



BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

advocating • connecting • networking

June 2017

Coming Soon! BWIM's Annual Gathering by Pam Durso

The past few weeks have been busy ones in the BWIM office. We are in finalizing, polishing mode, gearing up for the 2017 Annual Gathering. You won't want to miss our worship service and lunch on **Wednesday, June 28**.

This year Smoke Rise Baptist Church in Stone Mountain, Georgia, is our host church. Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.

A highlight of worship will be testimonies by two Baptist leaders: **Linda McKinnish Bridges**, the new president of Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond, and **Amanda Tyler**, the new executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty.



Linda McKinnish Bridges

Amanda Tyler

Our four award recipients will be recognized and honored during worship. Each year we present two Addie Davis awards, the Distinguished Mentor award, and the Church of Excellence.

Following worship, plan on joining us for lunch. Tickets this year are \$25 and are available on the [BWIM website](#). Tickets sales will close on June

As those of you who attend each year know, BWIM always, always has excellent food. This year's lunch will be catered by Radial Café, a Georgia-based three-star green restaurant. The menu includes herb-roasted chicken, corn soufflé, Brussel sprouts, garden salad, vegetarian pasta, and assorted desserts.

During the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's General Assembly, BWIM will host two workshops. One titled **"Allies, Advocates, and Amplifiers"** will feature a panel-based discussion. It will be held on **Friday, June 30 at 3:00 p.m.** and will focus attention on how women and men can be allies, advocates, and amplifiers for women ministers and leaders in the church. Join **Gary Burton, Nora Lozano, and Meredith Stone**, and hear their suggestions and ideas for moving forward together.

On **Thursday, June 29 at 1:30 p.m.** **Stephen Reeves**, associate coordinator of partnerships and advocacy at the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and I will host the workshop titled **"Clergy Sexual Misconduct Task Force: An Update."** Workshop attendees will hear an update from members of the Clergy Sexual Misconduct Task Force and learn of congregational resources in development to aid in education and response.

Invite your friends, colleagues, and fellow students to join us for worship, lunch, and the workshops! We look forward to seeing you soon!

BUY YOUR LUNCH TICKET NOW

Baptist Women in Ministry Annual Gathering on June 28, 2017

Baptist Women in Ministry will host its annual gathering on **June 28, 2017** at Smoke Rise Baptist Church in Stone Mountain, Georgia, where we worship together, fellowship with friends both old and new, and as always enjoy exceptionally good food!

Our worship theme is **“Crossroads: Discovering the Sacred in Every Journey.”**

Worship will begin at **10:00 a.m.** and will be led by **Kasey Jones** and **Ossie X. McKinney**. Kasey is pastor of National Memorial Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., and Ossie serves as minister of music at Faith Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

Worship will be followed by lunch at **11:30 a.m.** Lunch tickets are \$25 and are now available on the BWIM website.



Kasey Jones
Our Preacher



Ossie X. McKinney
Our Worship Leader

[BUY YOUR LUNCH TICKET NOW](#)

Support Baptist Women in Ministry



Emily Hull McGee, pastor of First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston Salem, North Carolina, shares **“I give to Baptist Women in Ministry because I stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before me and paved the way.”**

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.

[GIVE TO BWIM](#)

Sarah Frances Anders:

With Much Gratitude for a Life Well Lived

In the early days of Baptist Women in Ministry, this organization was blessed by the leadership and gifts of **Sarah Frances Anders**. Dr. Anders died on June 8 at the age of ninety, and BWIM mourns this loss and celebrates a life well lived. For those who weren't around in those early days and did not have the good fortune of knowing Dr. Anders, now is a good time to learn more about her life and her work. Below is her obituary posted in *Town Talk* of Pineville, Louisiana.



Born in Monroe, Louisiana on January 5, 1927 to Malda Elliott Anders and Edward Eugene Anders, Dr. Anders lived in West Monroe until she left at age sixteen to attend college at Louisiana Tech University. After graduating in two years she worked for the pastor of First Baptist Church, Marshall, Texas, until she was old enough to enroll at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

After graduation from seminary with a master's degree in religious education, she served on the staff of First Baptist Church, Quincy, Florida, for seven years while completing two graduate degrees in sociology, a master's degree, and a Ph.D. from Florida State University.

Highly respected for her academic excellence, Dr. Anders taught briefly at Florida State before accepting the position of chair of the Sociology Department at Mary Hardin-Baylor College in 1955. She joined the faculty of Louisiana College in 1962 as chair of the Sociology Department. There she held the Walker Chair of Sociology and served for a time as acting academic Dean. Dr. Anders was named professor emeritus of Sociology upon her retirement in 1993. Degree programs in social work, criminal justice, and family life studies were added to the Sociology Department during her tenure. Her academic career also included visiting professorships at Southern Methodist University, Vanderbilt University, Duke University, and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

She described herself as "a Christian woman who loves to teach." She declined numerous offers to teach at the graduate level, remaining committed to undergraduate teaching because that is "where students make up their minds on so many important things."

In addition to her academic career, Dr. Anders was involved in her community and was an active member of First Baptist Church, Pineville, where she served for years as a Sunday School teacher and as a deacon. She was particularly gratified by her work with Renaissance Home for Youth, where she was a founding board member and served as board president, and with the Rapides Mental Health Association, which honored her with its Distinguished Service Award. She spent many rewarding hours as a volunteer chaplain at Rapides Regional Medical Center after her retirement from teaching. A lifelong Baptist, she held positions of leadership in the Southern Baptist Convention and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Dr. Anders received many honors and awards including the Piper Professor Award for outstanding teaching by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation of Texas (1959). She was also recognized with a Christian Life Commission Award (1971); a Distinguished Service Award from Louisiana College (1977); as Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Alumna of the Year (1978); by the Hilda Simon Award, Region IV Conference of Social Welfare (1982); as Woman of the Year by Baylor University (1989); and as a recipient of the T.B. Matson Ethics Award (1999).

She was a member of Phi Delta Phi, Alpha Kappa Delta, Alpha Chi, Omicron Delta Kappa and Alpha Lambda Delta academic fraternities and was a Certified Family Life Educator.

Sarah Frances Anders is survived by cousin, Sarah Taylor of Monroe, Louisiana, by godchildren, Mary Ann Fernald of Quincy, Florida and Charles Fernald of Escondido, California, and by a host of former students, colleagues and friends that she considered family. She is remembered for her brilliant mind, her generosity, her wit, her style and the positive impact she had on the lives of those who encountered her.

In lieu of flowers memorial gifts may be made to Baptist Women in Ministry (bwim.info), or to The Anders-Hedgepeth Scholarship Fund at Louisiana College or to the First Baptist Church Pineville Making Way Campaign.

Leading Women: Videos of Worship Services Now Available

On April 26-28, 2017, 120 Baptist women gathered in the lovely sanctuary of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee, for Leading Women, a three-day conference that had as its theme: CELEBRATING BEAUTY. At the first session of that gathering, Pam Durso spoke these words: "In each and every moment of our lives, we find beauty. In the gains and in the losses, we find beauty. In the successes and in the failures, we find beauty. In the joyous laughter and in the grieving tears, we find beauty. For God's spirit works in and with and through us in each moment, making all things beautiful, redeeming every heartache and pain, every happiness and joy."

Those gathered then proceeded to celebrate the beauty of twomen who walked before them, paving the way, blazing the trail. They celebrated the women who have stepped into places of leadership and service, sharing their beautiful gifts, and they celebrated the beauty that is to come as God calls and gifts more women as pastors, counselors, preachers, teachers, leaders, chaplains, encouragers, and mentors.

If you were not able to attend Leading Women and missed these powerful moments, you can now watch the large group sessions and worship services of this gathering.



Wednesday, April 26

LEAD TALKS by

Kasey Jones, Molly T. Marshall, and Suzi Paynter



Wednesday, April 26

Evening Worship Service featuring sermon by

Meredith Stone



Thursday, April 27

Leadership Conversation with Ellen Di Giosia, Molly T. Marshall, and Suzi Paynter,

Moderated by Pam Durso



Thursday, April 27

Afternoon Worship Service featuring sermon

by Carol McEntyre



Friday, April 28



Friday, April 28

Clergy Sexual Misconduct Resources

In July 2016, Pam Durso, executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry, and Stephen Reeves, associate coordinator for advocacy and partnerships for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship led in the formation of a Clergy Sexual Misconduct Task Force for the purposes of addressing the prevalence of clergy sexual misconduct and with a grand hope and commitment to fostering healthy churches.

The Task Force is comprised of two attorneys, two pastors, four church staff members, four social work degrees, two seminary professors, two leaders of CBF partner organizations, one pastoral counselor, and several survivors and/or family members of survivors. Those serving are:

Anne Cronic—minister of music, Central Baptist Church, Newnan, Georgia

Pam Durso—executive director, Baptist Women in Ministry, Atlanta, Georgia

Jennifer Hawks—associate general counsel, Baptist Joint Committee, Washington, DC

Jenny Hodge—youth minister, Churchland Baptist Church, Chesapeake, Virginia

Jay Kieve—coordinator, CBF of South Carolina, Anderson, South Carolina

Nina Maples—senior associate pastor for pastoral care and leadership development, Highland Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky

David Pooler—associate dean for academic affairs at Baylor University's Diana R. Garland's School of Social Work, Waco, Texas

Micah Pritchett—pastor, North Broad Baptist Church, Rome, Georgia

Stephen Reeves—associate coordinator of partnership and advocacy, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Decatur, Georgia

Terry Rosell—professor of pastoral theology in ethics and ministry praxis, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Shawnee, Kansas, and the Rosemary Flanigan Chair at the Center for Practical Bioethics in Kansas City, Missouri

Bob Searl—pastor, North Stuart Baptist Church, Stuart, Florida

Members of the Task Force agreed to a two-year commitment with at least one face-to-face meeting per year and three to four other meetings via conference call. The Task Force in November formed two sub-groups—one to formulate and distribute a best practices policy guidelines for churches and one to address and formulate educational resources for churches, ministers, and seminaries. These sub-groups reflect the three primary missions of the Task Force:

- To collect and compile best practices policies that can be distributed to churches and partners via CBF and BWIM networks.
- To raise awareness through educational opportunities (workshops at General Assemblies, gatherings of state CBF and BWIM groups, seminary connections).
- To provide recovery services resources and information.

The Task Force has been hard at work and has produced a list of resources for churches and survivors, a list that includes books, articles, and web links. The Task Force has sponsored the co-publishing of four blogs that address clergy sexual misconduct, and more blogs are in the works. In addition, the Task Force is working on a policy guidelines and process procedures to share with churches and partners. Finally, the Task Force will soon release an educational resources that is geared toward churches—to be used with small groups, deacons, and church staff and leadership.

Please visit the [BWIM website](#) to find the resources list and the blogs.

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.

Breana van Velzen was ordained by Winter Park Baptist Church, Wilmington, North Carolina on May 20, 2017.

Placement Resources Available

Baptist Women in Ministry offers placement help both to churches and candidates. Numerous churches reach out to BWIM, asking for resumes, recommendations, and information about potential ministry candidates, and the BWIM staff responds to each request and provides assistance. The BWIM staff also provides placement help to numerous candidates, both women and men, coaching them on resume preparation, interviewing and negotiating skills, and serving as a connecting point between many of the candidates and search committees. BWIM's assistance is provided as a ministry, and there are no fees for these services.

Be sure to read recent blogs by **Pam Durso** about interviewing, negotiating, and living with rejection, and check out the resources on BWIM's Placement Resource Page.

["Finding a Ministry Position: Tips for the Journey"](#) by Pam Durso

["Clergy Resume Checklist"](#) by Craig A. Janney

["Negotiating Clergy Compensation with Fair-mindedness"](#) by Craig A. Janney

[Questions for the Candidate](#)

[Questions for the Candidate, Congregation, and Committee](#)

GET PLACEMENT RESOURCES

Ordinations

Lanta Carroll will be ordained by Park Avenue Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia on June 25, 2017.

Josie Carver was ordained by First Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia on May 28, 2017.

Shaunna Heule-Seifert will be ordained by Emmanuel Baptist Fellowship, Lexington, South Carolina on June 25, 2017.

Robbie Jones was ordained by Central Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia on May 7, 2017.

Melissa Manuel was ordained by Heritage Baptist Church, Annapolis, Maryland on June 4, 2017

Mandy McMichael was ordained by Pintlala Baptist Church, Pintlala, Alabama on May 21, 2017.

Abby Nicholls will be ordained by First Baptist Church, Tucker, Georgia on July 1, 2017.

Lisa Orr was ordained by Snyder Memorial Baptist Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina on June 11, 2017.

Breana van Velzen was ordained by Winter Park Baptist Church, Wilmington, North Carolina on May 20, 2017.

On the Move

Mary Apicella is pastor at Providence Baptist Church, Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Laurel Cluthe is pastor of families at Holmeswood Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri.

Ashley Edwards is minister to youth and children at May Memorial Baptist Church, Powhatan, Virginia.

Megan Gant is family minister at Jersey Baptist Church, Lexington, North Carolina.

Ashlee Hilburn is contemporary worship leader at Forest Hills Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Aimee Hobbs is pastor of children and young families at First Baptist Church, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Janet Hoover is pastor at New Bethel Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Alice Horner is communications coordinator at Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida.

Lindsey Huggins is circles coach at Open Door Community House, Columbus, Georgia.

Kristen Koger is minister to families with children at First Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia.

Mandy McMichael is associate director of ministry guidance in the religion department at Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

Brittany Ramirez is Cooperative Baptist Field Personnel in Chengdu, China.

Carrie Schoenert is minister to students at First Baptist Church, Austin, Texas.

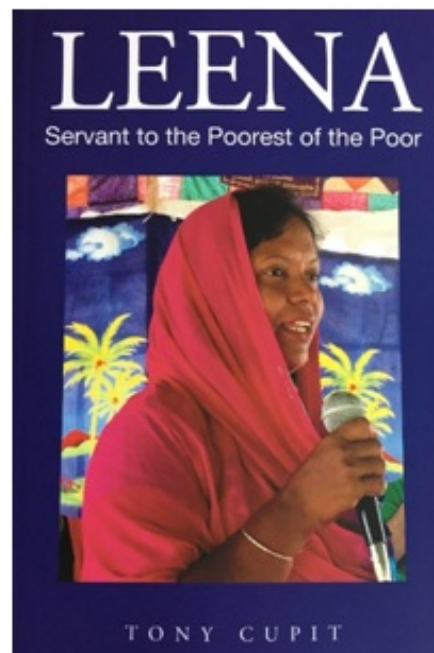
Lesley-Ann Hix Tommey is Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel at Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries, New York City, New York.

Leena: Servant to the Poorest of the Poor

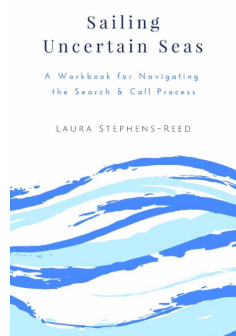
Leena Lavanya, founder and director of ServeTrust in Andhra Pradesh, India, ministers among HIV/Aids patients, sex workers, prisoners, leprosy sufferers, street kids, the aged and frail, and unemployed young people in her region. She administers a large social enterprise, and yet she is totally hands on, knowing the names and circumstances of all who come within her area of work and displaying a level of love and concern. It matters little to Leena whether a person is young or old, sick or well, rich or poor, Christian, Hindu or Muslim, respectable or social outcasts. She treats every person as if they are most important person on the planet.

Tony Cupit has written Leena's story, and the biography is now available. To order a copy, email David Rochester at davidrochester@capr.com.

The suggested donation is \$20 plus \$4 to cover shipping if necessary. All the proceeds from book sales go to supporting the costs of running ServeTrust's many ministries.



New Resource for the Search and Call Process



A new resource for ministers involved in the search process is now available. Laura Stephens-Reed has produced ***Sailing Uncertain Seas: A Workbook for Navigating the Search and Call Process***.

The workbook is based on webinars offered by Laura over the last few years as well as her own experience and her work with coaching clergy women who are searching. The workbook includes reflection questions to help ministers think through each stage of their search, from discerning whether it is the right time to make a move through starting well in their new positions.

The workbook is a downloadable PDF and costs \$15. Use this link and receive a 15% discount: [**Sailing Uncertain Seas**](#).

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-Associate Minister of Music and Organist-First Baptist Church
Marion-Visiting or Assistant Professor of Religious Studies-Judson College

ARKANSAS

Little Rock-Program Developer/Lead Educator-Lake Nixon Outdoor Center

COLORADO

Colorado Springs-Pastoral Resident-First Baptist Church

FLORIDA

Homestead-Youth and Spiritual Formation Director-Touching Miami With Love

GEORGIA

Augusta-Minister to Preschool and Children-First Baptist Church
Augusta-Minister to Students-First Baptist Church
Decatur-Pastor-First Baptist Church

INDIANA

Fort Wayne-Pastor-Fort Wayne Baptist Church

KENTUCKY

Winchester-Pastor-First Baptist Church

LOUISIANA

Zachary-Pastor-Grace Baptist Church

MISSISSIPPI

Jackson-Associate Pastor for Community Ministry-Northminster Baptist Church
Jackson-Youth Minister-Northminster Baptist Church

MISSOURI

Columbia-Pastor-Woodcrest Chapel
Rolla-Pastor-Salem Avenue Baptist Church

NEW MEXICO

Clovis-Pastor-Central Baptist Church

NORTH CAROLINA

Erwin-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Greenville-Associate Pastor of Music and Worship Arts-The Memorial Baptist Church
Hamlet-Minister of Education and Youth-First Baptist Church
Hickory-Pastor-Mountain Grove Baptist Church
Hillsborough-Pastor-Cane Creek Baptist Church
Hillsborough-Prison Chaplain-Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry
Murfreesboro-Pastor-Murfreesboro Baptist Church
New Bern-Associate Pastor of Christian Education-First Baptist Church
Raleigh-Pastor-Saint John's Baptist Church
Roanoke Rapids-Pastor-Central Baptist Church
Shelby-Minister to Youth and Children-Zion Baptist Church
Southern Pines-Minister of Music and Senior Adults-First Baptist Church
Wallace-Pastor of Students and Family Enrichment-First Baptist Church

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City-Associate Pastor-Spring Creek Baptist Church
Spiro-Youth/Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church

SOUTH CAROLINA

Beaufort-Director of Communications-The Baptist Church of Beaufort
Conway-Minister to Children-First Baptist Church
Greenville-Worship Pastor-Welcome Baptist Church
Spartanburg-Pastor-Fernwood Baptist Church

TEXAS

Center-Minister to Families-First Baptist Church
Coldspring-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Houston-Worship Pastor-University Baptist Church
New Boston-Student Minister-First Baptist Church
Waco-Youth Director-Waco Baptist Church

VIRGINIA

Aldie-Pastor-Little River Baptist Church
Boykins-Pastor-Boykins Baptist Church
Emporia-Pastor-Calvary Baptist Church
Fairfax-Pastor-Calvary Hill Baptist Church
Hampton-Minister of Music/Organist-Hampton Baptist Church
Haymarket-Pastor-Haymarket Baptist Church
Mechanicsville-Pastor-Walnut Grove Baptist Church
Nathalie-Pastor-Clover Bottom Baptist Church
Naruna-Pastor-Ebenezer Baptist Church
Norfolk-Pastor-Azalea Baptist Church
Norfolk-Campus Minister-Old Dominion University
Poquoson-Pastor-Emmaus Baptist Church
Radford-Campus Minister-Radford University
Richmond-Associate Pastor-Tabernacle Baptist Church
Richmond-Pastor-Branch's Baptist Church
Springfield-Pastor-South Run Baptist Church
Springfield-Pastor-First Baptist Church

WASHINGTON

Kent-Executive Minister-Evergreen Baptist Association of the American Baptist Churches USA

WASHINGTON DC

Washington DC-Associate Director of Communications-Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty

WEST VIRGINIA

Huntington-Associate Pastor of Youth Ministry-Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

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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

