

# Baptist Women in Ministry

## March 2014

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## You Are Invited!

Come join us in June for our annual gathering. This summer's theme is **THRIVE**, and we will be celebrating the flourishing work being done by God in and through Baptist women. We also will be celebrating the 50th ordination anniversary of Addie Davis.

### Worship

On Wednesday morning, **June 25**, Baptist Women in Ministry will host its annual gathering at First Baptist Church, Decatur. The 10 a.m. worship will be led by past recipients of the Addie Davis Awards, and the preacher for the morning will be **Shelley Hasty Woodruff**, the 2007 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching.



Shelley Hasty Woodruff

### Lunch

Worship will be followed by lunch at 11:15 at First Baptist, Decatur. Tickets for lunch will be \$20 and will be available on the BWIM website - [www.bwim.info](http://www.bwim.info).

### New Book

A new book will be available at the lunch. BWIM in partnership with Smyth & Helwys has a new collection of sermons preached by Addie Davis Award recipients. The collection, ***The World is Waiting for You: Celebrating the 50th Ordination Anniversary of Addie Davis***, is co-edited by **Pam Durso** and **LeAnn Gunter Johns** and includes twenty-seven sermons by eighteen preachers.

The collection also includes a biographical introduction to Addie as well as two of her sermons. One of those sermons, "Waiting for You," was preached in her home church, Covington Baptist Church, Covington, Virginia, on June 5, 1988, and in that sermon, she said, "Remember this is your day. Now is your turn. The world waits to see what you will do, and God waits expectantly for you." In

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1964, the world was waiting for Addie Davis. It was her day, her turn. And in 2014, the world is waiting for those women who are now serving but especially those who have yet to hear God's call.

***The World is Waiting for You: Celebrating the 50th Ordination Anniversary of Addie Davis*** will be available at the lunch, and many of the preachers featured in the book will be present for a book signing.

### Workshop

BWIM will host a workshop, "THRIVE: Successfully Negotiating the Search Process," at the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's General Assembly on **June 26 at 2:45 p.m.** The workshop will feature a panel of lay church leaders and ministers who have recently journeyed through the search process and navigated its challenges. They will share lessons learned along the way. Our discussion-based workshop will focus on practical helps for candidates and congregations.

## 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

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](mailto:ashleyrobinson@bwim.info) for more information.

## NextSunday DEVOTIONALS



Baptist Women in Ministry in partnership with Smyth & Helwys and NextSunday Resources offers 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 March is **Pam Durso**. Her first three devotionals are posted and available at [NextSunday Resources](#). You won't want to miss Pam'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 "Pretzels for Lent," and Brittany's "A Creative Journey."

## 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](mailto: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

**Mary Virginia Little Apicella** will be ordained on April 6, 2014 at First Baptist Church, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts.

**Michelle Anderson** was ordained on March 9, 2014 at Westwood Baptist Church, Cary, North Carolina.

**Sara Clark** will be ordained on March 23, 2014 at Buechel Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky.

**Felecia LaVant** was ordained on January 26, 2014 at Central Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee.

**Sharon Spivey** was ordained on February 16, 2014 at Franklin Baptist Church, Franklin, Virginia.

## **On the Move**

**Megan Barnett** is the Communications Coordinator at Columbus Avenue Baptist Church, Waco, Texas.

**Sarah Carbajal** is the Associate Pastor of Austin Heights Baptist Church, Nacogdoches, Texas.

**Deborah Demars Conrad** is the Pastor of Woodside Church, Flint, Michigan.

**Raquel Contreras** is the Director of Editorial Mundo Hispano, El Paso, Texas.

**Elizabeth Davis** is the President of Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina.

**Amanda Harper** is the Co-Pastor of Community Baptist Church, Milledgeville, Georgia.

**Marilee Harris** is the Pastor of Damaniscotta Baptist Church, Damaniscotta, Maine.

**Amanda Chandler McCoy** is the Children's Ministry Coordinator at First Baptist Church, Canton, North Carolina.

**Kim Priddy** is the Assistant Pastor of Missions at First Baptist Church, Greensboro, North Carolina.

**Abby Sizemore** is the Communications Coordinator at Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Georgia.

**Felicia Taylor** is the Children's Minister to Mount Olivet Baptist Church, Beaverdam, Virginia.

## **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](mailto: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. at College Park Baptist Church in Greensboro and will include a time of fellowship with a light breakfast. Childcare will be provided. For more information, contact Virginia Taylor at [rvgtaylor@earthlink.net](mailto: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. The morning preacher is **Shelley Woodruff**. For more information, contact [LeAnn Gunter Johns](#).

## **BWIM of GA Regional Gathering**

Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia is hosting a regional gathering for women ministers living in the North Fulton, Cobb, Cherokee, and West Gwinnett areas on Saturday, **March 29, 2014**, at 10:00 a.m. The brunch fellowship will be held at Atlanta Bread Company, 640 West Crossville Road, Roswell, Georgia 30075. RSVP to [Louise Byrd](#), 770-354-1343.

## **BWIM of Virginia Feast**

BWIM of Virginia will host its annual Feast on **May 2, 2014** at Crozet Baptist Church, Crozet, Virginia from 3-8:30pm. The registration deadline is April 25, 2014. For more information, visit the Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry [website](#).

## **International Women of Courage Award**



**Bishop Gotsiridze (left) and Neville Callam, General Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance**

**Bishop Rusudan Gotsiridze** of the Evangelical Baptist Church of the Republic of Georgia has been selected as a winner of the U.S. Secretary of State's 2014 International Women of Courage Award. Bishop Gotsiridze's award recognizes her advocacy work on behalf of tolerance, opportunity, and equality for all her fellow Georgians. She will accept the award in Washington, D.C. at a ceremony hosted by Michelle Obama and Deputy Secretary Heather Higginbottom. Following the ceremony, Bishop Gotsiridze will participate in a two-week International

Visitor Leadership Program and will travel to several cities for meetings, presentations, and discussions with gender equality organizations, philanthropies, and advocacy groups.

## **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](mailto: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**

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

Canton-**Pastor**-Heritage Baptist Fellowship

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

Jasper-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

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

Summerville-**Pastor**-Horizon Baptist Fellowship

### **FLORIDA**

Jacksonville-**Managing Editor**-Florida Baptist Witness

St. Petersburg-**Chaplain (PRN)**-Bayfront Health

### **INDIANA**

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

### **KENTUCKY**

Corbin-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Erlanger-**Director of Missions/Mission Strategist**-The Northern Kentucky Baptist Association

### **LOUISIANA**

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

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

### **MISSOURI**

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

### **NEW MEXICO**

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

### **NORTH CAROLINA**

Albemarle -**Pastor**- First 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

High Point-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Lexington-**Pastor**-Churchland Baptist Church

Lumberton-**Pastor**-Godwin Heights Baptist Church

Monroe-**Associate Pastor**-First Baptist Church

North Raleigh-**Associate Minister to Students**-Greystone 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

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

Wake Forest-**Pastor**-Wake Forest Baptist Church

Winston-Salem-**Minister to Children**-Ardmore Baptist Church

Winston-Salem-**Pastor**-Wake Forest Baptist Church

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Mechanicsburg-**Pastor for Family Ministries and Community Outreach**-

Country and Town Baptist Church

Valley Forge-**Emerging Leaders Strategist**-American Baptist Home Mission Society

### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

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

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

Lexington-**Pastor**-Emmanuel Baptist Fellowship



## **TEXAS**

Bonham-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Breckenridge -**Minister of Youth**- First Baptist Church  
Buna-**Youth Pastor**-Central Baptist Church  
Greenville-**Minister of Music and Technology**-Highland Terrace 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  
Shamrock-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Sweetwater-**Pastor**-Trinity Baptist Church

## **UTAH**

Sandy-**Pastor**-Crossroads Church

## **VIRGINIA**

Bedford County-**Pastor**-Flint Hill Baptist Church  
Blacksburg-**Minister of College Outreach/Student Ministries**-Blacksburg Baptist Church  
Chester-**Children's Ministry Director**-Ironbridge Baptist Church  
Chesterfield-**Director of Music**-Second Branch Baptist Church  
Danville-**Organist/Choir Director**-First Baptist Church  
Disputanta-**Director of Youth/Children's Ministries**-Oakland Baptist Church  
Roanoke-**Executive Director**-The Roanoke Valley Baptist Association  
Ringgold-**Pastor**-Ringgold Baptist Church  
Suffolk-**Pastor**-East End 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](mailto:terribyrd@aol.com).

### **Arkansas**

Contact Carolyn Yeldell Staley at [cstaley@phbclr.com](mailto:cstaley@phbclr.com).

**Georgia**

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

**Missouri**

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

**North Carolina**

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

**South Carolina**

Contact Carrie Veal at [theologygirl@yahoo.com](mailto:theologygirl@yahoo.com) or Ellen Sechrest at [esechrest@boulevardbaptist.com](mailto:esechrest@boulevardbaptist.com).

**Texas**

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

**Virginia**

Contact Elizabeth Melton Bartley at [Elizabethmbartley@yahoo.com](mailto: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.*