



BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

advocating • connecting • networking

January 2018

Martha: Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You! by Pam Durso

I hope that you already have plans made for Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching! I hope your church has invited a woman to share the good news from your pulpit in February (or March or April - we aren't legalistic!)

Baptist Women in Ministry has sponsored this annual emphasis since 2007. Hard to believe it has been eleven years! So many good things have come from Martha! Young women have had opportunities to preach their first sermon from a pulpit. Women who rarely get to use their preaching gifts have been invited for a Martha Sunday. And the big picture result is that our Baptist culture is shifting.

In the past eleven years as we have observed the Baptist landscape, we have seen greater numbers of women find ministry positions, live out their calling, and serve in this world, and we have seen more churches open their pulpits to women and call women to serve their congregations

Back in 2007, when Martha first started, **113** women served as pastors in churches affiliating with the Alliance of Baptist, the Baptist General Association of Virginia, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. In January 2018, there are **191** women pastors!

Martha Stearns Marshall Month has contributed to this shift, and if your church has participated in the past, you have been part of this significant forward movement. By participating, your church has stood as an advocate for Baptist women called by God!

This year your church can once again be a model for others. Your congregation can be an advocate for women ministers in your



community, in your Baptist world, and beyond. You can invite, encourage, and even nudge other pastors and churches in your area to participate.

Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching is making a difference! I hope you are ready for Martha!



Support Baptist Women in Ministry



Ellen Di Giosia, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, Tennessee, shares, **"I give because I believe in Baptist Women in Ministry's mission to connect and network women across the Baptist world and to advocate for women at all levels of leadership throughout the world...I give to BWIM because without its encouragement and without the challenge I receive from it, I would not be a pastor today."**

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

Discerning God's Call: A Retreat for College Women



Wondering if God is 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. The retreat will include time for worship, reflection, small groups, rest, and fellowship.

If you want to know more or know college women who might be interested in attending, email Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info.

The three-day retreat is free. Students will need only to pay their transportation costs to Athens and will need to bring linens or sleeping bags and towels. Food, snacks, and sleeping accommodations will be provided.

Registration is open until February 1!

REGISTER HERE

Martha Stearns Marshall Month

Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching 2018 is fast approaching, and it is time to make plans for February!

For **ELEVEN YEARS** now, Baptist Women in Ministry has sponsored this annual emphasis, asking churches to invite women preachers into their pulpit in the month of February. The first

Martha Stearns Marshall Month was held in 2007, and 51 churches participated. Last year, 201 churches took part.

In the past eleven years, an increasing number of Baptist women ministers have been called by churches and organizations. In 2017, thirteen of those women were called as pastors. The Baptist landscape is shifting!

Resources, including a **Martha Stearns Marshall bulletin insert in both English and Spanish**, are available on the BWIM website. (Thanks, Anyra Cano, for the translation work!)



For preacher recommendations, email Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info.

SPANISH RESOURCES FOR MARTHA STEARNS MARSHALL MONTH

RESOURCES FOR MARTHA STEARNS MARSHALL MONTH

ADD YOUR CHURCH'S MARTHA INFORMATION

ADD YOUR NAME TO A LIST OF AVAILABLE PREACHERS

Ministry Photo Mondays

Share your best ministry photos with BWIM!

This year, Baptist Women in Ministry will share one photo each Monday to highlight the ministries of Baptist women. The photo will be shared on BWIM's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages.

Submit your photo and a short caption to ashleyrobinson@bwim.info. **If children are included in the photo, please have parental permission before submitting.**



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.

Lacey Wondree was ordained by First Baptist Church, Waynesboro, Virginia on November 12, 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

Kellie Denton is minister to families and outreach at First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Georgia.

Judy Harris is music director at First Baptist church, Rockingham, North Carolina.

Starlette Thomas is interim pastor at Village Baptist Church, Bowie, Maryland.

Lisa Wood is pastor at Liberty Road Faith Fellowship, Lexington, Kentucky.

Ordinations

Linsey Addington will be ordained by Church on Ponce and Highland, Atlanta, Georgia, on January 21, 2018.

Sheila Beers was ordained by Bethany Baptist Church, Syracuse, New York on December 10, 2017.

Rebecca Brown was ordained by Living Faith Baptist Fellowship in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, on December 10, 2017.

Bethany Busby will be ordained by Bosqueville Baptist Church, Waco, Texas, on January 21, 2018.

Texas Baptist Women in Ministry

Texas Baptist Women in Ministry's annual conference will be held **February 2, 2018** at Baylor University's Truett Seminary in Waco, Texas.

The conference will include worship, breakout sessions, panel discussions, and time for fellowship.



Learn more at txbwim.org/conference.

Baptist Women in Ministry of South Carolina



Join Baptist Women in Ministry of South Carolina for a time of study, fellowship, and reflection on **February 22, 2018** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This mini-retreat will be held at New Hope Christian Fellowship, West Columbia, South Carolina.

Kendra Plating and Merianna Harrelson will lead the retreat, and lunch will be provided. The retreat is free of cost. Childcare is available upon request.

Register Here

Baptist Women in Ministry of North Carolina

Baptist Women in Ministry of North Carolina's annual Convocation is on Friday, **March 16, 2018**. The Convocation begins at 9:00 a.m. and will be held at Knollwood Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.



Hurricane Relief Help for Texas Baptist Pastors

Texas Baptists have been collecting names and locations of churches across the Gulf Coast that continue to be in need of help following the devastation of Hurricane Harvey in August 2017. Several of these churches are pastored by women. If you would like to partner with one of these churches, you can get more information from the [Texas Baptist website](http://TexasBaptist.org) or by contacting Stan Granberry at stan.granberry@texasbaptists.org.

Please consider making a donation, adding these churches to your prayer list, and sending a note of encouragement to their pastors.

New Revelation Baptist Church

Brazoria, Texas
Pastor Thelma Mack
The church needs to replace its roof and will need a steeple.

St. James Missionary Baptist Church

Wharton, Texas
Pastor Cynthia Hearse
The church lost all its pews as a result of the storm and will need to purchase chairs and office furnishings.

New Faith Church

Wharton, Texas
Pastor Felicia Matthews
The church needs 200 sheets of sheetrock, drywall installation, new flooring, paint, and new air conditioner units.

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.

CALIFORNIA

Pasadena-Community Pastor-First Baptist Church

GEORGIA

Garfield-Pastor-Garfield Baptist Church
Griffin-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church
Griffin-Minister to Students-First Baptist Church
Macon-Minister of Family Life and Education-Vineville Baptist Church

ILLINOIS

Chicago-English Language Pastor-North Shore Baptist Church

INDIANA

Westport-Pastor-Westport Baptist Church

KENTUCKY

Fort Thomas-Pastor-First Baptist Church

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge-Pastor-University Baptist Church

MISSISSIPPI

Hattiesburg-Pastor-University Baptist Church

MISSOURI

Belle-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Richland-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Waverly-Pastor-Waverly Baptist Church

NORTH CAROLINA

Autryville-Pastor-Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church
Connelly Springs-Pastor-Oak Ridge Baptist Church
Murfreesboro-Pastor-Murfreesboro Baptist Church
Raleigh-Associate Pastor-Pullen Memorial Baptist Church
Statesville-Pastor (part-time)-Grace Baptist Church

PENNSYLVANIA

Lewistown-Pastor-First Baptist Church

SOUTH CAROLINA

Rock Hill-Minister of Music-Oakland Baptist Church
Greenville-Associate Youth Minister-First Baptist Church
Greenville-Pastoral Resident-First Baptist Church

TENNESSEE

Nashville-Minister to Preschool and Children-Woodmont Baptist Church

TEXAS

Austin-Minister of Music and Outreach-University Baptist Church
Coleman-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Comanche-Youth Minister/Worship Leader-East Side Baptist Church
Corpus Christi-Bi-Lingual Pastor-Primera Iglesia Bautista
Lubbock-Pastor-Second Baptist Church
Lubbock-Pastor-Broadview Baptist Church
Waco-The David E. Garland Chair in Preaching-Baylor University's Truett Seminary
Waco-The Paul W. Powell Chair in Preaching-Baylor University's Truett Seminary

VIRGINIA

Front Royal-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Kilmarnock-Pastor-Kilmarnock Baptist Church
Mineral-Student Minister-Mineral Baptist Church
Moseley-Pastor-Chesterfield Baptist Church
Norfolk-Pastor-Azalea Baptist Church
Richmond-Field Strategist-Baptist General Association of Virginia
Waynesboro-Minister to Families with Youth-First Baptist Church

State and Regional Baptist Women in Ministry Contact Information

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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

