



## BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

*advocating • connecting • networking*

### September 2017

#### The BWIM Elevator Speech by Ashley Robinson

In the last month, Baptist Women in Ministry has moved from an office in the McAfee School of Theology building to an office across the Mercer Atlanta campus. Our new digs are becoming cozier by the day as we unpack books and place the ever-present chocolate on our side tables. Along with getting set up in the new office, we are also becoming acquainted with new faces and organizations that are housed in our new building. An unexpected perk of this move, for me, has been that I have perfected my BWIM elevator speech.

As an off-the-charts introvert, I would prefer to step onto an elevator, smile politely, and then join my fellow elevator passengers in staring at the wall during our brief ascent to work. But the new people I have encountered in our new space are friendly—aggressively friendly. They have the gall to say things like “I’ve noticed you’ve been moving boxes. Welcome. What organization do you work for?”

The first time someone introduced herself to me on the elevator, it took all of my power not to respond like a startled cat. After all, who talks to strangers on an elevator?! It didn’t take me long to realize, thanks to the elevator gabbers, that I was going to have to work on my elevator speech. Because, as lovely as the BWIM mission statement is, and as much as BWIM does, in fact, to live out that mission, it is a bit awkward to simply quote, “BWIM is 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.”

Now, when an elevator extrovert asks what I do, I wait for their “tell me more” face when I tell them I work for Baptist Women in Ministry. And then, against my introvert instincts, I go on to tell them

“Today, I get to share photos of some of the thirteen women who have been called to pastor churches this year. We share these photos on social media to celebrate with them and change people’s imagination of what a pastor might look like,” I said to a new elevator buddy. “Today, the executive director made space for a young woman who is discerning where her ministry journey might take her, and we worked on gathering applications for the new mentoring program that will launch in 2018. Tomorrow, I will begin making plans to emphasize our Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching that takes place in February,” I told a new friend on the elevator last week. “That sounds like fun work,” she said. It is, indeed, fun work.

Like many ministry jobs, no two days at Baptist Women in Ministry are the same. And, this month, I am so grateful for my chatty new elevator friends who have reminded me of the great work I get to be a part of every day.

about the amazing work I get to do at Baptist Women in Ministry each day.



**Ashley Robinson is the executive assistant at Baptist Women in Ministry.**

## Support Baptist Women in Ministry



**Scott Claybrook**, minister with young adults and communications at First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee shares, **"I give to BWIM in honor of the women who have shaped my story."**

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**

## 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.

[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.

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

[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](#)**

## GET PLACEMENT RESOURCES

# On the Move

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

**Jaci Garrett** is interim pastor at Sidney Baptist Church, Sidney, Texas.

**Sarah Greenfield** is navy chaplain, Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Maria Lynn** is interim pastor at Hatcher Memorial Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia.

**Hannah Paul** is minister of students at Parkway Baptist Church, Duluth, Georgia.

**Abby Pratt** is associate pastor for family ministry at Central Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia.

**Catherine Ralcewicz** is executive director at Ministering to Ministers Foundation, Richmond, Virginia.

**Carolyn Williams** is interim pastor at Kilmarnock Baptist Church, Kilmarnock, Virginia.

# Ordinations

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

**Darci Jaret** will be ordained by Park Avenue Baptist Church on October 1, 2017.

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

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

# 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).

# Central Baptist Theological Seminary Urban Missional Institute Symposium & Festival of Young Preachers

**Connecting Faith and the City for Good**

**Inaugural Urban Missional Institute Symposium & Regional Festival of Young Preachers**  
**October 20-21, 2017**  
Friday - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Central Seminary: 6601 Monticello Road, Shawnee, KS 66226

**CENTRAL** **ACADEMY OF PREACHERS**

The goal of Central Seminary's Urban Missional Institute is to develop leaders who

- ...are competent to advocate for "the least of these"
- ...are able to develop a prophetic theology
- ...are able to engage in relevant cultural critiques
- ...are able to practice ethical leadership

Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Shawnee, Kansas, is hosting its inaugural biennial **Urban Missional Institute Symposium** on October 20-21, 2017. The symposium will serve as a platform for people to engage in dialogue around the ideas of faith, urbanism, and social engagement through the theme "Connecting Faith and the City for Good." Featured speakers are seasoned preacher and community developer Dr. John Perkins and professor and blogger Dr. Drew G.I. Hart. For more information, visit <http://cbts.edu/seminary-life/urban-missional-institute/>

## 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.

## 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

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

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

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

**Newnan**-Associate Pastor for Students-Central Baptist Church  
**Rome**-Minister to Children and Youth-Second Avenue Baptist Church  
**Savannah**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

#### **INDIANA**

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

#### **KENTUCKY**

**Harlan County**-Pastor-Cumberland Missionary Baptist Church  
**Morehead**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Ft. Thomas**-Pastor-First Baptist Church

#### **MARYLAND**

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

#### **MISSOURI**

**Lee's Summit**-Minister to Students-First Baptist Church  
**Liberty**-Associate Pastor of Worship and Music-Second Baptist Church

#### **NEW YORK**

**Brockport**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**New York City**-Director of Youth Programming-Metro Baptist Church  
**New York City**-Associate Minister for Youth and Young Adults-Riverside Church

#### **NORTH CAROLINA**

**Ahoskie**-Pastor-Early's Baptist Church  
**Cary**-Director for Children's Ministry-Greenwood Forest Baptist Church  
**Garner**-Pastor-Springfield Baptist Church  
**Hickory**-Pastor-Viewmont Baptist Church  
**High Point**-Pastor-Emerywood Baptist Church  
**Huntersville**-Minister of Children and Families-First Baptist Church  
**Kannapolis**-Pastor-Memorial Baptist Church  
**Lumberton**-Minister of Music and Families-Godwin Heights Baptist Church  
**Mount Airy**-Associate Minister for Families-First Baptist Church  
**Murfreesboro**-Pastor-Murfreesboro Baptist Church  
**Raleigh**-Minister with Children and their Families-Pullen Memorial Baptist Church  
**Raleigh**-Associate Pastor of Families-Tabernacle 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  
**Seaboard**-Pastor-Galatia Baptist Church  
**Stantonsburg**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Taylorsville**-Minister of Education, Children, and Families-Bethlehem Baptist Church  
**Troy**-Music and Youth Minister-First Baptist Church  
**Troy**-Student and Children's Minister-First Baptist Church  
**Wilmington**-Pastor-Wrightsboro Baptist Church  
**Winston-Salem**-Assistant Director of Ministry and Vocational Exploration-Wake Forest Divinity School

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

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

#### **TENNESSEE**

**Cordova**-Minister to Students-Trinity Baptist Church  
**Kingsport**-Minister to Children-First Baptist Church  
**Murfreesboro**-Minister to Preschool and Children-First Baptist Church  
**Nashville**-Executive Director-Baptist Center for Ethics

#### **TEXAS**

**Ballinger**-Associate Pastor of Family Ministry-First Baptist Church  
**Brownwood**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**Burkburnett**-Pastor-Central Baptist Church  
**Castroville**-Student Minister-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  
**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**

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

**Boykins**-Pastor-Boykins Baptist Church  
**Dinwiddie** County-Pastor-Central Baptist Church  
**Fairfax**-Pastor for Students and Adult Discipleship-Fairfax Circle Church  
**Farmville**-Pastor-Heritage Baptist Church  
**Martinsville**-Pastor-First Baptist Church  
**McLean**-Pastor-McLean Baptist Church  
**Nathalie**-Pastor-Clover Bottom Baptist Church  
**Richmond**-Associate Pastor-Tabernacle Baptist Church  
**Richmond**-Student Pastor-Bon Air 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

### Alabama

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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](http://www.bwim.info)

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