



BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

advocating • connecting • networking

September 2016

Mom, When Can We Go Home?

by Kristen Pope

I have been in seminary for a little over a year now, and I must say that amidst learning about biblical criticism, Hebrew, and Baptist heritage, I have gained much awareness about who I am and why I am that way.

A part of my identity that has come up again and again is that of pastor's child. If you would have asked me prior to seminary, I may not have identified this as a salient part of myself. I knew that being a pastor's child meant that I had spent what seemed like countless hours after church every Sunday running between the pews with other ministers' children, asking my mother when we could go home, and when dad was going to stop talking, (I was just so hungry!) I knew that it had meant sitting in my dad's office coloring while he was in meetings, and attending endless luncheons of older folks who pinched my cheeks and told me how precious I was. It meant I could say my dad's benediction backwards and forwards, and sometimes I would time my dad's sermons for fun. What I didn't realize was how being a minister's kid would completely shape the way I viewed the church, ministry, and ministers in particular.

Too often, I see ministers on pedestals so high up that they wouldn't be able to get back up if they fell. As a result, they have to be awfully careful never to fall. This isn't something we should be surprised about; sitting up there on the platform every Sunday, stepping into the pulpit to share the best of what they have to offer, it is easy to slip into believing that they are some sort of super Christian. Since they can put together these inspiring statements about who we are called to be as followers of Jesus, it must be easier for them to listen to their own advice, right? It's an innocuous belief, not meant to be harmful and often unintentional.

No one realizes that these pedestals exist until someone falls off. When a member of the church staff has some trouble, whether it be personal or professional, often churches have no idea how to handle it, and in their scrambling to make sense of what has happened to one of their super Christians, they forget to treat the minister like the broken, beloved child of God that we all are. Church members would be quick to agree that their ministers are of course part of the church family, but we must remember to treat them as such when their brokenness shows, in the same way we would support a member of our Sunday School class.

Being a pastor's child, I have seen this pedestal up close and personal. So shiny, so high up, it may even be appealing to a minister to be placed upon it for a short while. But that pedestal, it's dangerous, because your ministers are people. They are wives, husbands, mothers, fathers, sisters, daughters, brothers, sons, friends. They



Kristen Pope is pictured here with her father, Greg Pope, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jasper, Georgia. Kristen an intern at Baptist Women in Ministry.

are fellow Christians, and they are far from immune from the joys and sorrows of daily life.

As a minister's kid, who definitely never thought she would work in a church (why would I ever make my children wait that long to eat lunch on Sundays?), I now find myself in seminary embracing the church, asking that it remembers that I am only human. And, as I write this at home resting through a cold on a Wednesday, one of the busiest days for a children's ministry intern, I am reminded of the truth I saw as my dad ministered. Ministers are only human, no more and no less made in the image of God than everyone else.

New Mentoring Program Apply by October 1, 2016

Baptist Women in Ministry is excited to expand and formalize its mentoring program, thanks to a generous grant from the [Forum for Theological Exploration](#). This program will offer new ministers an opportunity to participate in a year of intentional mentoring with a group of their peers. The groups will be led by an experienced Baptist woman in ministry, and each mentee will be a Baptist woman who has served in her current area of ministry for less than five years. These mentoring groups will serve as communities of support, encouragement, and guidance.

The 2016-2017 Mentoring Cohort will include five groups. Three have been established, and two more will be formed this fall by open application.

BWIM will accept applications for an **outside-the-box** ministry mentoring group (ministers working in non-profit, social ministry, academic, chaplaincy settings), and an **associate ministry** mentoring group.

[APPLY HERE](#)

Support Baptist Women in Ministry

We recently wrapped up our annual monthly giving campaign. We are so grateful for all of our current givers, and the new givers that signed up during our campaign.

Yvonne Harold shared this story about why she is a monthly giver to Baptist Women in Ministry:

"While attending The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor as an undergrad, I was introduced to Baptist Women in Ministry through a retreat held in Brownwood, TX. Although I did not know anyone attending the retreat, I was determined to be there. Little did I know, this event would change my life. For the first time, I not only met women who encouraged me, but who also embraced my calling, genuinely cared about me, and wanted to be a part of my life's journey. The retreat, coupled with one encounter after another with God-filled women, confirmed my calling as a pastor. Not only was I given the space to acknowledge my calling, but I was also able to give life to the voice within while exploring my fears. A platform of other women, who were serving as pastors in their churches, provided endless possibilities of what God could and would do through me, a woman in ministry.

I support Baptist Women in Ministry because BWIM is a reflection of me and is instrumental in transforming the lives of women. Baptist Women in Ministry provided a safe, nurturing place for me to step boldly into who God called me to be, and who God purposed me to be. I give to Baptist Women in Ministry out of love and gratitude."

Yvonne Harold is pastor of Destined Ministries in Killeen, Texas.

We welcome you to join Yvonne in being 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.

GIVE TO BWIM

Ordination Resources

In Baptist life, ordination to the gospel ministry is a church's recognition of God's calling and gifting. Baptist churches are widely diverse in the process of ordination, but most Baptist churches are unified in that the service of ordination provides a time of affirmation and blessing for the minister.

Because careful planning and preparation can add depth and richness to that time of worship, Baptist Women in Ministry has gathered resources meant to assist in the planning of an ordination service. Those resources may be found on the **BWIM website** and include litanies, poems, blessings, responses, and charges, all used in previous ordination services. We hope these resources will be helpful to you.

Placement Resources

Searching for a ministry position can be a full-time job. Knowing where to start can even be challenging. To help reduce some of the anxiety of the search, Baptist Women in Ministry has compiled a variety of resources to help those who are in search mode, including:

"Finding a Ministry Position: Tips for the Journey" by Pam Durso

"Questions for the Candidate"

"Questions for the Candidate, Congregation, and Committee"

More resources are coming soon. If you have suggestions or have found a helpful resource, please email Ashley Robinson at ashleyrobinson@bwim.info.

Monday Devotions

Each Monday Baptist Women in Ministry posts a devotion written by our friend, **Nikki Finkelstein-Blair**. The devotions are based on lectionary texts and the church calendar! For those who are in lectionary-using churches, be sure to read Nikki's devotion each Monday as you prepare for the coming Sunday's worship.

In her most recent lectionary devotional, **"Isn't It Ironic?"**, Nikki wrote:

"If God is loving, why do people suffer?"

It is a difficult question, and perhaps even a good question. But it isn't a new question. Even the prophet Jeremiah asked it, out of the depths of his own pain as he observed the suffering of the people he loved. Jeremiah believed in the Physician, believed in the Balm. But if the doctor is in, if the healing medicines are available, then we can surely expect treatment. We can surely expect caring hands and wise heads to provide what help they can."



Nikki Finkelstein-Blair blogs at [One Faithful Step](#).

Read more on the BWIM blog

Ordinations

Katie Bray will be ordained by Westwood Baptist Church, Cary, North Carolina on October 22, 2016.

Libby Johnson will be ordained by Winter Park Baptist Church, Wilmington, North Carolina on October 8, 2016.

Sarah Reddish will be ordained by First Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia on October 16, 2016.

On the Move

Janet Cleland is minister of children, families and outreach at First Baptist Church, Athens, Georgia.

Kelly Denton is minister to families with children at Second Ponce De Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

Lauren Hayes Efird is pastor at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, Cary, North Carolina.

Anna Holladay is pastor of missions and communication at Holmeswood Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri.

Stephanie Johnson is director of music at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Macon, Georgia.

Anya King is minister of music at Southside Baptist Church, Chesapeake, Virginia.

Lauren McDuffie is associate pastor at First Baptist Church, Morehead, Kentucky.

Kathryn Palen is associate executive minister for elder care ministries at American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island.

Courtney Stamey is pastoral resident at First Baptist Church, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Natalie Webb is pastor at Covenant Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas.

Fall 2016 Scholastica Luncheon Schedule

Each Scholastica lunch gathering includes:

- Conversation and relationship building to support the practice of ministry
- Meals that embody spiritual fellowship and the communion of saints
- Networking with other women to expand opportunities and collaboration in ministry
- Mutual support for women who are often isolated in their work of ministry

The lunch series is an offering of the [Women's Leadership Initiative](#) at Central Tennessee and is welcome to all women in ministry in Tennessee (or beyond if you would like to travel). Register today for the Fall 2016 Scholastica lunches.

- **September 30: Mentoring**
- **October 21: Self Care & Sabbath**
- **November 11: Anatomy of a Schism (Interview with Author Eileen Campbell-Reed)**

Cost: \$11 per person

Time: 11:45am to 1:15pm

Location: Scarritt Bennett Center, Nashville, Tennessee.

For more information contact [Dr. Eileen Campbell-Reed at ecampbellreed@cbs.edu](mailto:ecampbellreed@cbs.edu).

Leading Women

Save the Date: April 26-28, 2017

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Baptist Women in Ministry will host **Leading Women**, a three-day gathering that will include conversation, worship, leadership development, and networking opportunities and will be held **April 26-28, 2017**, at First Baptist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Join us in celebrating the influence and voices of women from across the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship movement. All women, laity and clergy, are welcome.

Women in Ministry Conference

A Women in Ministry (WIM) Conference sponsored by Cynthia L. Hale Ministries will be held **September 19-22, 2016**, at the Westin Atlanta Airport in Atlanta, Georgia.

The conference will be an inspiring, powerful, and informative week of coaching, developing, and mentoring for professional women serving in ministry. The theme for this year is "What Does the Lord Require? Exploring the Tension of Doing Ministry in Changing Times!"

The registration deadline is August 15, 2016. For additional info and to register, [visit their website](#).

Women of Color in Ministry Conference

Women of Color
IN MINISTRY

MILLENNIALS & MOTHERS OF THE FAITH:
Women of ALL Ages and Races Working Together

**4TH WOMEN OF COLOR IN
MINISTRY CONFERENCE**

SAVE THE DATE
OCT. 13-15, 2016

HILTON GARDEN INN San Francisco/Oakland Bay Bridge (510) 658-9300	AMAZING SPEAKERS and Workshops: Women Clergy Need	INFO: womenofcolorinministry @gmail.com	WEBSITE: www.womanofcolorinmin istry.org
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COLLABORATING PARTNERS

- ◆ American Baptist Seminary of the West
- ◆ Church Divinity School of the Pacific
- ◆ GTU Women's Studies in Religion Program
- ◆ Institute for the Study of Asian American Christianity (ISAAC)
- ◆ Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
- ◆ Pacific School of Religion
- ◆ Star King School for the Ministry

The Fourth Annual Women of Color in Ministry Conference will be held **October 13-October 15, 2016**, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Emeryville, California, and will feature national Asian American, African American, and Hispanic women leaders and preachers.

Workshops include:

"Financial Literacy and Retirement Planning for Millennials and Older Women Clergy"

"Living into Your Identity as a Leader Step by Step"

"Balancing Spiritual and Physical Well-Being and Family"

"Bivocationalism and the New World of Work in Ministry"

"Branding and Social Media: Why Many Women Clergy Do Not Exist"

The registration fee is \$150.00. For more information, visit the [Women of Color in Ministry website](#)

The 21st York-Hall

Women's Preaching Annual

Wayland Baptist Theological Seminary will host the 21st York-Hall Women's Preaching Annual on **November 28-December 2, 2016** at the Sheraton Four Seasons Hotel in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The theme is "Every Hero Has Herstory!" Confirmed preachers, presenters, and personalities include Pam Durso, Marissa R. Farrow, Bernadette Glover, Joel Gregory, John Harris, Carolyn Ann Knight, Thomasine Reid, Sophia Steibel, and Deshawnda Williams.

Early Bird Registration is \$125 through August 20. General Registration is \$200.00. For more information [visit their website](#).

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

Anniston-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Huntsville-Minister to Young Adults-First Baptist Church
Huntsville-Student Ministry Residency-First Baptist Church
Mobile-Pastor-Spring Hill Baptist Church
Mountain Brook-Minister to Children and Families-Brookwood Baptist Church

ARKANSAS

Helena-Director-Together for Hope

CALIFORNIA

Anaheim-Pastor-Anaheim Baptist Fellowship
Oakland-Church Business Manager-Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church

DELEWARE

Dover-Senior Pastor-Calvary Baptist Church

FLORIDA

Jacksonville-Minister to Youth/Students-Deermeadows Baptist Church
Orlando-Professor of Theology-Asbury Theological Seminary
Tallahassee-Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church

GEORGIA

Augusta-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Augusta- Business Administrator- First Baptist Church
Augusta- Interim Children's Director- First Baptist Church
Claxton-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Dalton-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Decatur-Graphic Design Specialist-Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
Decatur-Pastor of Christian Education and Community Engagement-Oakhurst Baptist Church
Demorest-Campus Minister-Piedmont College
Gainesville-Chaplain-Gentiva Hospice
Hawkinsville-Minister to Youth and Children-First Baptist Church
Jefferson-Minister of Children and Families-First Baptist Church
Macon-Customer Service Representative-Smyth & Helwys Publishers
Macon-Editorial Production Associate-Smyth & Helwys Publishers
Monroe-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Sylvania-Pastor-Jackson Baptist Church

KENTUCKY

Bowling Green-Minister of Music-First Baptist Church
Brandenburg-Minister of Youth and Children-First Baptist Church
Carlisle-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Elizabethtown-Youth and Families Minister-Living Faith Baptist Fellowship

Georgetown-Associate Pastor of Children and Family Ministries-Georgetown Baptist Church
Jefferson-Minister of Children and Families- First Baptist Church
Louisville-Minister to Families-Ridgewood Baptist Church
Louisville-Pastor-Okolona Baptist Church
Louisville-Youth Pastor-Mount Everest General Baptist Church
Midway-Student Minister-Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church
Owensboro-Pastor-Third Baptist Church

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge-Pastor-Broadmoor Baptist Church
Baton Rouge-Pastor-University Baptist Church

MAINE

Westbrook-Pastor-First Baptist Church

MARYLAND

Baltimore-Associate Pastor of Worship and Adult Discipleship-University Baptist Church
Baltimore-Associate Pastor of College, Youth, and Children-University Baptist Church
Dunkirk-Senior Pastor-Dunkirk Baptist Church
Rockville-Minister/Director of Music-Twinbrook Baptist Church

MISSOURI

Clinton-Children's Minister-First Baptist Church
Joplin-Pastor-First Community Church

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Hanover-Pastor and Campus Minister of Dartmouth College-Trinity Baptist Church

NEW MEXICO

Clovis-Senior Pastor-Central Baptist Church

NEW YORK

Brooklyn-Assistant Pastor-Plymouth Baptist Church

NORTH CAROLINA

Boiling Springs-Associate Pastor for Music and Adults-Boiling Springs Baptist Church
Burgaw-Pastor-Burgaw Baptist Church
Cary-Associate Pastor-Greenwood Forest Baptist Church
Candler-Pastor of Student Life and Community Engagement-Hominy Baptist Church
Canton-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Charlotte-Minister of Music-Myers Park Baptist Church
Clayton-Pastor-White Oak Baptist Church
Clinton-Associate Pastor for Music Ministries-First Baptist Church
Durham-Minister of Discipleship and Children-Durham Memorial Baptist Church
Durham-Interim Director of Child Development Center-Yates Baptist Association
Edenton-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church
Elkin-Associate Pastor-First Baptist Church
Elon-Senior Pastor-Elon First Baptist Church at Morgan Placem
Goldsboro-Minister of Music-First Baptist Church
Kernersville-Minister of Church Life-First Baptist Church
Lenoir-Student Minister-College Avenue Baptist Church
Locust-Minister to Children and Youth-First Baptist Church
Marble Springs-Youth Minister-Marble Springs Baptist Church
Mt. Airy-Pastor-Antioch Baptist Church
New Bern-Minister of Youth and Family Life-First Baptist Church
North Wilkesboro-Pastor-First Baptist Church
Raleigh-Associate Pastor of Families-Tabernacle Baptist Church
Raleigh-Chaplain-Meredith College
Raleigh-Camp Mundo Vista Year-Round Program/Summer Camp Director-WMU of NC
Raleigh-Associate Chaplain- Springmoor Retirement Community
Richlands-Pastor-Bethany Baptist Church
Rose Hill-Pastor-Evergreen Baptist Church
Sims-Pastor-Nobles Chapel Baptist Church
Wake Forest-Minister of Youth and Missions-Wake Forest Baptist Church
Wilmington-Pastor-Temple Baptist Church
Winston-Salem-Associate Pastor for Youth, Adults, and Missions- First Baptist Church on Fifth
Winston-Salem-Associate Pastor-Ardmore Baptist Church
Winston-Salem-Programs Manager-Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina
Winston-Salem-Chaplain-Forsyth Jail & Prison Ministries

OKLAHOMA

Bartlesville-Worship Pastor-Highland Park Baptist

SOUTH CAROLINA**Clemson**-Minister of Youth and College Students-First Baptist Church**Clinton**-Associate Pastor for Music Ministries-First Baptist Church**Columbia**-Minister to Families-St. Andrews Baptist Church**Easley**-Children's Minister-First Baptist Church**Pendleton**-Pastor-First Baptist Church**TENNESSEE****Jefferson City**-Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church**Maryville**-Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church**Memphis**-Minister of Music and Worship-Second Baptist Church (PT)**Murfreesboro**-Field Coordinator- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Tennessee**Nashville**-Senior Pastor-Criewood Baptist Church**Nashville**-Senior Pastor-Woodmont Baptist Church**TEXAS****Aspermont**-Pastor- First Baptist Church**Bagwell**-Pastor- Leesville Baptist Church**Bartlett**-Pastor-First Baptist Church**Chappell Hill**-Associate Pastor, Worship and Ministry Development-First Baptist Church**Conroe**-Pastor- Riverpointe Baptist**Corpus Christi**-Pastor-Callalen Baptist Church**Dallas**-Pastor-Royal Lane Baptist Church**Granbury**-Pastor to Families and Children-First Baptist Church**Jewett**-Pastor- First Baptist Church**Kilgore**-Associate Pastor of Student Ministries-First Baptist Church**Kingwood**-Pastor- Woodridge Baptist Church**New Braunfels**-Music Minister- First Baptist Church**Queen City**-Worship Leader- First Baptist Church**Rosebud**-Pastor-Cedar Springs Baptist Church**Sandia**-Associate Pastor- West Shores Baptist Church**San Antonio**-Pastor-Oak Ridge Baptist Church**San Antonio**-Minister of Music and Worship Arts-Trinity Baptist Church**San Marcos**-Music of Music and Church Administration-First Baptist Church**Van Horn**-Pastor- First Baptist Church**Waco**-Minister of Music-Bosqueville Baptist Church**VIRGINIA****Blacksburg**-Minister of Youth and Communications- Blacksburg Baptist Church**Blacksburg**-Associate Minister to Students-Blacksburg Baptist Church**Bremo Bluff**-Pastor-West Bottom Baptist Church**Charles City**-Associate/Youth Pastor- Samaria Baptist Church**Charlottesville**-Senior Pastor- Broadus Memorial Baptist Church**Collinsville**-Associate Pastor of Families and Youth- First Baptist Church**Culpeper**-Senior Adult Minister/Chaplain- Culpeper Baptist Church**Lynchburg**-Senior Pastor- College Hill Baptist Church**Manakin-Sabo**-Interim Pastor- Goochland Baptist Church**McLean**-Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church**Mechanicsville**- Youth Minister-Mechanicsville Baptist Church**Mechanicsville**-Senior Pastor- New Highland Baptist Church**Mechanicsville**-Associate Pastor to Youth and Families-Black Creek Baptist Church**Mechanicsville**-Minister to Students and Families/Associate Pastor-New Bethesda Baptist Church**Midlothian**-Pastor-Tomahawk**Milford**-Minister to Students and Families- Salem Baptist Church**New Kent**-Pastor- Hopewell Baptist Church**Newport News**-Associate Pastor of Student Ministries- Orcutt Baptist Church**Norfolk**-Senior Pastor-Freemason Street Baptist Church**Richmond**-Minister of Music- Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church**Richmond**-1-2 year Residency- First Baptist Church**Richmond**-Pastor- River Road Baptist Church**Richmond**-Pastor-Jahnke Road Baptist Church**Roanoke**-Director of Children and Youth Ministries-Rosalind Hills Baptist Church**Troutville**-Pastor-Pleasant Hill Baptist Church**Virginia Beach**-Senior Pastor-King's Grant Baptist Church**Waynesboro**-Minister to Families with Children- First 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.

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