Tower as well as conversation with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel, Julie Brown.

The total cost of the trip is \$3750. Learn more by [viewing the brochure](#).

Please contact [Beth](#) or [Christy](#) with any questions.

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

McCalla-Minister to Students-The Baptist Church at McAdory

Mountain Brook-Minister to Children and Families-Brookwood Baptist Church

CALIFORNIA

Anaheim-Pastor-Anaheim Baptist Fellowship

Oakland-Church Business Manager-Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church

CONNECTICUT

Wilton-Pastor-Wilton Baptist Church

DELAWARE

Dover-Pastor-Calvary Baptist Church

FLORIDA

St. Petersburg-Minister to Children-First Baptist Church

Tallahassee-Pastor-First Baptist Church

GEORGIA

Augusta- Business Administrator- First Baptist Church

Augusta-Minister of Contemporary Worship and Worship Technology-First Baptist Church

Claxton-Pastor-First Baptist Church

Decatur-Pastor of Christian Education and Community Engagement-Oakhurst Baptist Church

Hawkinsville-Minister to Youth and Children-First Baptist Church

INDIANA

Terre Haute-Associate Pastor of Music and Worship-First Baptist Church

KENTUCKY

Bowling Green-Minister of Music-First Baptist Church

Carlisle-Pastor-First Baptist Church

Georgetown-Music/Worship Position-Faith Baptist Church

Georgetown-Associate Pastor of Children and Family Ministries-Georgetown Baptist Church

Louisville-Associate Pastor of Youth and Their Families-Highland Baptist Church

Louisville-Minister to Families-Ridgewood Baptist Church

Williamsburg-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church

LOUISIANA

Zachary-Media and Communications Director-First Baptist Church

MARYLAND

Dunkirk-Pastor-Dunkirk Baptist Church

Rockville-Minister/Director of Music-Twinbrook Baptist Church

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor-Chaplain-University of Michigan Hospital System

MISSOURI

California-Pastor-First Baptist Church

Clinton-Children's Minister-First Baptist Church

Nevada-Worship Pastor-First Baptist Church

NORTH CAROLINA

Boone-Associate Pastor with Youth-First Baptist Church

Buies Creek-Pastor-First Baptist Church

Chapel Hill-Contemporary Worship Leader-Mt. Carmel Baptist Church

Chapel Hill-Minister of Children-Mt. Carmel Baptist Church

Chapel Hill-Pastor-Binkley Memorial Baptist Church

Clayton-Pastor-White Oak Baptist Church

Clinton-Pastor of Music Ministries-First Baptist Church
Drexel-Associate Pastor of Youth and Families-First Baptist Church
Durham-Director of Music Ministries-Watts Street Baptist Church
Elon-Pastor-Elon First Baptist Church at Morgan Place
Hendersonville-Pastor-Providence Baptist Church
Huntersville-Minister of Worship-First Baptist Church
Lexington-Associate Minister-First Baptist Church.
Morehead City-Children and Families Outreach Minister-First Baptist Church
Mt. Airy-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church
New Bern-Minister of Youth and Family Life-First Baptist Church
Raleigh-Camp Mundo Vista Year-Round Program/Summer Camp Director-WMU of NC
Shelby-Minister of Discipleship and Administration-Elizabeth Baptist Church
Wake Forest-Minister of Youth and Missions-Wake Forest Baptist Church
Williamston-Youth Minister-Williamston Memorial Baptist Church
Wilmington-Associate Pastor-Masonboro Baptist Church
Wilmington-Pastor-Winter Park Baptist Church
Winston-Salem-Associate Pastor for Youth, Adults, and Missions- First Baptist Church on Fifth
Winston-Salem-Programs Manager-Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina
Winston-Salem-Chaplain-Forsyth Jail & Prison Ministries

PENNSYLVANIA

Valley Forge- General Secretary-American Baptist Churches USA

SOUTH CAROLINA

Clinton-Associate Pastor for Music Ministries-First Baptist Church

TENNESSEE

Jefferson City-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Maryville-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Memphis-Minister of Music and Worship-Second Baptist Church (PT)
Nashville-Pastor-Criewood Baptist Church
Nashville-Pastor-Woodmont Baptist Church

TEXAS

Bartlett-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Chappell Hill-Associate Pastor, Worship and Ministry Development-First Baptist Church
Corpus Christi-Pastor-Calallen Baptist Church
Cuero-Youth Minister-First Baptist Church
Granbury-Pastor to Families and Children-First Baptist Church
Kilgore-Associate Pastor of Student Ministries-First Baptist Church
Plainview-Family Minister-First Baptist Church
Queen City-Worship Leader- First Baptist Church
Rosebud-Pastor-Cedar Springs 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
Vernon-Minister of Music-Calvary Baptist Church
Waco-Minister of Music-Bosqueville Baptist Church
Waco-Pastor-Calvary Baptist Church
Yoakum-Pastor-Austin Street Baptist Church

VIRGINIA

Blacksburg-Associate Minister to Students-Blacksburg Baptist Church
Bremo Bluff-Pastor-West Bottom Baptist Church
Charles City-Associate/Youth Pastor-Samaria Baptist Church
Earlsville-Associate Pastor for Youth-Chestnut Grove Baptist Church
Greenville-Pastor-Greenville Baptist Church
McLean-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Mechanicsville- Youth Minister-Mechanicsville 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
Newport News-Associate Pastor of Student Ministries- Orcutt Baptist Church
Norfolk-Pastor-Freemason Street Baptist Church
Powhatan-Minister for Children and Youth-May Memorial Baptist Church
Richmond-Accompanist-Ginter Park 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-Pastor-King's Grant Baptist Church
West Point-Pastor-Colosse Baptist Church
Williamsburg-Pastor-Walnut Hills Baptist Church

State and Regional Baptist Women in Ministry Contact Information

Alabama

Terri Byrd
terribyrd@aol.com

Arkansas

Megan Pike
mpike@2bclr.com

Florida

Rachel Gunter Shapard
rachelguntershapard@gmail.com

Georgia

Amanda Harper
amandamichellew@gmail.com
www.bwimga.org

Kentucky

Alix Davidson Keller
alix.davidson@yahoo.com

Emily Holladay
emilyholladay@gmail.com

Missouri

Robin Sandbothe
rsandbothe@cbs.edu

North Carolina

Amy McClure
amcclure@firstonfifth.org
www.bwimnc.org

South Carolina

Merianna Neely Harrelson
merianna@merianna.net

Tennessee

Eileen Campbell-Reed
ecampbellreed@cbs.edu

Texas

Ellen Di Giosia
txbwim@gmail.com

Virginia

Colleen Swingle-Titus
dinglecole@gmail.com
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.

Baptist Women in Ministry | 404-513-6022 | www.bwim.info

STAY CONNECTED



[Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by pamdurso@bwim.info in collaboration with



Try it free today