



## BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

*advocating • connecting • networking*

### August 2017

## Back to School with Baptist Women in Ministry by Pam Durso

School is back!

These past few weeks, Facebook has been cluttered with first-day-of-school photos. The check-out lines at Office Depot have been unbelievably long. The big yellow school buses are on the road, slowing down traffic and reminding us all of the need to drive with caution. And the parking lot here at McAfee School of Theology, where Baptist Women in Ministry's offices are housed, will soon be packed.

For all the inconveniences that the return to school brings, the truth is that I love this time of year. I love the pictures of children on Facebook with their eager (or not so eager) smiles. I love stopping behind school buses and remembering how loud and crazy riding on a bus can be. I love buying school supplies—there is so much potential in those new pens and empty notebooks. I love meeting new students and watching as friendships are made around the lunch tables. And I love knowing that churches are praying for students and teachers, parents and professors.

To celebrate the beginning of school, Baptist Women in Ministry posted some Back-to-School photos of our own on Facebook. I thought I would share a few of them here—Baptist women ministers returning to school!

**Faye Brown** (top photo, far right) is ready for the semester to start. Faye serves as director of annual giving and special events at Northern Seminary, Lombard, Illinois.

**Mandy McMichael** recently had her "first day of school" as the new assistant professor of religion and associate director of ministry guidance at Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

For all those headed back to college or seminary as students, professors, or staff members, may the year ahead be one filled with grand opportunities to stretch your imaginations, to learn from those all around you, and to laugh and maybe even cry with new friends. Blessings on you all as you head back to school!





## Support Baptist Women in Ministry



**Claire Helton**, minister to children at Lake Shore Baptist Church, Waco, Texas shares, "I love story time with my son, and BWIM connects us with powerful, life-giving stories of women who are following God's call on their lives. I want to make sure my son knows those stories so that he can be formed by hearing how these women have allowed God to form them, too."

All the work Baptist Women in Ministry does and all the ways in which this organization contributes to the shift in 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 possible.**

[GIVE TO BWIM](#)

## 2017-2018 BWIM Mentoring Cohort Applications are open!

**Baptist Women in Ministry's Mentoring Cohort** offers new ministers an opportunity to participate in a year of intentional mentoring with a group of their peers. The groups will be led by an experienced Baptist woman in ministry, and each mentee will be a Baptist woman who has served in her current area of ministry for less than five years. These mentoring groups will serve as communities of support, encouragement, and guidance.



BWIM is accepting applications from Baptist women who serve both in congregational and "outside-the-box"

Apply for Mentoring Cohort

## 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 resource that is geared toward churches—to be used with small groups, deacons, and church staff and leadership.

GET CLERGY SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RESOURCES

## 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 include litanies, poems, blessings, responses, and charges, all used in

previous ordination services. We hope these resources will be helpful to you.

*Natalie Webb (center) was ordained by Covenant Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas on July 24.*

## GET ORDINATION RESOURCES

# Placement Resources Available

Baptist Women in Ministry offers placement help both to churches and candidates. Numerous churches reach out to BWIM, asking for resumés, 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

**Robin Drake** will be ordained by Peace of Christ Church, Round Rock, Texas, on August 27, 2017.

**Natalie Webb** was ordained by Covenant Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, on July 24, 2017.

**Amy Violette** was ordained by First Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia, on August 13, 2017.

**Rebecca Weems** was ordained by Park Avenue Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, on August 6, 2017.

# On the Move

**Debbie Bennett-Reynolds** is pastor at First Baptist Church, Ithaca, New York.

**Anna Burch** is children's minister at First Baptist Church, Greenwood, South Carolina.

**Megan Byrd** is director of Tri-Cities Ministries, Waco, Texas.

**Jennifer Garcia Bashaw** is professor of New Testament and Christian Ministry at Campbell University Buies Creek, North Carolina.

**Brittany Caldwell** is co-pastor at Nobles Chapel Baptist Church, Sims, North Carolina.

**Taylor Smith Crumley** is associate pastor for family ministry at Flat Springs Baptist Church, Sanford, North Carolina.

**Kirsten Hancock** is interim associate pastor of faith formation at Woodland Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas.

**Renae Stewart Hester** is minister of music at Madison Baptist Church, Madison, Georgia.

**Aimee Hobbs** is children's minister at First Baptist Church, St. Petersburg, Florida.

**Sara Hunt-Felke** is pastor for students and young adults, First Baptist Church, Florida.

**Christina Ryan Perkins** is pastor at Salem United Church of Christ, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

**Naro Pongen** is the assistant minister at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Jill Sweetapple** is archivist at the American Baptist Historical Society, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

**Elizabeth Terry** is pastor at East Cisco Baptist Church, Cisco, Texas.

## Peer Learning Group

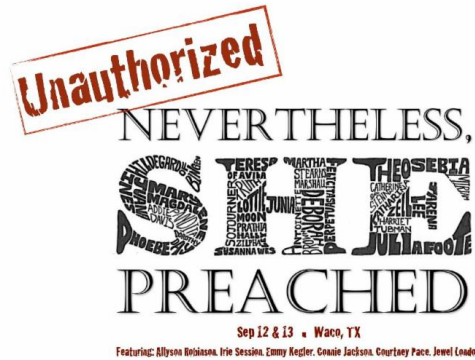
If you are an "outside-the-box" minister, serving in a non-profit organization or non-traditional ministry role and would like information about being part of a peer learning group, please contact **Linda Jones** at [ljones@cbfnc.org](mailto:ljones@cbfnc.org).

## Unauthorized: Nevertheless She Preached

You are invited to **Unauthorized: Nevertheless She Preached**, a dynamic grassroots event celebrating women's voices in the pulpit. The event will be held on **September 12-13, 2017**, at University Baptist Church in Waco, Texas.

Featured speakers include: **Margaret Aymer, Beverly Gaventa, Connie Jackson, Emmy Kegler, Karoline M. Lewis, Jewel London, Courtney Pace, Allyson Dylan Robinson, and Irie Session.**

Registration is \$25 and \$15 for students. Tickets may be purchased [here](#).



## 2017 Elevating Preaching Conference

Gardner-Webb School of Divinity and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina will co-host the 2017 Elevating Preaching Conference on Monday, **September 18, 2017** (8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.).

The conference will be at Gardner-Webb School of Divinity in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, and will feature **Kevin Cosby**, pastor, St. Stephens Church, Louisville, Kentucky; **Wade Bibb**, pastor, Central Bearden Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee, and **Kimberly Moore**, pastor, Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church, Gastonia, North Carolina.

The cost of the conference is \$35 and includes lunch and snacks. The deadline to register is September 8. For more information and to register, visit [www.cbfnc.org/EP](http://www.cbfnc.org/EP)

### 2017 Elevating Preaching

**NURTURING HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS**  
September 18, 2017 Gardner-Webb School of Divinity

Elevating Preaching is a conference that provides opportunities to model good preaching and nurture leadership for pastors, associate pastors, campus ministers, chaplains, and lay. CBFNC co-sponsors the event with our four partner divinity schools (Campbell Divinity, Gardner-Webb School of Divinity, Wake Forest School of Divinity, and Duke Baptist House of Studies). The conference is rotated each year from one of these CBFNC divinity schools to another.

On Monday, September 18, 2017, the Elevating Preaching Conference is scheduled with Gardner-Webb School of Divinity as host and CBFNC as co-sponsor. Preachers for the one-day conference include:

**Dr. Kevin Cosby**, Senior Pastor of St. Stephen Church in Louisville, Kentucky

**Dr. Wade Bibb**, Senior Pastor of Central Bearden Baptist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee

**Rev. Kimberly Moore**, Senior Pastor of Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church in Gastonia, North Carolina, and a graduate of Gardner-Webb School of Divinity

Register for this event at [www.cbfnc.org/EP](http://www.cbfnc.org/EP). Cost is \$35 and includes lunch and two snacks. Registration deadline is September 8th.



Cooperative Baptist Fellowship  
of North Carolina



GARDNER-WEBB  
SCHOOL OF DIVINITY

## 2017 Women in Ministry Conference Atlanta

Join **Cynthia Hale, Claudette Copeland, Elaine Flake, Jessica Ingram, and Gina Stewart** for the 2017 Women in Ministry Conference on **September 18-21, 2017**.

The conference theme is "Kingdom Authority:

## Casting Down High Things."

The cost is \$300 with a seminarian discount of \$260.

The conference will be held at the Westin Atlanta Airport in Atlanta. For more information, visit [www.rayofhope.org](http://www.rayofhope.org) or call 770-696-5100, ext. 217.

Information also available [here](#).



## 2017 Women in Ministry Conference Princeton Theological Seminary

Princeton Theological Seminary will host the 2017 Women in Ministry Conference on **October 23-25, 2017**.

The conference theme is "**Telling our Stories: Breaking the Mold, Taking Risks, Paving the Way.**"

The keynote speaker is **Katie Geneva Cannon**, the first African American woman ordained in what is now the Presbyterian Church (USA) and author of *Womanism and the Soul of the Black Community* and *Black Womanist Ethics*.

Twelve workshops, panel discussions, and worship will be included during the conference.

The cost is \$225. Early-bird registration before August 15 is \$195. For more information, click [here](#).



## "A Quiet Place" Retreat for Ministers CBF of South Carolina

CBF of South Carolina is hosting "**A Quiet Place**" Retreat to encourage ministers to take time for Sabbath rest and renewal. The retreat will be held at Diakonia Retreat Center in Salem, South Carolina from **November 5-7, 2017**. Learn more [here](#).

## Survey on Baptist Seminary Experiences Regarding Women

**Kristen Donnelly**, an independent researcher and founder/director of Abbey Research is gathering participants for a project on experiences of women in Baptist seminaries, trying to discern potential patterns unique to Baptist polity and culture regarding language about and treatment of women. This project is open to **all graduates of any Baptist seminary**. She is looking for diverse opinions from all genders and generations!

To participate, please complete [this survey](#). It should take about ten minutes. Pass the link on to anyone else who might be interested.

## Gender Discrimination Study

**Mark Todd**, a Doctor of Ministry student at Central Baptist Theological Seminary, is conducting a study on

gender discrimination. The study seeks to identify women who have been blocked from serving in the traditional church, but have gone on to start new ministries.

If you have had this experience and would like to participate in the study, you will find the survey [here](#). Your answers will be kept confidential and actual names will be changed to protect privacy.

## 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

**Tuscaloosa**-Woodland Forest Baptist Church-Pastor

### FLORIDA

**Deltona**-Pastor-Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana

### GEORGIA

**Atlanta**-Associate Pastor-Wieuca Road Baptist Church

**Eaton**-Associate Pastor/Youth Minister-First Baptist Church

**Griffin**-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church

**Macon**-Executive Coordinator-CBF of Georgia

**Macon**-Minister to Children and Young Families (PT)-Vineville Baptist Church

**Macon**-Director of Youth/Children's Ministries-Madison Baptist Church

**Rome**-Minister to Children and Youth-Second Avenue Baptist Church

**Savannah**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

### KENTUCKY

**Morehead**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

**Ft. Thomas**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

### MARYLAND

**Ellicott**-Minister of Youth and Outreach-Bethany Baptist Church

### MISSISSIPPI

**Jackson**-Associate Pastor for Students-Northminster Baptist Church

**Jackson**-Associate Pastor for Community Ministry-Northminster Baptist Church

### MISSOURI

**Columbia**-Pastor-Woodcrest Chapel

**Lee's Summit**-Minister to Students-First Baptist Church

**Liberty**-Associate Pastor of Worship and Music-Second Baptist Church

**Rolla**-Pastor-Salem Avenue Baptist Church

### NEW MEXIO

**Clovis**-Pastor-Central Baptist Church

### NEW YORK

**Brockport**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

**New York City**-Director of Youth Programming-Metro Baptist Church

### NORTH CAROLINA

**Ahoskie**-Pastor-Early's Baptist Church

**Cary**-Director for Children's Ministry-Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

**Charlotte**-Minister to Children and Their Families-Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church

**Fairmont**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

**Hickory**-Pastor-Viewmont Baptist Church

**High Point**-Pastor-Emerywood Baptist Church

**Hillsborough**-Pastor-Cane Creek Baptist Church

**Huntersville**-Minister of Children and Families-First Baptist Church

**Lumberton**-Minister of Music and Families-Godwin Heights Baptist Church

**Murfreesboro**-Pastor-Murfreesboro Baptist Church

**Raleigh**-Minister with Children and their Families-Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

**Raleigh**-Pastor-Greystone Baptist Church

**Raleigh**-Pastor-Saint John's Baptist Church

**Reidsville**-Associate Pastor of Discipleship-Calvary Baptist Church

**Reidsville**-Minister to Students-First Baptist Church

**Sanford**-Associate Pastor of Music-Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church

**Taylorsville**-Minister of Education, Children, and Families-Bethlehem Baptist Church

**Wilmington**-Pastor-Wrightsboro Baptist Church

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

**Wayne**-Music Director and Coordinator-Central Baptist Church

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Greenville**-Minister to Preschoolers and Children-Earle Street Baptist Church

## **TENNESSEE**

**Kingsport**-Minister to Children-First Baptist Church

**Nashville**-Executive Director-Baptist Center for Ethics

## **TEXAS**

**Ballinger**-Associate Pastor of Family Ministry-First Baptist Church

**Burkburnett**-Pastor-Central Baptist Church

**Castroville**-Student Minister-First Baptist Church

**Coldspring**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

**Comfort**-Pastor-Comfort Baptist Church

**De Leon**-Associate Pastor of Student Ministry-First Baptist Church

**Haskell**-Family Life Pastor-First Baptist Church

**Littlefield**-Family Pastor-First Baptist Church

**Plano**-Editor-The Baptist Standard

**Rockwall**-Pastor-First Baptist Church of Heath

**San Antonio**-Worship Leader/Associate Pastor-1000 Oaks Bible Church

**Waco**-Associate Pastor for Discipleship-First Baptist Church

## **VIRGINIA**

**Blacksburg**-Minister of Family Life-Blacksburg Baptist Church

**Boykins**-Pastor-Boykins Baptist Church

**Chesterfield**-Pastor-Second Branch Baptist Church

**Dinwiddie County**-Pastor-Central Baptist Church

**Lovesville**-Camp Director-CrossRoads Camp and Conference Center

**Martinsville**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

**McLean**-Pastor-McLean Baptist Church

**Nathalie**-Pastor-Clover Bottom Baptist Church

**Richmond**-Associate Pastor-Tabernacle Baptist Church

**Richmond**-Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults-River Road Baptist Church

**Staunton**-Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry-Memorial Baptist Church

**Stuart**-Pastor-Wayside Community Church

**Winchester**-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

**Hinton**-Pastor-Bellepoint Baptist Church

# State and Regional Baptist Women in Ministry Contact Information

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## **Arkansas**

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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.**

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