



## BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

*advocating • connecting • networking*

### October 2017

## College Women, Sleep Deprivation, and Hearing God's Call by Pam Durso



I recently spent two days in Kentucky with women students from Campbellsville University, sharing life stories, talking about call discernment, and remembering what it was like to be in college.

I learned so much! I learned that college women don't require as much sleep as I do! (Okay, I already knew that college students don't sleep, but I experienced it first hand during our overnight retreat). I also learned that these Campbellsville women are fearless in their love of Jesus, compassionate in their care of their sisters, and adventurous in their living and sharing of the faith.

They played together, laughed a lot, enjoyed spending time with friends and making new friendships, hearing stories and receiving advice from their professors, and eating s'mores around a fire.

Together we spent twenty-four hours exploring what it means to be called by God—to a life of purpose and

parts of our stories that we didn't choose or like very much, and let things go. We have to relearn who we were. In order to endure the difficult paths of our callings, we have to know who we are and who we are called be."

"We can't walk this journey of calling alone. We need people to carry extra snacks. We need people to start conversations that we don't yet know how to start. We need people to say, *me too* and *it's ok* and *here is my story*. We need seasoned pilgrims to give us perspective."



perhaps even to vocational ministry. I shared copies of *Five Hundred Miles: Reflections on Pilgrimage and Calling* by Lauren Brewer Bass. I also shared with them some of my favorite quotes from the book.

"Our callings last our whole lives. Our callings are bigger than our jobs. Our callings are bigger than our unemployment, and they are bigger than our underemployment. Our callings seep like tea into the water of our whole lives. They flavor everything."

"We have to learn who we are, and who we aren't. We have to stand inside our stories, including the



I drove away from Camp Jabez in Nancy, Kentucky on Saturday afternoon with great hope in my heart, knowing that the future of the church rests in the hands of strong, sincere, committed, and compassionate women such as these.

Thanks, Twyla Hernandez and Campbellsville University, for making this discernment retreat possible!

## Support Baptist Women in Ministry



**Jewel London**, pastoral assistant, The Church Without Walls, Houston, Texas shares, **"I believe that Baptist Women in Ministry sows in the lives of women so that they will be able to stand in the pulpit and to minister wherever God has called them to minister without hindrance."**

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](#)

## 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.

*Cindy Hong was ordained by Willow Meadows Baptist Church, Houston, Texas on September 10, 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**

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

GET PLACEMENT RESOURCES

## On the Move

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

**Kadeisha Bonsu** is director of children's ministry at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, Cary, North Carolina.

**Danielle Bridgeforth** is pastor at First Baptist Church at Clarendon, Arlington, Virginia.

**Sharon Condrey** is children and family life intern at Berea Baptist Church, Rockville, Virginia.

**Stephanie Coyne** is minister of youth and children at Madison Baptist Church, Madison, Georgia.

**Kate Honeycutt** is interim associate pastor of student ministries at Huguenot Road Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia.

**Kim Johnson** is administrator and director of disaster relief at Blackwater Baptist Association, Windsor, Virginia.

**Kasey Jones** is associate coordinator of strategic operations and outreach at Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Decatur, Georgia.

**Sandra Mauney** is choir director at First Baptist Church, West Point, Virginia.

**Lynn Byram McClure** is minister to senior adults at Ox Hill Baptist Church, Chantilly, Virginia.

**Melissa Miller** is youth minister at Taylorsville Baptist Church, Doswell, Virginia.

**Kat Raborn** is director of children, youth, and young adults at Berea Baptist Church, Rockville, Virginia.

**Tonya Lynn Richards** is communications specialist at Alliance of Baptists, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Annie Sutton** is children's pastor at Johns Creek Baptist Church, Alpharetta, Georgia.

## Ordinations

**Jaime Fitzgerald** will be ordained by Randolph Memorial Baptist Church, Madison Heights, Virginia on November 11, 2017.

**Cindy Hong** was ordained by Willow Meadows Baptist Church, Houston, Texas on September 10, 2017.

**Christine Powell Kellett** was ordained by Augusta Heights Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina, on September 10, 2017.

**Mary Newcomb** was ordained by Boiling Springs Baptist Church, Boiling Springs, North Carolina on September 17, 2017.

**Jennifer Rutter** was ordained by First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee on September 24, 2017.

## Discerning God's Call: A Retreat for College Women

Wondering if God is possibly calling you? Calling you to church ministry? To missions? To serve with the most marginalized in our society?

**On February 9-11, 2018, Baptist Women in Ministry will host a Discernment Retreat for college women, who are sensing a call to ministry.** Milledge Avenue Baptist Church in Athens, Georgia, will host the retreat. More information will soon be available, but if you want to know more or know college women who might be interested in attending, email Pam Durso at [pamdurso@bwim.info](mailto:pamdurso@bwim.info).



The three-day retreat is free. Students will need only to pay their transportation costs to Athens.

## Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry



Join Virginia BWIM on **November 13, 2017**, for dinner during the annual Baptist General Association of Virginia meeting, which will be held at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, Virginia. The deadline to register for dinner is November 9.

Virginia BWIM will also have a booth at the ministry fair and is planning to host a workshop on Monday afternoon.

[Learn more and register here](#)

## Baptist Women in Ministry South Carolina



### BWIM of South Carolina Upstate Regional Lunch

Come have lunch at Mary Beth's Restaurant, in Greenville, South Carolina on **Thursday, October 12, 11:30 a.m.** Email [Kendra Plating](mailto:Kendra.Plating@upstatebwim.org) for more information on this fellowship opportunity for Upstate Baptist women.

### BWIM of South Carolina Midlands Regional Lunch

Join this gathering of women at Grecian Gardens, West Columbia, South Carolina on **Thursday, October 19, 11:30 a.m.** Email [Merianna Harrelson](mailto:Merianna.Harrelson@midlandsbwim.org) for more information.

## Central Baptist Theological Seminary Women's Leadership Initiative

Central Seminary is now recruiting students for the Women's Leadership Initiative MDiv program, with courses beginning in the Fall of 2018. The program includes:

- A cohort of women who complete coursework together
- A full scholarship for tuition (students pay for mentoring, fees and text books.)
- Group and individual mentoring and coaching throughout the program
- 75 hours of coursework completed over four years
- Internships and cross-cultural learning experiences
- Classes and instructors focused on preparing women for ministry



Now  
Recruiting for  
Fall  
2018  
Cohort

Master of  
Divinity  
for  
Women



**Application Deadline:** *December 10, 2017*  
To apply for the WLI MDiv program visit [www.cbts.edu](http://www.cbts.edu)

**For more information, contact**  
Dr. Sally Holt, Central Tennessee's Site  
Director ([sholt@cbts.edu](mailto:sholt@cbts.edu) or 816-674-8245)  
Rev. Nathan Huguley, recruiter ([nathan.huguley@cbts.edu](mailto:nathan.huguley@cbts.edu) or 615-830-3932)

## 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/](http://life/urban-missional-institute/)

In October, Central is also hosting a **Festival of Young Preachers**, a celebration event designed to showcase and encourage young people, ages 16-24, who aspire to be preachers of the Gospel. For more information, visit <http://www.academyofpreachers.net/festivals/>

## 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).

## 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.*

## **ARKANSAS**

Hatfield-Pastor-First Baptist Church

## **COLORADO**

Denver-Pastor-Calvary Baptist Church

## **FLORIDA**

Deltona-Pastor-Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana

## **GEORGIA**

Atlanta-Associate Pastor-Wieuca Road Baptist Church

Eatonton-Associate Pastor/Youth Minister-First 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

## **ILLINOIS**

Chicago-English Language Pastor-North Shore Baptist Church

## **INDIANA**

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

## **KANSAS**

Overland Park-Pastor-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**

Farmington-Pastor-First Baptist Church

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

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

## **NEBRASKA**

Kearney-Pastor-First 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

Gastonia-Associate Pastor for Youth, Children, and Discipleship-First Baptist Church

Greensboro-Associate Pastor of Youth-First Baptist Church

High Point-Pastor-Emerlywood Baptist Church

Huntersville-Minister of Children and Families-First Baptist Church (part-time)

Kannapolis-Pastor-Memorial Baptist Church

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

Mount Airy-Associate Minister for Families-First Baptist Church

Raleigh-Pastor-Forest Hills 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

**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**

**Abilene**-Pastor for Emerging Adults-First Baptist Church  
**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  
**Christianburg**-Music Worship Leader/Education Director-Cambria 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  
**Middleburg**-Pastor-Middleburg Baptist Church  
**Mineral**-Student Minister-Mineral Baptist Church  
**Moseley**-Pastor-Chesterfield Baptist Church  
**Nathalie**-Pastor-Clover Bottom Baptist Church  
**Norfolk**-Pastor-Azalea Baptist Church  
**Red Oak**-Pastor-Antioch Baptist Church  
**Richmond**-Associate Pastor-Tabernacle Baptist Church  
**Richmond**-Student Pastor-Bon Air Baptist Church  
**Richmond**-Communications Pastor-Bon Air Baptist Church  
**Staunton**-Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry-Memorial Baptist 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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#### **Arkansas**

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#### **North Carolina**

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#### **South Carolina**

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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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