

Baptist Women in Ministry

February 2014

In This Issue

The Messy Stuff of Ministry

**Questions for our
Conversation**

NextSunday

BWIM Blog

Dear Addie

Maternity Leave Policies

Ordination Resources

BWIM 360

Ordinations

On the Move

BWIM of NC Duke Visit

**BWIM of GA Atlanta
Gathering**

Global Women Summit

**Texas Baptist Women in
Ministry**

BWIM of NC Convocation

**BWIM of GA Spring
Gathering**

Article Headline

BWIM of GA Scholarship

**BWIM of GA Church Woman
Nomination**

CBF Fellows Applications

WMU of NC

My Favorite Month

by Pam Durso

I love February for so many reasons. And at the top of the list is that BWIM's Leadership Team meets this month. On Thursday, February 6, eight of my favorite women gathered around the table to share ideas, dream of the future, and laugh together. And of course, we had chocolate. I am beyond blessed to have these women as partners in this work and to call each of them friend! I walk away from every meeting with them feeling affirmed and loved--and I walk away with a long list of dreams to live into!



Pam Durso, Julie Long, Judy Bailey, Meredith Stone, Tonya Vickery, Courtney Allen, Kristen Muse, Stacy Pyle, Emily Hull McGee.

On Friday, February 7, we were joined by state leaders from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia for more conversation and a time of fellowship. So much good work is being done by BWIM state organizations and by state leaders. As you read this e-newsletter, you will see how widespread their influence is and like me, be amazed by how many activities and resources are being provided.

My love for February is also very much about Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching! BWIM has, for eight years now, asked churches to participate in this special emphasis by inviting a woman into their pulpit in the month of February (or March or April). I especially

Open Ministry Positions

State Information

Contact Information

Baptist Women in Ministry

P.O. Box 941294

Atlanta, GA 31141-1924

404-513-6022

www.bwim.info

Pam Durso

Executive Director

pamdurso@bwim.info

Ashley Robinson

Executive Assistant

ashleyrobinson@bwim.info

Find us on Facebook 

Support BWIM

[Donate Now](#)

Vocare

To receive **Vocare**, email
ashleyrobinson@bwim.info.

Join Our Mailing List!

love Sunday afternoons in February as my inbox fills with photos--pictures of women, young and old, seasoned and inexperienced, standing to preach the gospel. I love posting those photos on Facebook, sharing a visible message that there are Baptist churches that affirm and value God's gifting of women.



Rachel Sloan was the 2014 MSM preacher at Milledge Avenue Baptist Church, Athens, Georgia.

If your church has not yet sent in the name of your MSM preacher, please send her name to

ashleyrobinson@bwim.info.

If your church does not yet have a woman to preach, there is still time (and really, we are not legalistic about the calendar). We welcome you to be part of this emphasis.

My friend, Gary Burton, pastor of Pintlala Baptist Church in Pintlala, Alabama, told his congregation: "We celebrate Martha Stearns Marshall Day of Preaching because we believe, we know, we have experienced this truth ... that God calls, that God gifts, that God works in and through women of faith. And by participating in Martha Stearns Marshall Day we stand with other Baptist churches who believe and know and have experienced that truth as well."

And finally, Valentine's Day is a nice bonus in February! I am not big on giving or receiving candy or flowers on February 14, but I am a HUGE advocate of saying words of love--every day--to those I hold dear, and I hope that each of you hear and speak words of love today!

Happy Valentine's Day AND Happy Martha Stearns Marshall Month!

The Messy Stuff of Ministry: Our 2014 Monthly Conversations

Each month a collaborative group led by **Devita Parnell** and **Pam Durso** gathers for conversations about women and Baptist life. We would love to have you join in these conversations! You don't even have to be in Georgia, because our group meets via phone conference call and/or online through live meetings.

The 2014 conversations will feature interviews with experts and practitioners, who

will talk with us about the challenges of ministry and address the hard stuff ministers encounter as they live out their calling. Invite your colleagues and friends (women and men), who might be interested in these learning sessions.

SAVE the DATES! Below are the dates and times of the upcoming meetings in 2014. Put these dates and times on your calendar. ALL times are Eastern Time Zone

The Messy Stuff of Ministry

March 5, 1:30 p.m.

"Breaking the Law? Dealing with Pesky Legal Issues"

Rebecca Wiggs and Patricia A. Wilson

Rebecca is Attorney with Watkins and Eager Law Firm, Jackson, Mississippi

Patricia is Professor of Law, Baylor University Law School, Waco, Texas

April 1, 10:30 a.m.

"Practice Sabbath? Who Has Time"

Laura Leavell

External Relations Coordinator, Blessed Earth, Lexington, Kentucky

May 6, 10:30 a.m.

"Who Me Ask for Money? Fundraising 101"

Taryn Deaton

Director of Development, the Baptist Joint Committee

June 2, 10:30 a.m.

"Hiring, Firing, Supervising? Handling Tricky Personnel Stuff"

Larry Decuir and Allison Tennyson

Larry is a member of First Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia

Allison is Director of Human Resources, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Decatur, Georgia

August 12, 10:30 a.m.

"I Want to Write! Practical Advice on Writing and Being Published"

Keith Gammons

Publisher and Executive Vice President, Smyth & Helwys

To connect to the conference call, dial **888-824-5783**. Enter the passcode **30278726**.

To join the conversation, email Ashley Robinson at ashleyrobinson@bwim.info for more information.

Questions for our Conversation

Involved in a sticky legal situation at your church? On **March 5 at 1:30 p.m. (Eastern)**, our monthly conversation will be titled "**Breaking the Law? Dealing with Pesky Legal Issues.**"

Our conversation partners will be **Rebecca Wiggs** and **Patricia A. Wilson**. Rebecca is attorney with Watkins and Eager Law Firm, Jackson, Mississippi, and Patricia is professor of law at Baylor University Law School, Waco, Texas.

We would love to touch on the topics that will be of help to you, to discuss situations that you have faced in your ministry. We welcome you to submit questions for that conversations.

Some possible topics include:

- Commitment proceedings
- Employment issues with staff
- Attendance at parishioners' trials: criminal and civil
- Drafting wills/power of attorney/health care directives/pre-nuptials
- Zoning/noise ordinances/church bells
- Subpoenas
- Divorce and child custody disputes
- Will contests
- Compliance with child care regulations
- Politics in the pulpit: 501(c) 3 issues
- Premises liability-injury on the grounds

If you have questions related to these or other topics, please email them to pamdurso@bwim.info.

NextSunday DEVOTIONALS

Beginning in January 2014, Baptist Women in Ministry in partnership with Smyth & Helwys and NextSunday Resources offer to you a weekly devotional titled **Thrive**. These devotionals, based on the Gospel of Matthew, focus attention on the ways in which God is at work in our lives.



The writer for February is **Erin Robinson Hall**. Her first two devotionals are posted and available at [NextSunday Resources](#). You won't want to miss Erin's inspirational words!

BWIM BLOG

Visit the [BWIM Blog](#)! New posts are added weekly. Our monthly writers are Tammy Abee Blom and Brittany Riddle! Be sure to read their most recent posts: Tammy's "Letting Go," and Brittany's "Sharing Stories."

DEAR ADDIE: A New Blog Series

Beginning in November 2013, Baptist Women in Ministry began a new bi-monthly blog series featuring "Dear Addie," which is designed to provide encouragement and advice for women ministers as they navigate ministry waters. If you have questions and need some advice from a seasoned woman minister, you now have a place to turn. **Our "Addie" will answer your questions via the BWIM blog.** Please know that your identity will not be revealed in the blog and any identifying information will be changed to ensure your anonymity.

Email your questions to dearaddie.advice@gmail.com

Maternity Leave Policies

If your church is in the process of formulating a maternity leave policy or revising your current policy, check out the [BWIM website](#). We have collected policies from several churches that might be of help in your process.

Ordination Resources

Check out the BWIM website for [ordination resources](#)! We have collected orders of worship plus litanies, charges, and poems that are helpful in the planning ordination services!

BWIM 360

In this our thirtieth anniversary year, the BWIM Leadership is dreaming into the future. We have beautiful dreams of retreats for college women in various regions and states as they explore their call to ministry. We have dreams of building mentoring networks through the use of retreats and technology. We have dreams of expanding our assistance for women seeking ministry positions.

For BWIM to live into its dreams, we need your prayers, your encouragement, and yes, your financial contributions.

We invite you to participate in a new initiative that we are calling **BWIM 360**. We ask you to give a gift of \$360 or to make a pledge to give \$30 a month for the next twelve months to help BWIM expand its ministries.

You can visit the [BWIM website](#) and make a one-time gift or sign up for a monthly contribution, or you can mail a contribution to us:

Baptist Women in Ministry
P. O. Box 941294
Atlanta, GA 31141-1294

It will take all of us working together and giving. Our dream is that when our daughters and granddaughters are called and as they serving, they will have the resources and encouragement they need to be the ministers God has called them to be. We invite you NOW to support BWIM by giving to BWIM 360.

Ordinations

Courtney Hester was ordained on January 12, 2014 at Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida.

Sharon Spivey will be ordained on February 16, 2014 at Franklin Baptist Church in Franklin, Virginia.

Megan Turner will be ordained on March 9, 2014 at Johns Creek Baptist Church in Alpharetta, Georgia.

On the Move

Yvonne Carter is the executive minister, Cleveland Baptist Association of the American Baptist Churches, USA.

Beth McConnell is pastor of Kathwood Baptist Church, Columbia, South Carolina.

BWIM of North Carolina Visit to Duke

BWIM of North Carolina will host a lunch for Duke Divinity School Baptist women on **February 19, 2014** at noon. For more information, contact Alicia Porterfield at aporterfield@ec.rr.com

BWIM of Georgia Regional Gathering

BWIM of Georgia will host an Atlanta regional gathering for women ministers on **March 1, 2014** from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, contact Jennifer Lyon at lyonjen@gmail.com.

Global Women Summit

Global Women will host *Connect with the Story* on **March 6-8, 2014** in St. Louis, Missouri. For information on the summit, visit [Global Women](#).

Texas Baptist Women in Ministry Event

The 2014 Texas Women in Ministry Conference will be held at Baylor University's Truett Seminary in Waco, Texas, on **March 24, 2014**. The plenary speaker for the 2014 conference will be **Suzii Paynter**, executive coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

For information, contact Meredith Stone at meredith.stone@texasbaptists.org

BWIM of North Carolina Convocation

BWIM of North Carolina will host its annual convocation on **March 28, 2014** at 9:30 a.m. Convocation will be held at College Park Baptist Church in Greensboro, and will include a time of fellowship with a light breakfast. Child care will be provided. For more information, contact Virginia Taylor at rvgtaylor@earthlink.net.

BWIM of Georgia Spring Gathering

BWIM of Georgia will hold its spring gathering and annual meeting on Saturday, **April 5, 2014** at Park Avenue Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, contact LeeAnn Gunter Johns at leanngunter@gmail.com.

BWIM of Virginia Feast

BWIM of Virginia will host its annual Feast on **May 2, 2014** at Crozet Baptist Church, Crozet, Virginia. More details to come!

BWIM of Georgia

Sarah Owens Etheridge Scholarship

BWIM of Georgia is accepting applications for the Sarah Owens Etheridge Scholarship. The scholarship is open to any Baptist women who are from or currently reside in Georgia. For information and to apply, visit [BWIM of Georgia](#). The deadline is **March 1, 2014**.

BWIM of Georgia

Distinguished Church Woman of the Year

BWIM of Georgia is accepting nominations for Distinguished Church Woman of the Year. Nominations are due **March 1, 2014**. [Click here](#) for information.

CBF Fellows Applications

CBF is receiving applications for the second cohort of twenty-five "first call" ministers for the CBF Fellow program. For information and to apply, please visit www.thefellowship.info/fellows. The application deadline is **March 15, 2014**. For more information, email Terry Hamrick at thamrick@thefellowship.info.

WMU of NC seeks Executive Director/Treasurer

The Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina is accepting resumes for the position of executive director/treasurer. To apply, send resume with cover letter: WMUNC.edt@gmail.com or mail to Kimberly Overton, WMU NC, PO Box 18309, Raleigh, NC 27619-8309. **The deadline is March 31, 2014.**

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

Birmingham-**Minister of Music and Worship**-Shades Crest Baptist Church

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

COLORADO

Denver-**Pastor of Youth and Young Adults**-Calvary Baptist Church

FLORIDA

Ft. Walton Beach-**Minister to Students**-Cinco Baptist Church

GEORGIA

Augusta-**Minister of Music**-First Baptist Church

Athens-**Associate Pastor for Students**-Milledge Avenue Baptist Church

Canton-**Pastor**-Heritage Baptist Fellowship

Claxton-**Minister of Students**-First Baptist Church

Dalton-**Minister to Youth and Families**-First Baptist Church

Jasper-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Macon-**Pastor**-Vineville Baptist Church

Plains-**Pastor**-Maranatha Baptist Church

Stone Mountain-**Minister to Youth**-Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Summerville-**Pastor**-Horizon Baptist Fellowship

INDIANA

Indianapolis-**Minister to Children and Youth**-First Baptist Church

KENTUCKY

Corbin-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Morehead-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Owensboro-**Administrative Pastor**-Bellevue Baptist Church

LOUISIANA

Arcadia -**Minister of Music**- First Baptist Church

Thibodaux-**Minister of Youth and Education**-University Baptist Church

MARYLAND

Parkville-**Associate Pastor**-Chinese Christian Church of Baltimore

MISSOURI

Columbia-**Pastor of Children and Family Ministries**-Memorial Baptist Church

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

St. Louis **Worship Pastor**-Canaan Baptist Church

St. Louis-**Pastor**-Third Baptist Church

St. Louis-**Pastor**-Webster Grove Baptist Church

St. Joseph-**Minister of Families/Spiritual Formation**-Wyatt Park Baptist Church

NEW MEXICO

Belen-**Worship and Music Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Tatum-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

NORTH CAROLINA

Albemarle -**Pastor**- First Baptist Church
Durham-**Minister of Discipleship and Children**-Durham Memorial Baptist Church
Cary-**Minister of Children**-First Baptist Church
Clinton-**Minister to Youth and Children**-Immanuel Baptist Church
Elon-**Senior Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Fuquay-Varina-**Minister to Youth**-Fuquay-Varina Baptist Church
Gastonia-**Minister of Youth**-First Baptist Church
High Point-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Kannapolis-**Minister of Youth and College Students**-First Baptist Church
Kernersville-**Minister of Children**-First Baptist Church
Lexington-**Pastor**-Churchland Baptist Church
Oxford-**Pastor**-Tabbs Creek Baptist Church
Raleigh-**Executive Director/Treasurer**-Woman's Missionary Union of NC
Raleigh-**Minister of Preschool and Children**-Greystone Baptist Church
Raleigh-**Pastor**-Highland Baptist Church
Raleigh-**Pastor**-Temple Baptist Church
Rockingham-**Associate Pastor/Minister of Families**-First Baptist Church
Roseboro-**Youth Pastor**-Mintz Baptist Church
Salisbury-**Pastor**-Stallings Memorial Baptist Church
Spring Lake-**Minister to Youth and Children**-First Baptist Church
Taylorsville-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Wake Forest-**Minister of Music and Worship**-Wake Forest Baptist Church
Winston-Salem-**Minister to Children**-Ardmore Baptist Church
Winston-Salem-**Pastor**-Wake Forest Baptist Church

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City-**Pastor**-Spring Creek Baptist Church

PENNSYLVANIA

Mechanicsburg-**Pastor for Family Ministries and Community Outreach**-
Country and Town Baptist Church

SOUTH CAROLINA

Inman-**Minister of Music**-First Baptist Church
Laurens-**Minister to Youth**-First Baptist Church
Lexington-**Pastor**-Emmanuel Baptist Fellowship
Piedmont-**Music, Children and Youth Minister**-First Baptist Church

TENNESSEE

Jefferson City-**Minister to Children and Families**-First Baptist Church

TEXAS

Abernathy-**Youth Minister**-First Baptist Church

Abilene-**Pastor (Bilingual)**-Iglesia Bautista Ambler

Bonham-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Breckenridge -**Minister of Youth**- First Baptist Church

Buna-**Youth Pastor**-Central Baptist Church

Dallas-**Pastor**-Journey Church

Ennis-**Student Pastor**-Tabernacle Baptist Church

Greenville-**Minister of Music and Technology**-Highland Terrace Baptist Church

Huffman-**Minister of Children**-First Baptist Church

Kenedy-**Minister to Youth**-First Baptist Church

Lewisville-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Monahans -**Pastor to Students**- First Baptist Church

Pharr-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

San Antonio-**Youth Pastor**-Trinity Baptist Church

Shamrock-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Sweetwater-**Pastor**-Trinity Baptist Church

The Woodlands-**Student Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Vernon-**Pastor**-Second Baptist Church

UTAH

Sandy-**Pastor**-Crossroads Church

VIRGINIA

Blacksburg-**Minister of College Outreach/Student Ministries**-Blacksburg Baptist Church

Bristol-**Minister to Families**-First Baptist Church

Disputanta-**Director of Youth/Children's Ministries**-Oakland Baptist Church

Hampton-**Associate Pastor for Children/Youth Discipleship**-Hampton Baptist Church

Hurt-**Pastor**-Monte Vista Baptist Church

Mechanicsville-**Pastor**-Walnut Grove Baptist Church

Richmond-**Associate Pastor for Youth and Mission**-Central Baptist Church

Richmond-**Community Building Coach**-Virginia Baptist Mission Board

Ringgold-**Pastor**-Ringgold Baptist Church

Rockville-**Associate Pastor for Family Ministry**-Berea Baptist Church

Vienna-**Pastor**-Vienna Baptist Church

WEST VIRGINIA

Martinsburg-**Senior Pastor**-365 Church

BALI

Sanur-**Pastor**-Gateway Baptist Church

GERMANY

Wiesbaden-**Pastor**-Immanuel Baptist Church

NOVA SCOTIA

Halifax-**Director of Faith Development**-First Baptist Church

State Women in Ministry Information

Alabama

Contact Terri Byrd at terribyrd@aol.com.

Arkansas

Contact Carolyn Yeldell Staley at cstaley@phbclr.com.

Georgia

Contact LeAnn Gunter Johns leanngunter@gmail.com. For information, [click here](#).

Missouri

Contact Robin Sandbothe at rsandbothe@cbts.edu. For information, [click here](#).

North Carolina

Contact Virginia Taylor at rvgtaylor@earthlink.net.
For information, [click here](#).

South Carolina

Contact Carrie Veal at theologygirl@yahoo.com or Ellen Sechrest at esechrest@boulevardbaptist.com.

Texas

Contact Meredith Stone at meredith.stone@texasbaptists.org. For information, [click here](#).

Virginia

Contact Elizabeth Melton Bartley at Elizabethmbartley@yahoo.com. For information, [click here](#).

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.