

# Baptist Women in Ministry

## November 2015

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### What If . . .

## Dreaming Bigger for Martha

by Pam Durso

Every February now since 2007, Baptist Women in Ministry has invited churches to participate in our Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching. We ask that churches sometime during February invite a woman into their pulpit. The last few years we have had 200 or more churches participate, and it has been a beautiful thing.

But this year, this year I am dreaming bigger, hoping for more. No, not bigger numbers or more church participation. This year I am hoping that churches will embrace a new Martha vision. This year I hope that churches will invite young preachers, new-to-the-pulpit preachers into their pulpits. I hope that churches will invite women who rarely have opportunity to preach to be their Martha.

Think about it . . . what if 200 churches together said, "We believe in young preachers. We support new preachers. AND we believe in them and want to support them so much that we will invite them into our pulpit. We will invite women who have never, ever preached before. We will invite women who are not often in the pulpit to be our Martha. We will be an affirming church for young preachers!"

Imagine what that kind of encouragement would look like, what it would feel like to college women, to seminary women, to seasoned women ministers who are never given opportunities in their own churches to preach. Imagine, just imagine.

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*Vocare*

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

Baptist Women in Ministry  
Leadership Team, 2015



This year our dream is bigger, our hope is broader. We invite YOUR church to be a Martha church, a church that stands with 200 other churches in their support of new and young preachers.

This year our dream is that Martha Stearns Marshall Month will open doors and brighten the pathway for women just beginning their ministry journey or inexperienced preachers seeking to explore their giftedness.

Pastors sometimes say to me, "Oh our church has women preach all the time. We are good with women in the pulpit." But this year, I challenge you to make Martha Stearns Marshall Month a time for YOUR church to encourage, to support, to give a place of opportunity to a new preacher. YOUR church could change her life!

## END OF YEAR GIVING: It's that time of year!

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.

**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](mailto: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.



**Lauren Brewer Bass** is our November devotional writer, and in one of most [recent devotions](#), she wrote, "Our God, steady and unchanging, shows us where we are and where we are headed. My prayer for us . . . is that whether or not we can feel it or see it from where we stand, we will know that our help comes from the Lord."

Lauren is also the author of *[Five Hundred Miles: Reflections on Calling and Pilgrimage](#)*.

## ORDINATIONS

**Katie Faison** was ordained on August 23, 2015 by Central Baptist Church, Newnan, Georgia.

**Veronica Martinez-Gallegos** was ordained on November 14, 2015 by Iglesia Bautista La Vox la Esperanza, Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Sally Sarratt** was ordained on November 15, 2015 by First Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina.

**Erin Goodman Silver** was ordained November 8, 2015 by Fredericksburg Baptist Church, Fredericksburg, Virginia.

**Maria Swearingen** was ordained on November 15, 2015 by First Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina.

**Karen Woods** will be ordained on November 29, 2015 by Trinity Baptist Church, Conyers, Georgia.

## ON THE MOVE

**Alyssa Aldape** is interim minister of community ministry and missions at First Baptist Church, Dalton, Georgia.

**Alyssa Botte** is youth and children ministry intern, Pfafftown Baptist Church, Pfafftown, North Carolina.

**Shelley Cadmus** is minister of children at Columbus Avenue Baptist Church, Waco, Texas.

**Britt Carlson** is the interim pastor of Community Baptist Church, Issaquah, Washington.

**Lillana Da Valle** is pastor, Grace Baptist Church, San Jose, California.

**Cheryl Dudley** is the executive minister, American Baptist Churches of Metro New York.

**Susan Gillies** is the interim general secretary of the American Baptist Churches-USA.

**Lauren Glasgow** is youth ministry assistant, Zebulon Baptist Church, Zebulon, North Carolina.

**Anna Goetz** is associate minister to students, First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Texas.

**Amy Griffin** is interim minister to children, Great Bridge Baptist Church, Chesapeake, Virginia.

**Joy Jordan** is children's minister at Lawn Baptist Church, Lawn, Texas.

**Karen Nicholson** is children's minister at Highland Baptist Church, Denton, Texas.

**Katy Reed** is director of college ministry at First Baptist Church, Arlington, Texas.

**Michelle Richey** is minister of children at River Oaks Baptist Church, Houston, Texas.

**Shannon Speller** is minister to children, Zebulon Baptist Church, Zebulon, North Carolina.

**Diana Thompson** is pastor, First Baptist Church, South Bend, Indiana.

**Sharon Warner** is minister of children and young families at First Baptist Church, Hallsville, Texas.

## CBF Endorsed Chaplains

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Council on Endorsement met on November 6-7, 2015 and endorsed the following clergywomen:

**Emma Conley** is director of pastoral care at Seton Medical Center, Harker Heights, Texas.

**Jessie Kearns** is CPE resident at Self Regional Healthcare, Greenwood, South Carolina.

**Aleesa Naish** is supervisory education student at Princeton Baptist Medical Center, Birmingham, Alabama.

**Sharon Spivey** is CPE resident at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington, North Carolina.

**Julie Walton** is chaplain at Lakewood Manor Retirement Community, Richmond, Virginia.

## Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Fellows Program

The CBF Fellows Program provides young Baptist ministers in their first-call positions with practical ministry resources in the context of a supportive peer-based cohort.

Fellows make a two-year commitment to support, learn from, and encourage each other in a variety of settings. Applications for the 2016-2018 CBF Fellows Cohort are due **December 1, 2015**. Click [here to apply](#). To learn more about the program, contact Josh Speight at [jspeight@cbf.net](mailto:jspeight@cbf.net).

## 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 final gathering in 2015 is Friday, **December 11**. To attend, [register here](#).

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

## Women's Ministry Summit



**Lauren Winner** will be the guest speaker for First Baptist Church of Gainesville, Georgia's 2016 Women's Ministry Summit. The Summit will be on January **29-30, 2016**. Lauren will lead a Friday evening and Saturday morning retreat, based on her most recent book, ***Wearing God***.

The cost of the retreat is \$25. To register, visit the church's [website](#).

## Texas BWIM

Texas Baptist Women in Ministry will host its first annual Women in Ministry Conference on **February 19-20, 2016** at Truett Seminary. The proclaimers for the event are **Katie McKown**, pastor of Scottsville Baptist Church, Scottsville, Virginia, and **Wanda Bolton-Davis**, founder and executive director of Victorious Disciples Ministries, Inc., Dallas, Texas.

## BWIM of North Carolina

Baptist Women in Ministry of North Carolina will hold its 2016 convocation at First Baptist Church, Raleigh, on **March 17, 2016**. Convocation will begin at 7:30 p.m. All are invited to participate in dinner groups prior to convocation in downtown Raleigh at 5:45 p.m.

## 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.*

### 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

Athens-**Minister to Children, Families, and Outreach**-First Baptist Church  
Atlanta-**Chaplain**-Bristol Hospice  
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  
Suches-**Pastor**-Mt. Lebanon 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

## **NEW MEXICO**

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

## **TEXAS**

Denton-**Pastor**-Southmont Baptist Church  
Fort Worth-**Pastor**-University Baptist Church  
Giddings-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Henrietta-**Minister of Music/Senior Adults**-First Baptist Church  
Kerrville-**Minister of Adult Discipleship**-Trinity Baptist Church  
Lamesa-**Minister of Music and Worship**-First Baptist Church  
Levelland-**Associate Pastor of Family Enrichment**-Second Baptist Church  
Marble Falls-**Pastor**-Fellowship Baptist Church  
Munday-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Plainview-**Minister to Children and Preschool**-First Baptist Church  
Plano-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
San Antonio-**Pastor**-Covenant Baptist Church  
Shallowater-**Pastor**-First Baptist Church  
Sherman-**Minister of Music**-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

Martinsville-**Associate Pastor, Family Ministry & Education**-First 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](mailto:terribyrd@aol.com).

### **Arkansas**

Contact Megan Pike at [mpike@cbfar.org](mailto:mpike@cbfar.org)

### **Florida**

Contact Rachel Gunter Shapard at [rachelguntershapard@gmail.com](mailto:rachelguntershapard@gmail.com).

### **Georgia**

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

### **Kentucky**

Contact Alix Davidson Keller at [alix.davidson@yahoo.com](mailto:alix.davidson@yahoo.com)

or Emily Holladay at [emilyholladay@gmail.com](mailto:emilyholladay@gmail.com).

### **Missouri**

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

### **North Carolina**

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

### **South Carolina**

Contact Ellen Sechrest at [esechrest@boulevardbaptist.com](mailto:esechrest@boulevardbaptist.com).

### **Tennessee**

Contact Eileen Campbell-Reed at [ecampbellreed@cbts.edu](mailto:ecampbellreed@cbts.edu).

### **Texas**

Contact Ellen Di Giosia at [txbwim@gmail.com](mailto:txbwim@gmail.com).

## Virginia

Contact Colleen Swingle-Titus at [dinglecole@gmail.com](mailto: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.*