

Baptist Women in Ministry September 2014

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The Leadership Team, 2014-2015



Photo above, from left to right: Tonya Vickery, Lynn Brinkley, Courtney Allen, Tambi Swiney, Meredith Stone, Mary Alice Birdwhistell, Julie Long, Judy Bailey, and Pam Durso.

On September 18-19, Baptist Women in Ministry's Leadership Team gathered in Atlanta for our fall meeting. We had two days of energetic, enthusiastic conversations, and I drove home on Friday afternoon both exhausted and excited.

We welcomed three new members to the Leadership Team: Mary Alice Birdwhistell, Lynn Brinkley, and Tambi Swiney, and we introduced them to our traditions: eating good chocolate, sharing dinner at a Thai restaurant, and enjoying lots of laughter and maybe a few tears.

Together these eight women on the Leadership Team bring so much ministry experience and so many beautiful dreams to the BWIM table. They inspire me! They encourage me! And they are dreaming big dreams for the future!

I am so thankful that God has blessed BWIM with so many leaders over the years. What a gift!

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!

The NEW BWIM BLOG ADVENTURE

Baptist Women in Ministry welcomes you to read and enjoy our blog! We have just begun a new five-day blogging adventure.

On Mondays, we will continue to feature our THRIVE devotions-that are produced in partnership with NextSunday. Each month a new writer has guided us through a section of the Gospel of Matthew. We have four more months of THRIVE devotions for you, including ones written this month by Allison Kentle. These devotions have been a great way to begin each week.

On Tuesdays, you can find encouragement from our weekly prayer. We have posted these for a while and will continue to do so. The prayers are usually brief, always inspirational. Some of the prayers were offered by great women from our faith's history. Other prayers have been written and spoken by a Baptist woman minister. Hope you will take a moment each Tuesday and read the prayer.

On Wednesdays, the BWIM blog will have a new blog series. This summer we made an appeal for blog posts, and we have been overwhelmed and blessed by the response. We now have a beautiful collection of writings from women and men across the United States on a variety of topics, and those posts will be featured on Wednesdays. We are excited to have so many new voices to share with you!

On Thursdays, you will find DEAR ADDIE posts or a Pam Durso post. DEAR ADDIE is our wise woman of faith who seeks to provide good advice, helpful suggestions, and

thoughtful answers to your questions. So if you are in need of encouragement and/or advice as you navigate ministry waters, send your questions to dearaddie.advice@gmail.com.

And finally, Fridays! For Fridays, we have another new series. We will introduce you each Friday to a woman minister! This new series will be titled, **THIS IS WHAT A MINISTER LOOKS LIKE** (and yes, we are cashing in on our earlier slogan and expanding the concept!) Over the next year, you will meet 52 amazing women-who are serving in a variety of ministry roles! The only drawback-so many women, only 52 Fridays each year!

Let the adventure begin!

NEW T-SHIRT

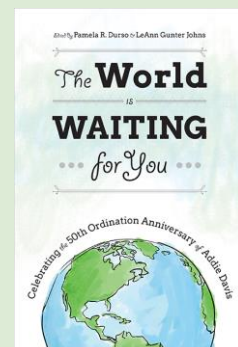
Baptist Women in Ministry has a new t-shirt to go with our new book! And we have children's sizes! [Visit our website to order your t-shirt today.](#) You can also order the book from Smyth & Helwys Publishers.



A NEW BOOK

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

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

December 2, 10:30 a.m.

Suzii Paynter and Pam Durso

"Networking, Connecting, Advocating: A Conversation about the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Baptist Women in Ministry"

Suzii is the executive coordinator of CBF. Pam is the executive director of BWIM.

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.

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 September is **Allison Kentle**. Read this devotion and earlier ones on the [NextSunday blog](#).

Upcoming writers include 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

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

Kristen Harris Bridwell was ordained on September 21, 2014 by Crosspoint Fellowship Church, Abilene, Texas.

Hephzibah (Hepsi) James was ordained on September 14, 2014, by First Baptist Church, Augusta, Georgia.

Jessie Kearns will be ordained on September 28, 2014 by Commonwealth Baptist Church, Alexandria, Virginia.

On the Move

Megan Biddle is pastor of First Baptist Church, Central Square, New York.

Amy Butler is pastor of Riverside Church, New York.

Leanna Coyle-Carr is youth pastor, First Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia.

Emily Holladay is associate pastor for children and families, Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky.

Alix Davidson Keller is refugee youth school preparedness instructor, Catholic Charities, Louisville, Kentucky.

Amanda Lewis is minister of college students at First Baptist Church, Athens, Georgia.

Cynthia Sadler is coordinating pastor of congregational relationships, Englewood Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri.

Robin Sandbothe is coordinating pastor of spiritual relationships, Englewood Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri.

Rachel Sheron is minister of children, First Baptist Church, Clinton, Tennessee.

Tiffany Slaughter is minister of students, First Baptist Church, Claxton, Georgia.

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 at meredith.stone@texasbaptists.org; 325.280.9023

BWIM of Georgia

Join Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia for a dinner and gathering on **November 2** at First Baptist Church, Athens from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Hannah Coe at hannah@firstbaptistathens.org

Women's Pilgrimage to Ireland A Spiritual Journey: A Place of Divine Encounter April 10-19, 2015

Beth McConnell and Christy McMillin-Goodwin will be leading a pilgrimage to Ireland next spring. Highlights of the Pilgrimage will include: St. Patricks Cathedral in Dublin, The Butter Exchange in Cork, The Cliffs of Mohr, shopping, and much more. Click here for the brochure, or contact [Beth McConnell](#) or [Christy McMillin](#) for more information.

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

CALIFORNIA

Palo Alto-**Associate Pastor for Faith Formation & Family Life**-First Baptist Church

FLORIDA

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

Tampa-**Pastor**-Bayshore Baptist Church

GEORGIA

Atlanta-**Chaplain**-Piedmont Hospital

Atlanta-**Minister of Congregational Life**-Wieuca Road Baptist Church

Carlton-**Pastor**-Carlton Baptist Church

Madison-**Minister of Music**-Madison 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
Topeka-**Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Small Groups**-First Baptist Church

KENTUCKY

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
Kansas City-**Pastor**-Crossroads 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
Elkin-**Minister for Music and Children**-First Baptist Church
Franklin-**Minister to Youth and Children**-Iotla Baptist Church
Greenville-**Pastor**-The Memorial Baptist Church
Hallsboro-**Pastor**-Hallsboro Baptist Church
Kannapolis-**Minister of Students**-Memorial Baptist Church
Lenoir-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Morgantown-**Minister of Music**-First Baptist Church
New Bern-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Newton Grove-**Pastor**-Newton Grove Baptist Church
Raleigh-**Minister for Serving Christ**-Forest Hills Baptist Church
Raleigh-**Minister of Children and Youth**-Rolesville Baptist Church
Raleigh-**Pastor**-Macedonia
Spring Hope-**Senior Pastor**-Duke Memorial 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

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 Students**-First Baptist Church

Knoxville-**Minister of Youth**-West Hills Baptist Church

Maryville-**Minister to Children**-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

El Paso-**Associate Pastor for Congregational Care**-Coronado Baptist Church

Fredericksburg-**Pastor**-First 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

Clarksville-**Minister to Students**-Clarksville Baptist Church

Colonial Heights-**Pastor**-Woodland Baptist Church

Cumberland-**Pastor**-Fitzgerald Memorial Baptist Church

Danville-**Associate Pastor/Minister of Music**-Moffett Memorial Baptist Church

Disputanta-**Associate Pastor of Family Ministries & Outreach**-Oakland Baptist Church

Earlysville-**Associate Pastor of Formation**-Chestnut Grove Baptist Church

Fredericksburg-**Pastor**-Ferry Farm Baptist Church

Jarratt-**Pastor**-High Hills Baptist Church

King William-**Pastor**-Sharon Baptist Church

Lebanon-**Associate Pastor/Minister of Music**-Green Valley Baptist Church

Lexington-**Associate Pastor of Family Life & 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 & Missional Activities**-Grandin Court Baptist Church

Saluda-**Pastor**-Saluda Baptist Church
Waynesboro-**Minister of Education and Family Ministries**-First 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.

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](#).

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.