

Baptist Women in Ministry

October 2015

In This Issue

[Be a Supporter](#)

[Monthly Conversations](#)

[Past Conversations](#)

[Monday Psalms](#)

[Ordinations](#)

[On the Move](#)

[Tennessee Women in Ministry](#)

[Arkansas Women in Ministry](#)

[Open Ministry Positions](#)

[State Information](#)

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ashleyrobinson@bwim.info.

**Baptist Women in Ministry
Leadership Team, 2015**

Women of Color in Ministry by Pam Durso

This past week I had the opportunity to attend the Women of Color in Ministry conference here in Atlanta. This new movement is hosted by **Martha Simmons**, creator of the Women of Color in Ministry project, **Lisa Rhodes**, dean of Sisters Chapel, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, and **Serene Jones**, president of Union Seminary, New York, and this was the second annual conference held. African American, Asian American, and Latina women ministers gathered to listen to one another, worship together, learn from one another, and network. It was a powerful conference in so many ways, and I am still processing all that I heard, all that I experienced.

There were powerful sermons, stimulating plenary lectures, and practical workshops. But there were two moments that have stayed with me. On Friday afternoon, I found myself sitting in a circle out on the hotel patio with four women: a young Lutheran woman from Nevada, an AME minister from Georgia, a Baptist pastor here in Atlanta, and a Baptist church leader from Houston, Texas. I listened as they shared challenges they are facing in their ministry settings and told hard, hard stories about family dynamics. We listened closely, commiserated with one another, shared advice and encouragement, and bonded in a way that only love can explain.

The plenary address on Saturday morning was given by **Young Lee Hertig**, co-founder and executive director of the Institute for the Study of Asian American Christianity. Dr. Hertig's brutal honesty about her immigrant experience, the discrimination she faced in the academic community, and her commitment to work for change moved me often to tears.



For the leaders of the WOCIM project, for the conference speakers, and for new minister friends, I give thanks to God. For their never-ending courage and resilience, for their fierce passion for gospel work, and for their welcoming and warm hearts, I give thanks to God.

I am hopeful, ever hopeful, that a new day is here for **all** women called and gifted by God for the work of ministry.



BE A SUPPORTER of BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

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!

Become a monthly supporter. Sign up on the [BWIM website](#) and via Pay Pal, your bank account will be drafted each month. Monthly gifts provide a stable financial base for Baptist Women in Ministry, and they are greatly appreciated.

Or you can also make a one-time donation on our website or via snail mail:

Send a check to:

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

Your support makes a HUGE difference!

FAMILY TIES

Our 2015 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.

SAVE the DATE! Below are the dates and times for our 2015 conversations. Our theme for the year is "Family Ties," and we will be talking about family relationships, responsibilities, and real life challenges of ministers.

The 2015 Schedule

Wednesday, November 11, 10:30 a.m. (EASTERN TIME)

Amy Derrick and Lee Ritchie

"Adoption: Placement and Parenting"

Amy Derrick is a consultant for Center for Healthy Churches, Denver, Colorado, and Lee Ritchie is minister with children and families, Ardmore Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Tuesday, December 8, 10:30 a.m. (EASTERN TIME)

Chanequa Walker-Barnes

"Self-Care for the Ministry and the Burden of Strength"

Chanequa Walker-Barnes is assistant professor of pastoral care and counseling at McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta, Georgia.

To connect to the conference call, use this number if you have free long distance:

1 (805) 309-2350 and 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.

LISTEN TO PAST CONVERSATIONS

You can now listen or read transcripts from our past [conversations on the BWIM website](#).

The most recent conversations include:

[Step-parenting While Ministering](#)

A Conversation with Merianna Neely Harrelson

[Caring for Aging Parents While Ministering](#)

A Conversation with Karen Massey, Kerri Thompson, and Prissy Tunnell

[Project Pomegranate: Infertility, Pregnancy Loss, and Infant Death](#)

A conversation with Jake Hall, Mary Elizabeth Hanchey, and Ruth Perkins Lee

[Help! My Wife is a Minister: A Conversation with Ministers' Spouses](#), featuring Brent Jones, Josh Speight, and Paul Swiney

[SBWM \(Single Baptist Woman Minister\) Surviving and Succeeding as a Single Minister: A](#)

Conversation with Sharyn Dowd, Charity Roberson, and Brittany Riddle

[Pregnant While Ministering](#): A Conversation with Julie Long, Stephanie McLeskey, and Mary Beth Foust

[Two Ministries, One Marriage](#): A Conversation with Jane and David Hull

MONDAY PSALMS

Baptist Women in Ministry offers a weekly devotion. These devotions, based on the Psalms, focus attention on the ways in which God is at work in our lives.

Griselda Escobar is our October devotional writer, and in her most recent devotion, [Psalm 27: Orphan to Daughter](#), she writes, "Directly or indirectly, we all know children of absent parents, and we know parents who have answered a call to parent children who need them. As we pray Psalm 27, we remember them, for they are all our children.

Loving God, you are our father and mother. Thank you for your unfailing, everlasting, never ending, always and forever love.

Thank you for answering Marlene's prayer and for answering the prayer of many who need you through our arms and physical presence. Lead parents to children who need them and lead all of us to love as you do. Amen."



Our upcoming devotion writers include **Lauren Brewer Bass** and **Pam Durso**.

ORDINATIONS

Alyssa Aldape will be ordained on October 24, 2015 by Northside Drive Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

Kristin Belcher will be ordained on November 15, 2015 by First Baptist Church, Frankfort, Kentucky.

Katie Callaway will be ordained on October 25, 2015 by First Baptist Church, Carrollton, Georgia.

Amy McClure will be ordained on November 8, 2015 by First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Karen Zimmerman was ordained on October 10, 2015 by Peachtree Baptist Church, Atlanta,

ON THE MOVE

Leslie Cross Ayuko is minister of music at First Baptist Church, Cleburne, Texas.

Kristen Belcher is operations coordinator at Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

Nola Boezeman is associate chaplain at Glenaire Retirement Community, Cary, North Carolina.

Carla Crump is interim children's minister at May Memorial Baptist Church, Powhatan, Virginia.

Ellen Humphries is preschool and children's minister at Boiling Springs Baptist Church, Boiling Springs, North Carolina.

Penny Jordan is children's ministry director at First Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Erika Marksbury is pastor of First Baptist Church, McMinnville, Oregon.

Brenda Porterfield is interim homebound minister at First Baptist Church, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Amy Sims is preschool/children associate pastor at Sugar Land Baptist Church, Sugar Land, Texas.

Amy Stertz is minister with children and families at First Baptist Church, Asheville, North Carolina.

Stephanie Swanson is pastor of Crossroads Church, Kansas City, Missouri.

Melody Zentner is interim director of music at Watts Street Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina.

SCHOLASTICA

Women in Ministry in Middle Tennessee

This fall women in ministry in middle Tennessee are invited to gather for conversation and relationship building, meals, and support. The dates for these gatherings are:

- Friday, October 23, 2015 [Register Here](#)
- Friday, November 13, 2015 [Register Here](#)
- Friday, December 11, 2015 [Register Here](#)

For more information contact [Eileen Campbell-Reed](#), who is the convener for these gatherings.

Self-Designed Retreat at Subiaco Abbey

Baptist Women in Ministry of Arkansas

October 25-30, 2015

Baptist Women in Ministry of Arkansas and CBF of Arkansas invites you to participate in a self-designed retreat at Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, Arkansas. You may stay one night or the entire week (Sunday evening-Friday noon), and you design your agenda for this retreat. You may wish to work on projects, do visioning and reflecting, spend it resting and relaxing, sightseeing that area of the state, visit with ministry colleagues, participate in the life and spiritual disciplines at the Abbey.

Invite friends and colleagues to join you for the retreat if you like. For more information, [contact Megan Pike](#).

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-**Associate Pastor of Children and Families**-Shades Crest Baptist Church

FLORIDA

Miami-**Parent Partner**-Touching Miami with Love
Miami-**Parents Partner Program Coordinator**-Touching Miami with Love
Tallahassee-**Children's Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Tampa-**Youth Minister**-Bayshore Baptist Church
West Homestead-**Social Worker**-Touching Miami with Love

GEORGIA

Atlanta-**Bereavement Coordinator**-Journey Hospice
Atlanta-**Manager of Pastoral Education**-Emory St. Joseph's Hospital
Atlanta-**Social Worker**-Buckhead Christian Ministry
Fitzgerald-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Forsyth-**Minister to Youth**-First Baptist Church
Griffin-**Minister to Students**-First Baptist Church
Harlem-**Pastor**-Harlem Baptist Church
Milton-**Minister of Youth (part-time)**-Providence Baptist Church
Roswell-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

KENTUCKY

Bowling Green-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Frankfort-**Minister of Missions**-First Baptist Church
Harrodsburg-**Minister of Youth**-Harrodsburg Baptist Church
Shepherdsville-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

MARYLAND

Arnold-**Pastor**-College Parkway Baptist Church

MISSOURI

Cape Girardeau-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Kirkwood-**Pastor**-Kirkwood Baptist Church
St. Joseph-**Minister of Youth & Family Spiritual Formation**-Wyatt Park Baptist Church

NEW MEXICO

Las Cruces-**Family Connections Minister**-First Baptist Church

NEW YORK

New York City-**Minister of Justice, Advocacy, and Change**-Riverside Church

NORTH CAROLINA

Asheville-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Biscoe-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Butner-**Associate Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Clayton-**Minister to Children**-First Baptist Church
Drexel-**Associate Pastor of Youth and Families**-First Baptist Church
Elizabethtown-**Pastor**-Elizabethtown Baptist Church
Fayetteville-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Gastonia-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Greenville-**Associate Pastor/Minister to Families**-Memorial Baptist Church
Hickory-**Minister of Music and Worship**-First Baptist Church
Hillsborough-**Prison Chaplain**-Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry
Lexington-**Pastor**-Jersey Baptist Church
Morehead City-**Children and Family Outreach Minister**-First Baptist Church
Raleigh-**Executive Director**-Women's Missionary Union
Smithfield-**Pastor**-Sharon Baptist Church
Wilmington-**Church Administrator**-First Baptist Church
Winston-Salem-**Minister to Youth**-Ardmore Baptist Church

OKLAHOMA

Norman-**Pastor**-Bethel Baptist Church
Shawnee-**Minister of Youth and Families**-First Baptist Church

SOUTH CAROLINA

Aiken-**Student Minister**-First Baptist Church
Cheraw-**Pastor**-Pee Dee Union Baptist Church
Greenville-**Minister to Families**-August Road Baptist Church
North Myrtle Beach-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Spartanburg-**Pastor**-Morningside Baptist Church

TENNESSEE

Cordova-**Associate Pastor**-Trinity Baptist Church
Cordova-**Minister to Students**-Trinity Baptist Church
Knoxville-**Minister of Children and Youth**-Ball Camp Baptist Church
Oak Ridge-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church
Sevierville-**Pastor**-Wears Valley Baptist Church

TEXAS

Denton-**Pastor**-Southmont Baptist Church
Fort Worth-**Pastor**-University Baptist Church

Kerrville-**Minister of Adult Discipleship**-Trinity Baptist Church

Marble Falls-**Pastor**-Fellowship Baptist Church

Plano-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

San Antonio-**Pastor**-Covenant Baptist Church

Shallowater-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church

Victoria-**Pastor**-Northside Baptist Church

VIRGINIA

Alexandria-**Senior Pastor**-Groveton Baptist Church

Chase City-**Pastor**-Bethel Baptist Church

Crozet-**Pastor**-Hillsboro Baptist Church

Danville-**Associate Pastor/University Chaplain**-West Main BC/Averett University

Fincastle-**Pastor**-Mill Creek Baptist Church

Martinsville-**Associate Pastor, Family Ministry & Education**-First Baptist Church

Montpelier-**Pastor**-Western Hanover Church

Montross-**Pastor**-Nomini Baptist Church

New Kent-**Associate Minister of Education and Worship**-Corinth Baptist Church

Roanoke-**Minister of Youth**-Bonsack Baptist Church

Roanoke-**Pastor**-Waverly Place Baptist Church

Rockville-**Pastor**-Berea Baptist Church

Suffolk-**Pastor**-Holland Baptist Church

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston-**Pastor**-Charleston Baptist Temple

Huntington-**Pastor**-Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

WASHINGTON, DC

Pastor-Nineteenth Street Baptist Church

State Women in Ministry Information

Alabama

Contact Terri Byrd at terribyrd@aol.com.

Arkansas

Contact Megan Pike at mpike@cbfar.org

Florida

Contact Rachel Gunter Shapard at rachelguntershapard@gmail.com.

Georgia

Contact Jennifer Lyon at lyonjen@gmail.com. For information, [click here](#).

Kentucky

Contact Alix Davidson Keller at alix.davidson@yahoo.com

or Emily Holladay at emilyholladay@gmail.com.

Missouri

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

North Carolina

Contact Anita Thompson at anita@fbcahoskie.org. For information, [click here](#).

South Carolina

Contact Ellen Sechrest at esechrest@boulevardbaptist.com.

Tennessee

Contact Eileen Campbell-Reed at ecampbellreed@cbts.edu.

Texas

Contact Ellen Di Giosia at txbwim@gmail.com.

Virginia

Contact Colleen Swingle-Titus at dinglecole@gmail.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.