

# Baptist Women in Ministry

## July 2014

### In This Issue

**Tribute to Anne Neil**

**Be a Supporter**

**Article Headline**

**The World is Waiting**

**Addie Davis Awards**

**Article Headline**

**Article Headline**

**The Messy Stuff of Ministry**

**Past Conversations**

**NextSunday**

**Dear Addie**

**Article Headline**

**Maternity Leave Policies**

**Ordination Resources**

**Ordinations**

**On the Move**

**Open Ministry Positions**

**State Information**

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### A Five Year Whirlwind Adventure

On July 1, I celebrated my five year anniversary as executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry! Well, the celebration actually happened on June 25 when my amazing, brilliant, and gracious Leadership Team surprised me at our BWIM gathering, circled around me and prayed for and with me.



They also presented me with a box containing letters, cards, and notes from friends and encouragers. Those eight women know me well--for nothing makes my heart happier than the gift of handwritten words of affirmation.

But I am also grateful for an [electronic letter](#) of blessing from my dear friend, Eileen Campbell-Reed.

The whirlwind of adventure of this past five years has been a gift from God for which I am and will always be so grateful. In these days of celebration, I am living into my new favorite quote from Thomas Merton: "To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything that God has given us."

Find us on Facebook 

## Vocare

To receive **Vocare**, email  
[ashleyrobinson@bwim.info](mailto:ashleyrobinson@bwim.info).

Join Our Mailing List!

With thanksgiving to you, my friends, who have walked with me, supported this work, and worked and prayed for Baptist Women in Ministry.

Blessings!

*Pam Duvso*

## A Tribute to Anne Thomas Neil by Nancy Sehested



On June 21, 2014, Nancy Sehested spoke beautiful words in tribute of Anne Thomas Neil, one of the founders of Baptist Women in Ministry and the recipient of BWIM's first Distinguished Mentor Award.

The tribute has been posted on the [BWIM blog](#).

## Be a Monthly Giver

If your life and ministry has been enhanced by the work of Baptist Women in Ministry, you can make sure that other women have that same encouragement!

Be a supporter of our work. Help us as we seek to advocate for women ministers, provide resources for ministers and churches, and continue in promoting Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching, our e-newsletter and blog, and placement assistance!

What we need most right now are monthly supporters. People who will pledge to give a small amount every single month, and it is simple to do! Sign up on the [BWIM website](#) and via Pay Pal, your bank account will be drafted each month. You can give \$10-\$15 or more. Together all the monthly gifts provide a stable financial base for Baptist Women in Ministry.

You can also make a one-time donation.

To mail a contribution:  
Baptist Women in Ministry  
P. O. Box 941294  
Atlanta, GA 31141-1294

Your support makes a HUGE difference!

## NEW T-SHIRT

Baptist Women in Ministry has a new t-shirt to go with our new book! And we have children's sizes! T-shirts will go on sale on **July 22** and you can order yours on the BWIM website beginning that day! You can order the book now by clicking [here!](#)

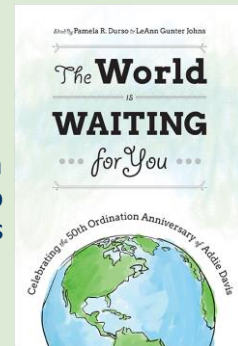


## A NEW BOOK FROM BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Baptist Women in Ministry is pleased to partner with Smyth & Helwys Publishers in the production of a new book, **The World is Waiting for You: Celebrating the 50th Ordination Anniversary of Addie Davis**. The collection is co-edited by **Pam Durso and LeAnn Gunter Johns** and includes Addie's story, two of her sermons, and twenty-five sermons by eighteen Addie Davis Award recipients.

The preachers featured in the book are Gwen Brown, Erin James-Brown, Molly Brummett, Caroline Lawson Dean, Bailey Nelson Edwards, Griselda Escobar, Angela Fields, Nicole Finkelstein-Blair, Karen Hatcher, Kimberly Schmitt Holman, LeAnn Gunter Johns, Andrea Dellinger Jones, Martha Kearse, Veronice Miles, Heather Mustain, Teresa Pugh, Kyndall Rae Rothaus, and Shelley Hasty Woodruff.

The book is available from [Smyth & Helwys!](#)



## Addie Davis Awards

Congratulations to our 2014 Addie Davis Award recipients! **Racquel Gill** received the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. She will soon begin her third year at Duke Divinity School. **Erica Evans Whitaker** received the Addie Davis Award for Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry. She will graduate from Truett Seminary in August and has been called as pastoral intern by Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas.



## Congratulations to the 2014 Addie Davis Nominees:

### Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry

**Allison Benfield**

Gardner-Webb School of Divinity

**Meggie Dant**

McAfee School of Theology

**Gretchen Jones**

Logsdon School of Theology

**Meg Lacy**

Candler School of Theology

**Ashlee Murphy**

Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond



**Amanda Standiford**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky

**Excellence in Preaching**

**Claire Chadwick**

Central Baptist Theological Seminary

**Laura Edgar**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky

**Jennifer Simmons Lyon**

McAfee School of Theology

**Katie René Mussat**

George W. Truett Theological Seminary

**Stephanie Nash**

Logsdon School of Theology

**Clara M. Owens**

Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond

**Abigail Pratt**

Wake Forest University School of Divinity

**Lynnette James Sills**

Gardner-Webb School of Divinity

**The Distinguished Mentor Award**



Baptist Women in Ministry is proud and pleased to recognize and honor **Sue Fitzgerald** as the recipient of the 2014 Frankie Huff Granger Distinguished Mentor Award.

While she has given many gifts to our world, perhaps one of Sue's best gifts has been her willingness to mentor ministers, both women and men. She has been a quiet voice of reason, a kind voice of encouragement, and a steady voice of affirmation for hundreds of ministers in North Carolina and beyond. One of those she has mentored is Wanda Kidd, College Ministry Coordinator at Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina. Of Sue, Wanda writes, "Just say the name, Sue Fitzgerald in western North Carolina,

and regardless of whether you are speaking to a man or a woman, a lay member or a minister, a slow smile comes to their face. Sue has broadened more people's concept of a gender specific clergy than anyone I know. She is just 'Sue,' a minister and an ambassador for Mars Hill College, who has always shown up to support, encourage, push, educate, and love all of the people in these mountains. She is my hero."

Blessings on our friend and mentor to so many, Sue Fitzgerald!

## Church of Excellence

Baptist Women in Ministry celebrates **Northminster Baptist Church** in Jackson, Mississippi as the 2014 Church of Excellence. Northminster is a congregation that has welcomed and affirmed ministry by women through words and through deeds. At our 2014, Stephen Fuller accepted the award on behalf of Northminster!



For many years, Northminster has been faithful and generous in its financial support of Baptist Women in Ministry. Each month a portion the church's denominational relations dollars is sent directly to BWIM. This consistent and dependable support has made a significant difference for this organization as well as for women called by God to ministry. Northminster truly has been and continues to be a Church of Excellence!

## The Messy Stuff of Ministry: Our 2014 Monthly Conversations

Each month a collaborative group led by **Pam Durso** and **Devita Parnell** gathers for conversation about women and Baptist life.

You are invited to 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 feature interviews with experts and practitioners, who share 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 2014 Schedule**

September 16, 10:30 a.m.

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

**Keith Gammons**

Keith is publisher and executive vice president, Smyth & Helwys

October 14, 10:30 a.m.

"Why Can't We All Just Get Along?: Learning from Conflict"

**LeDayne McLeese Polaski**

LeDayne is program coordinator, Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America

November 12, 10:30 a.m.

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

**Larry Decuir**

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

To connect to the conference call, use this number if you have free long distance: 1 (805) 309-2350 and enter 2201619.

If you do not have free long distance, connect by dialing any of Local Toll Access Numbers listed here and possibly avoid long distance charges that might otherwise be billed by your phone company. After dialing, enter 2201619.

For those without free long distance or a local toll access number, you may dial the toll-free number 1-800-309-2350 and enter 2201619.

For more information about the conversation, email Ashley Robinson at [ashleyrobinson@bwim.info](mailto:ashleyrobinson@bwim.info).

### **READ or LISTEN TO PAST CONVERSATIONS**

If you missed any of our past monthly conversations, we now have transcripts and recordings of the 2014 meetings on the BWIM website.

Audio recordings are available of the conversation with **Rebecca Wiggs and Patricia Wilson** on "Breaking the Law? Dealing with Pesky Legal Issues;" **Laura Leavellon** "Practice Sabbath? Who Has Time?;" **Taryn Deaton** on "Who me? Ask

for Money? Fundraising 101;" and **Pam Durso and Devita Parnell** on "Will I Ever Find a Ministry Position?: Hints and Helps for Surviving the Search Process."

To listen to these recordings and also see transcripts from earlier conversations, [click here](#).

## NextSunday DEVOTIONS

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 July is **Lauren Bass Brewer**. In her first devotion, "Be on the Lookout," Lauren reminds us to "always be on the lookout for the transfigured Jesus-in the basements, the mountaintops and everything in between." Read her devotions and earlier ones on the [NextSunday blog](#).



Upcoming writers include Valerie Burton, Allison Kentle, Katie McKown, Amy Shorner-Johnson, and Cynthia Williams.

## DEAR ADDIE

Baptist Women in Ministry has a 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)

## The BWIM Blog

Visit the [BWIM Blog](#). We have a new feature: [Tuesday Prayers](#)! Each Tuesday we will post the prayer of a woman. If you have prayers you love, prayers you have written, send them to us ([pamdurso@bwim.info](mailto:pamdurso@bwim.info)). We also have new posts each week by writers such as Pam Durso, Tammy Abee Blom, and Brittany Riddle!

## 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!

## Ordinations

**Jillian Farmer** will be ordained on July 27, 2014, by Kirkwood Baptist Church, Kirkwood, Missouri.

**Jessica Piercy Godfrey** was ordained on April 27, 2014, by First Baptist Church, Rutherfordton, North Carolina.

**Brenda Goodman** was ordained on June 8, 2014, by Calvary Baptist Church, Denver, Colorado.

**Martha Haigler** was ordained June 11, 2014, by Providence Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Melissa Kessler** was ordained on June 22, 2014, by First Baptist Church, Kernersville, North Carolina.

### **Meg Lacy**

will be ordained on August 3, 2014, by Park Avenue Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Lauren McDuffie** will be ordained on July 27, 2014, by Glendale Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee.

**Fran Mitchell** will be ordained on July 20, 2014, by Central Baptist Church, Fountain City, Knoxville, Tennessee.

**Meredith Shaw** was ordained on July 13, 2014, by Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Cinda Smith** was ordained on June 29, 2014, by First Baptist Church, Abilene, Texas.

## On the Move

**Allison Benfield** is minister of children and their families, St. John's Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Carrie Blanchard** is youth ministries coordinator, Oakland Baptist Church, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

**Glenda Bohannon** is minister of music, Burgaw Baptist Church, Burgaw, North Carolina.

**Amy Butler** is the pastor of Riverside Church, New York City.

**Alyx Christian** is youth minister at Shalom Baptist Church, Mechanicsville, Virginia.

**Lissa Eaton** is chaplain resident at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

**Katie Ethridge** is children's director, Ironbridge Baptist Church, Chester, Virginia.

**Rhonda Gailes** is pastor, Refuge Church, Blowing Rock, North Carolina.

**Patricia Greene** is associate pastor and minister of families, First Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina.

**Christy Grubbs Foldenauer** is Discipleship Pastor at Gayton Baptist Church, Henrico, Virginia.

**Meredith Hanna** is minister to children, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana.

**Susan Hayes** is music director, Elk Creek Baptist Church, Mineral, Virginia.

**Lindsey Huggins** is associate minister to students, First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Georgia.

**Brittany Jackson** is youth pastor, White Oak Baptist Church, Clayton, North Carolina.

**Sarah Mears** is minister of children, Wake Forest Baptist Church, Wake Forest, North Carolina.

**Katie Mussat** is minister to students, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana.

**Merianna Neely** is pastor, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, South Carolina.

**Jennifer "Jeni" Pedzinski** serves in Chiang Mai, Thailand, as an American Baptist International Ministries endorsed missionary.

**Hannah Singletary** is director of volunteer engagement, First Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Florida.

**Leslie Turley** is area director for Southeast Asia and Japan, American Baptist International Ministries.

**April Uebel** is Baptist collegiate minister, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia.

**Judy Wiles** is children's minister, Leesburg Community Church, Leesburg, Virginia.

**Ruth Winters** is music ministries coordinator, Orcutt Baptist Church, Newport News, Virginia.

## 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

Hot Springs Village-**Pastor**-Balboa Baptist Church

### FLORIDA

Jacksonville-**Managing Editor**-Florida Baptist Witness  
St. Petersburg-**Chaplain (PRN)**-Bayfront Health

### GEORGIA

Carlton-**Pastor**-Carlton Baptist Church  
Marietta-**Minister to Students**-First Baptist Church

### KANSAS

Salina-**Music and Youth Minister**-First Baptist Church

### KENTUCKY

Erlanger-**Director of Missions/Mission Strategist**-The Northern Kentucky Baptist Association  
Lexington-**Minister of Music**-Calvary Baptist Church  
Louisville-**Minister of Children and Families**-Broadway Baptist Church  
Winchester-**Pastor of Family Life and Outreach**-Central Baptist Church

### MISSOURI

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

### NEW YORK

White Plains-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

### NORTH CAROLINA

Asheville-**Minister to Students**-First Baptist Church  
Benson-**Minister to Youth and Children**-Benson Baptist Church  
Boiling Springs-**Pastor**-Boiling Springs Baptist Church  
Burlington-**Associate Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Chapel Hill-**Intentional Interim Pastor**-Binkley Baptist Church  
Chapel Hill-**Minister to Children**-Mt. Carmel Baptist Church  
Charlotte--**Pastor**-Myers Park Baptist Church

Charlotte-**Minister of Worship and Musical Arts**-St. John's Baptist Church  
Clinton-**Minister to Youth and Children**-Immanuel Baptist Church  
Durham-**Minister of Discipleship and Children**-Durham Memorial Baptist Church  
Elizabeth City-**Minister of Students**-Corinth Baptist Church  
Franklin-**Minister to Youth and Children**-Iotla Baptist Church  
Greenville-**Pastor**-The Memorial Baptist Church  
Hallsboro-**Pastor**-Hallsboro Baptist Church  
Mars Hill--**Residency Position**--Mars Hill University  
Morgantown-**Minister of Music**-First Baptist Church  
Monroe-**Associate Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Newton Grove-**Pastor**-Newton Grove Baptist Church  
North Raleigh-**Associate Minister to Students**-Greystone Baptist Church  
Oxford-**Pastor**-Tabbs Creek Baptist Church  
Winston-Salem-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

#### **OKLAHOMA**

Oklahoma City-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

#### **OHIO**

Cincinnati-**Minister to Preschoolers and Children**-Mt. Carmel Baptist Church

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

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

#### **TENNESSEE**

Clinton-**Minister of Children**-First Baptist Church  
Clinton-**Minister of Students**-First Baptist Church  
Maryville-**Pastor**-Cedar Grove Baptist Church

#### **TEXAS**

Abilene-**Minister to Students**-Southland Baptist Church  
Borger-**Pastor to Families With Students**-First Baptist Church  
Gilmer-**Minister of Worship**-First Baptist Church  
Houston-**Church Administrator**-South Main Baptist Church  
Kenedy-**Minister to Youth**-First Baptist Church  
Lewisville-**Minister to Children**-First Baptist Church  
Lewisville-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Paducah-**Youth Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Rising Star-**Youth Minister**-First Baptist Church  
Rosenberg-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Woodville-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

#### **VIRGINIA**

Ashland-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Bedford County-**Pastor**-Flint Hill Baptist Church  
Chester-**Children's Ministry Director**-Ironbridge Baptist Church  
Chesterfield-**Director of Music**-Second Branch Baptist Church  
Clarksville-**Minister to Students**-Clarksville Baptist Church  
Colonial Heights-**Pastor**-Woodland Baptist Church  
Cumberland-**Pastor**-Fitzgerald Memorial Baptist Church

Danville-**Organist/Choir Director**-First Baptist Church  
Fredericksburg-**Pastor**-Ferry Farm Baptist Church  
Lebanon-**Associate Pastor/Minister of Music**-Green Valley Baptist Church  
Lexington-**Associate Pastor of Family Life and Music**-Manly Memorial Baptist Church  
Lynchburg-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Newport News-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Prince George-**Director of Family Ministries/Outreach**-Oakland Baptist Church  
Richmond-**Pastor**-Grace Baptist Church  
Richmond-**Minister to Youth and Young Adults**-Derbyshire Baptist Church  
Richmond-**Finance Business Manager**-First Baptist Church  
Roanoke-**Pastor**- Calvary Baptist Church  
Roanoke-**Minister to Students and Missional Activities**-Grandin Court Baptist Church  
Roanoke-**Executive Director**-The Roanoke Valley Baptist Association  
Saluda-**Pastor**-Saluda Baptist Church  
Suffolk-**Pastor**-East End Baptist Church

#### **WASHINGTON DC**

**Executive Director**-District of Columbia Baptist Association

#### **GERMANY**

Wiesbaden-**Pastor**-Immanuel 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 Hannah Coe at [hannah@firstbaptistathens.org](mailto:hannah@firstbaptistathens.org). For information, [click here](#).

### **Kentucky**

Contact Brittany Stillwell Krebs at [brittanyskrebs@gmail.com](mailto:brittanyskrebs@gmail.com) or Alix Davidson Keller at [alix.davidson@yahoo.com](mailto:alix.davidson@yahoo.com).

### **Missouri**

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

### **North Carolina**

Contact Carolyn Ashburn at [cwajwa@bellsouth.net](mailto:cwajwa@bellsouth.net). For information, [click here](#).

### **South Carolina**

Contact 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.*