

Baptist Women in Ministry

August 2014

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New Dreams by Pam Durso



Five years. It has flown by fast. Five years ago I stepped into this role as executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry. It was a risky move--on the part of the Leadership Team and on my part as well. I had never headed a non-profit before, and BWIM's bank account was . . . not very substantial.

But there were these dreams. I had been on the Leadership Team for several years, and we all had begun dreaming together of what could be, how BWIM could bring change and renewal within Baptist life, how BWIM could make a difference for women ministers.

The dreams, I believe, were inspired, given, shared by God, and those dreams were taken on by the courageous women who hired me and pledged their support to BWIM.

So many of those dreams have come true in the last five years--and along the way, I have met so many amazing people, and I have had a lot of fun. I seriously do have the best job in the world.

So five years later, new dreams are emerging: dreams to broaden the networks, strengthen the foundation, and expand the work.

Let me tell you about two of the dreams. With the help of my most wonderful assistant, Ashley Robinson, I have been learning about blogs and social media. (She is a great teacher--and knows more than anyone should really know about all things technological). As a result of our conversation, BWIM will launch several new blog series in September. Be sure to watch Facebook and Twitter to see announcements.

The second dream has been several years in the making.

Find us on Facebook 

Support BWIM

[Donate Now](#)

Vocare

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

Giving Week and YOU are
Invited



Be sure to "listen" to the
BWIM blogs, including a
beautiful message from
Jaime Fitzgerald.

Meredith Stone, my fellow dreamer, and I ran with the idea of BWIM hosting "call discernment retreats" for college women. After experiments and conversations, Meredith and I drew a third person into this dream. We met with Lauren Brewer Bass, a young minister living in Denver, and asked her to write a book for these retreats. Lauren had some beautiful ideas about exploring new metaphors, metaphors that will help all of us understand calling and ministry in new ways. Her voice is so needed in this conversation, and we are excited that she will help Baptist women (and some men too, I bet) broaden the conversation about vocational ministry. Lauren's book will be available in early 2015, and it will be a foundational piece for our "Call Retreats" in 2015 and beyond.

Five years. Celebrating my anniversary was a beautiful time of reflection on all that has been, but it has also brought new dreams. The mission is so important. The work is so needed. And the God-inspired dreams continue to be a gift! And I am thankful.

Blessings!

Pam Durso

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

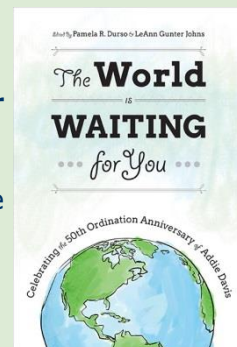
Baptist Women in Ministry has a new t-shirt to go with our new book! And we have children's sizes! [Visit our website to order your t-shirt today.](#) You can order the book now by clicking [here!](#)



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!](#)

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 4, 10:30 a.m.

Larry Decuir

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

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](tel:18053092350) 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](tel:18003092350) and enter 2201619.

For more information about the conversation, email Ashley Robinson at 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 Leavell** on "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 August is **Valerie Burton**. In her most recent devotion, "Easier for a Camel," Valerie says that "Most days, I believe it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for one of his disciples to interpret Jesus' teaching." Read this devotion and earlier ones on the [NextSunday blog](#).



Upcoming writers include 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

The BWIM Blog

You are invited! Baptist Women in Ministry is now accepting blog post submissions.

Baptist Women in Ministry welcomes your submissions for our BWIM blog. Below are suggested blog topics and guidelines. The first round of submissions are due on **September 1, 2014**.

Topics:

Hearing God's Call

Embracing Special Moments

(For example: ordination, baptism, communion, baby dedications, funerals)

Balancing Life

(For example: dating, marriage, motherhood, self-care)

Continuing to Learn

(For example: book reviews, retreats, personal enrichment)

Theological Ponderings

(Reflections on current events and topics of interest to women in ministry)

Guidelines:

Submissions should be 400-600 words.

Preference will be given to submissions that best represent the suggested topic categories.

Preference will be given to well-written, carefully proofread submissions.

Submissions and questions should be directed to Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info.

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!

Texas Women in Ministry Retreat

The Texas Baptists Spiritual Renewal Retreat for Women in Ministry will be held **October 24-25, 2014**, at Camp Buckner in Burnet. The retreat is designed for women in vocational ministry to have an opportunity to refresh their own personal spiritual

formation in fellowship with other women who are ministers. The speaker for this year's retreat is **Pam Durso**, and the theme is "Hands Wide Open."

Retreat Cost:

\$100 (includes double-occupancy hotel-style room and 3 meals)

\$130 (includes single-occupancy hotel-style room and 3 meals)

\$85* (Seminary student rate - includes double-occupancy motel-style room and 3 meals)

*Email meredith.stone@texasbaptists.org from your school email address to obtain the seminary student discount code before registering.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Registration closes October 15.

For more information contact Meredith Stone, Women in Ministry Specialist
meredith.stone@texasbaptists.org; [325.280.9023](tel:325.280.9023)

Ordinations

Amy McPherson was ordained August 10, 2014 by Falls Baptist Church, Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Amy Starr Russell was ordained August 10, 2014 by First Baptist Church, Henderson, North Carolina.

On the Move

Ellen Brown is Interim Pastor, First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio.

Leigh Anne Bryant is Children's Ministry Associate, South Main Baptist Church, Houston, Texas.

Elizabeth Davis is President, Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina.

Melissa Fallen is Director of Admissions and Recruitment, Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond.

Amy Goble is Elementary Pastor, Bear Valley Community Church, Colleyville, Texas.

Kathryn Hartgrove is the Worship Arts Leader, First Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia.

Melissa Kessler is Minister to Youth and Missional Activities, Grandin Court Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia.

Sarah Holik Murray is Minister to Children and Families, First Baptist Church, Griffin, Georgia.

Katie Mussat is Minister to Students, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana.

Abby Neinast is the Children's Minister at Colonial Hill Baptist Church, Synder, Texas.

Lia Scholl is Pastor of Wake Forest Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Sandy Stillman-Alving is the Minister of Music and Worship at Heritage Baptist Church, Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Meredith Stone is the Director of In-Service Training and Instructor of Christian Ministry and Scripture at Logsdon School of Theology, Abilene, Texas.

Denise Vanaidis is Director of Volunteer Ministries, First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

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

Tampa-**Pastor**-Bayshore Baptist Church

GEORGIA

Carlton-**Pastor**-Carlton Baptist Church

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

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

Ocilla-**Youth Pastor**-Ocilla 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 Music**-Deer Park Baptist Church

Stanford-**Pastor**-Stanford Baptist Church

Winchester-**Pastor of Family Life and Outreach**-Central Baptist Church

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor-**Pastor**-Second Baptist Church

MISSOURI

Jefferson City-**Associate Pastor for Children**-First 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

Durham-**Minister of Discipleship and Children**-Durham Memorial Baptist Church

Durham-**Associate Pastor for Families**-Temple 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

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

Raleigh-**Minister for Serving Christ**-Forest Hills Baptist Church

Raleigh-**Minister of Children and Youth**-Rolesville Baptist Church

Spruce Pine-**Pastor**-First 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

SOUTH CAROLINA

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

Hartsville-**Minister to Youth and Children**-First Baptist Church
Simpsonville-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

TENNESSEE

Clinton-**Minister of Children**-First Baptist Church
Clinton-**Minister of Students**-First Baptist Church
Knoxville-**Minister of Youth**-West Hills 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
El Paso-**Associate Pastor for Congregational Care**-Coronado Baptist Church
Gilmer-**Minister of Worship**-First Baptist Church
Houston-**Church Administrator**-South Main Baptist Church
Rising Star-**Youth Minister**-First Baptist Church
Rosenberg-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Waco-**Pastor**-Lake Shore 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 and 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
Pastor-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 Hannah Coe at hannah@firstbaptistathens.org. For information, [click here](#).

Kentucky

Contact Brittany Stillwell Krebs at brittanyskrebs@gmail.com or Alix Davidson Keller at alix.davidson@yahoo.com.

Missouri

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

North Carolina

Contact Carolyn Ashburn at cwajwa@bellsouth.net.

For information, [click here](#).

South Carolina

Contact 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](#).