



BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY
advocating • connecting • networking

January 2016

A New Look for the E-Newsletter

by Pam Durso



Pam Durso and Ashley Robinson at Pam's ordination service on February 28 2015.

[VISIT THE BWIM WEBSITE](#)

If you enjoy reading the BWIM e-newsletter every month, you will enjoy it even more in 2016. We have updated our look, using a mobile friendly template and freshening up our layout. And when I say "We," I mean Ashley Robinson!

Ashley has now served as our executive assistant for over two years, and she is gifted beyond my imagination. First, she redesigned our website and now she has redesigned our monthly e-newsletter! And all this redesigning is on top of her every day excellent work at keeping the BWIM office running, taking care of the correspondence and finances, updating the BWIM blog three or four times a week, talking to and sharing coffee with the McAfee students who drop by our office, and overseeing a million other things I can't even begin to list.

But best of all Ashley makes me laugh, eats chocolate with me, cries with me occasionally, and shares my passion for this good work that we do together. For this beautiful co-worker in the ministry, I give thanks to God every single day!

Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching

Invite a Woman to Preach in

February

Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching is fast approaching! Last year 200 churches joined together in affirming their support of women in the pulpit. We hope that this year your church will be included with those who will publicly voice a commitment to women in ministry and are eager to be counted with other Baptist churches in celebrating the calling and gifts of women.

Please send the name of your preacher, your church, and its location to Ashley Robinson at ashleyrobinson@bwim.info.

For more information about Martha Stearns Marshall Month, visit the [BWIM website](#).



Amy McClure was the 2015 MSM preacher at Memorial Baptist Church, Buies Creek, North Carolina.

DREAMING BIGGER FOR MARTHA

SIX STAGES OF INVITING A WOMAN TO PREACH

Support Baptist Women in Ministry

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!

We welcome you to be one of our givers. Give a one-time gift or become a monthly giver! A small monthly gift of \$10 or \$20 or a larger monthly gift of \$50 or \$75 makes a significant difference in this work that God has entrusted to us! Every contribution matters, and we are grateful for the faithfulness and generosity of all who support this ministry.

SUPPORT BWIM

Monday Devotions in 2016

In 2016, Baptist Women in Ministry's Monday devotion will feature the writing of our friend, Nikki Finkelstein-Blair! We are excited to hear from her each week and learn with her! Nikki's devotions will be based on lectionary texts and the church calendar! So for those of you who are in lectionary-using churches, be sure to read Nikki's devotion as you prepare for worship. Read an excerpt below.

We might read the Psalmist's lyrics as God's "Guess how much..." for us: love extending to the skies, faithfulness stretching to the clouds, righteousness strong as mountains, justice deep as seas. We might be tempted to settle for the sweetness in such a story. We might stitch it into embroidered samplers or decoupage it onto decorative plaques to hang in our living rooms.

Or we might lay on our backs in the green grass and try not to blink our eyes in the glare of the sun: strain our vision to try to see just how high into the heavens such love can reach. See where the clouds begin and end. See self-righteousness shrinking in the shadow of the mountain. See small acts of goodness splashing like stones into a bottomless sea."



Nikki Finkelstein-Blair is an ordained Baptist minister, at-home mom, and military spouse living in South Carolina. She blogs at [One Faithful Step](#).

Read more on the BWIM blog

Ordinations

Amy Brenton was ordained on January 10, 2016 by Columbia Baptist Church, Falls Church, Virginia.

Stephanie Little Coyne was ordained January 10, 2016 by St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Kelsey Stillwell will be ordained February 12, 2016 by First Baptist Church, Commerce, Georgia.

On the Move

Clista Adkins is minister of discipleship at First Baptist Church Shreveport, Louisiana.

Katie Baker is director of preschool ministries at First Baptist Church, Lufkin, Texas.

Ruth Bryan is chaplain at Hospice Brazos Valley, Brenham, Texas.

Laura Pendleton Davis is director of missions involvement, Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia.

Anna McCathy is co-youth minister at First Baptist Church, Stillwell, Kansas.

Suzanne Reece is minister of children at Shades Crest Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama.

With Sympathy

Baptist Women in Ministry offers deepest condolences to the family of Joy Crutchfield Hager, who passed away on December 27, 2015. An early participant in Baptist Women in Ministry, Joy was ordained in 1983 by First Baptist Church of Raleigh, North Carolina, making her one of the first 200 women to be ordained in the Southern Baptist Convention. During her years of ministry, she developed programs for two new Family and Women's Shelters (Wayside Christian Mission and Volunteers of America), served as the Christian Social Minister at historic Walnut Street Baptist Church in downtown Louisville, worked as a home health social worker with Surry County in North Carolina and as a bereavement counselor with Mountain Valley Hospice, worked with at-risk teenagers through North Carolina State University, and taught court-ordered classes through Surry Community College. She was involved in a number of community groups that addressed poverty and homelessness and served on the board of Habitat for Humanity. A devoted mother and wife, Joy is survived by her husband, Wayne Hager, and their three children, children Matthew Hager, Nathan Hager, and Laura Hager-Smith.

State and Regional BWIM News

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.

To register, visit the Texas Baptist Women in Ministry [website](#).

Tennessee Women in Ministry

The Women's Leadership Initiative at Central Baptist Theological Seminary regularly hosts Friday lunches for women ministers in Middle Tennessee. The lunches are held at the Scarritt-Bennett Center in Nashville, Tennessee from 11:45 to 1:15 and cost \$11 per person.

Three lunches are planned for the spring:

Friday, February 19, 2016 – table conversation on the theme of pilgrimage

Friday, April 1, 2016 – report from Thailand student pilgrimage

Friday, April 29, 2016 – special guest **Pam Durso**

For more information, contact Eileen Campbell-Reed at ecampbellreed@cbs.edu.

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.

BWIM of South Carolina

Baptist Women in Ministry of South Carolina will host an ice cream fellowship on **April 8, 2016**, at 8:30 p.m., following the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South Carolina's General Assembly meeting that evening.

The events will be held at Timberlake Baptist Church in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

BWIM of Georgia

Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia will host its annual celebration on **April 15-16, 2016**. They will sponsor a workshop on Friday, April 15, during Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia's Spring Gathering and will lead worship and host a lunch on Saturday, April 16. **Pam Durso**, executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry, will be the preacher.

These events will be held at Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Georgia. Be watching for more information!

BWIM of Georgia is now receiving nominations for the **Sara Owen Etheridge Church Woman of the Year Award**. Send your nomination by **March 1, 2016**.

Upcoming Meetings and Conferences

Women's Ministry Summit

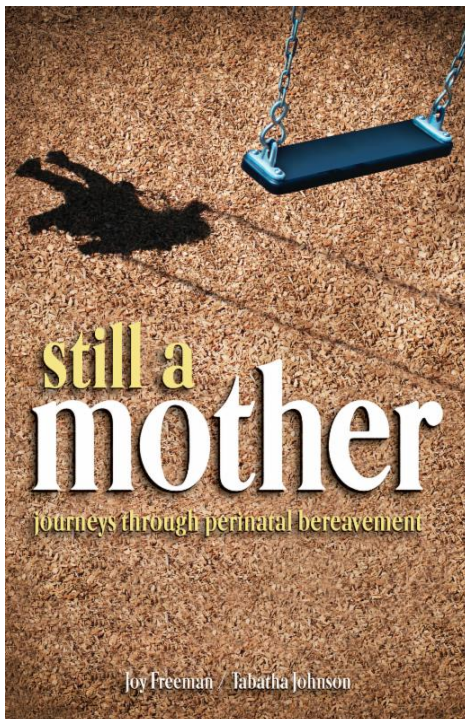
Lauren Winner, Episcopal priest and professor at Duke Divinity School, will be the guest speaker for First Baptist Church of Gainesville, Georgia's 2016 Women's Ministry Summit.

The Summit will be held 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](#).



New Book by Joy Freeman and Tabatha Johnson



Still a Mother: Journeys Through Perinatal Bereavement by Joy Freeman and Tabatha Johnson

Chaplains Joy Freeman and Tabatha Johnson collaborated in writing and editing this beautiful collection of the stories of nearly a dozen women who have experienced fetal loss, miscarriage, or infant death.

Still a Mother features honest narratives written by clerywomen who share how the experience may influence one's faith and relationship with God. The book is a unique resource that fills a gap on the taboo topic of perinatal and early infant loss and will be of great help in equipping pastors, congregations, family, and friends in ministering more compassionately and attentively to mothers who have lost and who grieve. The book also features practical insights for pastoral care in each chapter.

The book is scheduled to be released February 1 and may be ordered from [Judson](#)

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

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

Cornelia-Minister of Children and Servant Ministries-First Baptist Church

Forsyth-Minister to Youth-First Baptist Church

Harlem-Pastor-Harlem Baptist Church

Milton-Minister of Youth (part-time)-Providence Baptist Church

Suches-Pastor-Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church

ILLINOIS

Bolingbrook-Pastor-New Hope Baptist Church

KENTUCKY

Frankfort-Minister of Missions-First Baptist Church

Shepherdsville-Pastor-First Baptist Church

NEW MEXICO

Las Cruces-Family Connections Minister-First Baptist Church

NORTH CAROLINA

Black Mountain-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-Church Administrator-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-Minister of Contemporary Worship and Young Adults-First Baptist Church

Winston-Salem-Minister of Youth and Recreation-Knollwood 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

Pendleton-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-Northeast Baptist Church

San Antonio-Pastor-Covenant Baptist Church

San Antonio-Minister of Music-Shearer Hills 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

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

Richmond-Associate Pastor for Global Missions-Bon Air Baptist Church

Roanoke-Minister of Youth-Bonsack Baptist Church

Rockville-Pastor-Berea Baptist Church

Suffolk-Pastor-Holland Baptist Church

Williamsburg-Pastor-Walnut Hills Baptist Church

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston-Pastor-Charleston Baptist Temple

Huntington-Pastor-Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

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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.

Baptist Women in Ministry | 404-513-6022 | www.bwim.info

STAY CONNECTED

