

*a voice for women in baptist life*

# Vocare



## BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY JULY 2020

### OUR VISION

Baptist Women in Ministry will 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.



## GREETINGS FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

by C. Lynn Brinkley

I was hoping to see old friends and connect with new friends this year at our 2020 Annual Gathering in Atlanta, Georgia.

I also wanted the chance for everyone to say goodbye (in person) to Pam Durso, former executive director, and give hugs and thanks for her 11 years of service to Baptist Women in Ministry. The outbreak of COVID-19 has hindered us in so many ways. I long for the day when we can be in fellowship again!

This year also brought about a wave of protest, much needed protest, across the land. Our organization is responding like never before to the recent deaths of Ahmaud Arbery, Brionna Taylor, George Floyd, and Rayshard Brooks. Not only with words, but actions! In the words of W.E.B. Dubois, *“Mighty causes are calling us – the freeing of women, the training of children, the putting down of hate and murder and poverty – all those and more.”*

Baptist Women in Ministry is intentional about embracing and celebrating God’s call on all women. In recent years, Baptist Women in Ministry changed the name of our Martha Stearns Month of Preaching to “Month of Preaching” to reach a more diverse network of women

and churches. Our mentoring program has welcomed women of color to serve as mentors and mentees. This year, Baptist Women in Ministry hired its first African American woman on our staff, Rev. Dr. C. Lynn Brinkley, as associate director.

Baptist Women in Ministry commits to being an inclusive organization that embraces the gifts of women of all races. As an organization, we stand in solidarity with our African American sisters and other women of color in the fight against systemic racism and injustice in America. Black lives matter.



# LEADERSHIP TEAM



Baptist Women in Ministry is led by a remarkable team of leaders, who give freely of their time, giftedness, and friendship in moving BWIM ahead: (left to right) Ashton Wells, Tripp Martin, Anyra Cano, Courtney Allen, Ellen DiGiosia, Jewel London, Micah Pritchett, Amy McClure, and Lawrence Powers. Jewel and Amy will rotate off the Leadership Team this month. Their support of BWIM and its vision has been invaluable, and their friendship has been a gift!

Joining our Leadership Team this summer are Rebecca Mathis and Ossie McKinney. Both women will bring wonderfully unique gifts to our team, and we are excited to welcome them as they begin service.

## BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY STAFF



*executive director*

*Lynn Brinkley  
associate director*



# FOR ALL THAT HAS BEEN THANK YOU, PAM!

**O**n June 1, 2020, Pam Durso, became the 11th president of Central Baptist Seminary in Shawnee, Kansas. She spent the past 11 years serving as executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry. On May 28, 2020, The Baptist Women in Ministry Leadership Team released a “Virtual Farewell Blessing” in honor of Pam’s dedication and leadership to Baptist Women in Ministry. We give thanks for the many ways Pam connected and advocated for Baptist women all over the world, increased BWIM’s budget, established our mentoring program, initiated the clergy sexual misconduct task force, and so much more.

For ALL Pam has done for Baptist Women in Ministry, we say, THANK YOU!

## **PAM DURSO LEGACY FUND**

If you would like to make a donation “for all that is to come” and to help continue the work to support women ministers, please consider making a donation to the Pam Durso Legacy Fund.

## **GIVE TO BWIM**

### *Make a Significant Difference*

Baptist Women in Ministry is committed to advocating for, connecting to, and networking with Baptist women in ministry and those who care about them. Your support makes a significant difference!

<https://bwim.info/give/>

## **FINAL WORDS FROM PAM**

My hopes and dreams about how to say goodbye and how to leave Baptist Women in Ministry well certainly did not include a pandemic or social distancing. I had high hopes of going to lunch with those of you who are nearby, spending time with the Leadership Team at my last meeting with them, and seeing many of you in June at our Annual Gathering. Those hopes, of course, were not to be realized, and yet, the Leadership Team found a way forward. The celebration and farewell video released on May 28 with words of blessing was beautiful and meant so much to me. Thank you to all who participated in the creation and who showed up for the live premier and offered words of love and encouragement.

For those of you who know me well, you know that I love BWIM with my whole heart. I love the opportunities for ministry that I have had. I love mentoring, coaching, advising, comforting, and encouraging. I love sharing chocolate and listening to stories. But mostly, I have loved the time I have had with so many of you: sitting at lunch, talking on the phone, Zooming before Zoom was a thing, listening to your hard ministry stories, celebrating your good news, sitting in the pew listening to you preach, attending your ordinations, dreaming with you about your future and praying with you and for you as you have sought to follow the nudging of the Spirit. Thank you

for inviting me into your churches, into your ministry journeys, into your lives.

My work as executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry was **a gift of grace in my life**, and I am grateful beyond words for the opportunity to have led and shaped this organization for eleven years

As I said in my farewell remarks on the video, I believe that in this critical moment in BWIM's history, we can be confident in this one thing: God is with us. We do not walk alone. God is with us and is guiding this organization that we love so dearly into a new season of ministry, a new place of life-giving relationships and connectivity. God is at work moving BWIM forward. On June 1, I began in my new role as president of Central Baptist Theological Seminary. It is with great joy that I

take on this new calling, but know that my heart is never far away from BWIM! In the farewell video, I concluded with these words of challenge and blessing, and I offer them once more to you, my friends and encouragers!

*May we have the courage  
to take the next step  
into the unknown that beckons us.  
May we trust that God's abiding presence  
is with us as we go  
and may we be confident that love  
is ever our companion on the journey  
and that love awaits us  
in the land of promise.  
Amen.*



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE 2020  
ADDIE DAVIS  
NOMINEES**

# THE 2020 ADDIE DAVIS AWARDS

**OUTSTANDING  
LEADERSHIP IN PASTORAL  
MINISTRY**

**Sarah Blackwell**  
Gardner-Webb University  
School of Divinity

**Tiffany Burch**  
Mercy University's  
McAfee School  
of Theology

**Jenni Chilton**  
Baylor University's  
George W. Truett  
Theological Seminary

**Hannah Moody**  
Baptist Seminary  
of Kentucky

**Amber Simpson**  
Central Baptist  
Theological Seminary

**EXCELLENCE IN  
PREACHING**

**Elizabeth Britt**  
Campbell University  
Divinity School

**Kelly Hale**  
Baylor University's  
George W. Truett  
Theological Seminary

**Emily Harbin**  
Mercy University's  
McAfee School  
of Theology

**Ashley Robinson**  
Central Baptist  
Theological Seminary

**Janiece Williams**  
Wake Forest University  
School of Divinity



*Tarsha Banister*



*Joya Moore*

Since 1998, Baptist Women in Ministry has recognized exceptional Baptist women seminarians through the presentation of the Addie Davis Award for Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry and the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. The awards are an affirmation of all the women nominated as well as recognition of the award recipients.

The 2020 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry is **Tarsha Banister**. Raised outside of Raleigh, North Carolina, Tarsha grew up attending Good Samaritan Baptist Church where she was asked to preach her first sermon for Youth Day. As a young child, Tarsha felt the affirmation from church leaders whom she says, “saw something within in me that they felt was worth nurturing and supporting. As she moved into adulthood, Tarsha became a pastor’s wife who focused on establishing a secular career and not a call to ministry. After leading a Women’s Book Club in her church, she realized that she was helping other women

to answer their call to ministry but avoiding her own. Shortly thereafter, Tarsha enrolled at Wake Forest School of Divinity and became an ordained minister a year later.

While maintaining a rigorous course load, Tarsha participated in internships as a chaplain at UNC Rex Hospital and with the Center for Healthy Congregations as a consultant. She found her experience as a chaplain to be transformative. “There is no greater call than the call to be a compassionate presence at the bedside of a stranger who is facing imminent death and their family is gathered around them watching them take their last breath. This level of engagement ignited something within me and caused me to flourish in life, work, and ministry.”

In between semesters, Tarsha has serves as a liaison for minister wives and widows in her local association. She also participated in Baptist Women in Ministry’s 2019 mentoring cohort and served as a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Leadership Scholar. She has taken mission trips to the island of St. Kitts, Paris,

France and to Oxford University in the UK.

Tarsha graduated in May 2020 from Wake Forest School of Divinity and was recently accepted into the Leadership Education program at Duke University School of Divinity where she will begin this fall.

Rev. Gyasi A. Patterson, Director of Pastoral Care Services at UNC REX Healthcare, writes of Tarsha: I have had the delight of knowing Tarsha for the past two decades. Through the course of our relationship, I have seen her mature as a wife, mother, minister, community leader, and scholar.

In pastoral care, we use the term “presence”. Presence is the skill of being physically, emotionally, and spiritually available to the other. Tarsha comforted the sick and held the dying both physically and spiritually. Tarsha’s educational background, coupled with her love for leadership, enables her to work with and engage people from varied social locations. Tarsha has the gift of meeting people where they are.”

The recipient of the 2020 Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching is **Joya Moore**, a native of August, Georgia and a current student

at Emory University, Candler School of Theology. In her formative years, she attended John S. Davidson Fine Arts School where she majored in theater and later earned degrees in Theater Arts and Journalism and Mass Communications from the University of Northern Colorado. Her love for expression and storytelling is how God called Joya to pulpit ministry.

Joya was groomed and baptized at Hale Street Baptist in Augusta, Georgia where she found her love for God and began to uncover the power of her speaking voice. While in seminary, she serves as a pastoral intern at Wheat Street Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia where she became a licensed minister of the gospel on December 29, 2019. Since then, she has preached on more than one occasion at Wheat Street and at Gospel Water Branch Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia.

Joya’s pastor, Rev. Dr. Rev. Ralph Bausi Watkins writes: “I have been in ministry for over forty years and I have never seen a young preacher with so much potential. Joya is at home in the pulpit. She commands and owns the sacred desk as if God prepared it just for her. When she rises to preach, it is as if she has been doing this all of her life.”

Her award-winning sermon, “A Peace of Love,” was based on Philippians 4:6-9. In this sermon preached on January 26, 2020 at Wheat Street Joya proclaimed: “So then what is this peace of God we talk about? We are always talking about the peace of



*Joya Moore*

God that surpasses all understanding. It’s one of our favorite verses to recite but do we really know what it means to truly have peace. Whether we know it or not, the word peace is all around us despite the fact that we live in a chaotic world. It’s something we ask for, something we long for, and something we attempt to create and experience.

Dr. Khalia J. Williams, Assistant Dean of Worship and Music and Assistant Professor in the Practice of Worship at Candler writes: “Although she has been blessed with many gifts, her exegesis of scripture is simply ingenious. Joya has a budding theological foundation, and her understanding of God is most impressively exemplified daily by faith.”

We give thanks for the gifts and ministry of **Tarsha Banister** and **Joya Moore**, the 2020 recipients of the Addie Davis Awards.



*Tarsha Banister*

# BWIM MONTH OF PREACHING

ST	CITY	CHURCH	PREACHER	ST	CITY	CHURCH	PREACHER
AL	Birmingham	Southside Baptist Church	Terri Byrd	KY	Bloomfield	Big Spring Bloomfield Presbyterian Trinity Baptist Church	Jennifer Titus
AL	Huntsville	First Baptist Church	Denisha Akpan				
AL	Jacksonville	First Baptist Church of Williams	Martha Kate Hall	KY	Bloomfield	Trinity Baptist Church	Jennifer Titus
AL	Madison	Trinity Baptist Church	Jessica Haywood	KY	Elizabethtown	Living Faith Baptist Fellowship	Sheila Klopfer
AL	Mobile	First Baptist Church	Terri Byrd	KY	Georgetown	Faith Baptist Church	Morgan Fritz
AL	Tuscaloosa	Woodland Baptist Church	Mary An Wilson	KY	Morehead	First Baptist Church	Lauren McDuffie, Karen Thomas Smith
AR	Jonesboro	Magnolia Road Church	Jenna Sullivan	LA	Baton Rouge	University Baptist Church	Janeé Tisby
AR	Little Rock	Puluaki Heights Baptist Church	Carolyn Staley	MA	Needham	First Baptist Church	Holly Benzenhafer, Daryn Stylianopoulos, Mary Day Miller, Christine Shrader-Keddy
AR	Little Rock	Second Baptist Church	Molly T. Marshall, Shantell Hinton Hill, Brittany Stillwell, Jillian Mitchel				
AR	Van Buren	Rena Road Baptist Church	Cinda Smith	MO	Columbia	First Baptist Church	Debi Hake
CT	Wilton	Wilton Baptist Church	Tori Crook	MO	Gladstone	Englewood Baptist Church	Stephanie Vance
DC	Washington	First Baptist Church of the City of Washington DC	Alyssa Aldape	MO	Kansas City	Crossroads Church	Kristin Wooldridge
FL	Jacksonville	Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church	Claire Chinn	MO	Kansas City	Holmeswood Baptist Church	Christy Edwards
FL	Orlando	Church on the Drive	Marlo Edith Wright	MO	Liberty	Chandler Baptist Church	Andrea Huffman
FL	Vero Beach	First Baptist Church	Kristina LaGuardia	MO	Liberty	Second Baptist Church	Connie McNeil, Christy Edwards
GA	Atlanta	Northside Drive Baptist Church	Karen Massey	MS	Clinton	Northside Baptist Church	Jillian Mitchell, Addie Shelton
GA	Atlanta	Peachtree Baptist Church	Leslie Brogdon	MS	Starkville	University Baptist Church	Kasey Jones
GA	Atlanta	The Church at Ponce and Highland	Bekah Rhea	NC	Angier	Angier Baptist Church	Gale Penny
GA	Atlanta	Wieuca Road Baptist Church	Tiffany Birch	NC	Angier	Neill's Creek Baptist Church	Lisa Jacobs
GA	Carrollton	First Baptist Church	Julie Long	NC	Benson	Benson Baptist Church	Liz Britt
GA	Cartersville	Heritage Baptist Church	Molly Miller	NC	Boone	First Baptist Church	Courtney Willis
GA	Commerce	First Baptist Church	Amy Hayes	NC	Buies Creek	Campbell University Divinity School	Alicia Myers
GA	Conyers	Trinity Baptist Church	Barbara Koll	NC	Chapel Hill	Hillsong Church	Angel Lee, Beth Roberts, Miriam Philips Stephens
GA	Decatur	First Baptist Church	Kelsey Lewis				
GA	Decatur	Scott Boulevard Baptist	Kristen Koger	NC	Charlotte	Reeder Memorial Baptist Church	Tara Gibbs
GA	East Point	First Baptist Church	-	NC	Charlotte	St. John's of Charlotte	Elizabeth Rodden
GA	Haddock	Haddock Baptist	Debbie Neely	NC	Clemmons	Clemmons First Baptist Church	Rebecca Majorel
GA	Jasper	First Baptist Church	Anna Walker	NC	Cullowhee	Cullowhee Baptist Church.	Tonya Vickery
GA	John's Creek	Parkway Baptist Church	Hannah Rule	NC	Durham	West Durham Baptist Church	Telika McCoy
GA	Macon	Higland Hills Baptist Church	Amy Grizzle Kane	NC	Elkin	First Baptist Church	Patricia Greene
GA	Marrow	First Baptist Church	Teliea Harwe	NC	Fayetteville	First Baptist Church Moore Street	Anthonee Wright Cochran
GA	Milledgeville	Community Baptist Church	Amy Hayes	NC	Fayetteville	Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church	Kym Hoffman, Gail McKoy, Na-Jean Parker, Tracy Powell, Carla Page, Chiquita Davis, Tenae Marks
GA	Newnan	Central Baptist Church	Jill Duffield				
GA	Rome	North Broad Baptist Church	Lanta Carroll	NC	Fuquay Varina	Bazzel Creek Missionary Baptist Church	Patricia Gould-Champ
GA	Roswell	First Baptist Church	Jessica Asbell Oravec	NC	Greensboror	Lindley Park Bapist Church	Amy Grizzle Kane
GA	Snellville	Cornerstone Church	Paula Christian Stallworth	NC	Greenville	The Memorial Baptist Church	Grace Bellamy
GA	St. Simons Island	First Baptist Church	Rachel Sherron				
GA	Stone Mountain	Oasis International Center	Ellen Sechrest				
GA	Stone Mountain	Smoke Rise Baptist Church	Darlene Swanson				
IL	Northbrook	Agape Korean Baptist church	Mary Yangsook Ahn				
KS	Lawrence	First Baptist Church	Claire Chadwick				
KS	Prairie Village	Prairie Baptist Church	Sau Nam Mading				



ST	CITY	CHURCH	PREACHER	ST	CITY	CHURCH	PREACHER
NC	Hendersonville	Providence Baptist Church	Mary Apicella, LaLeita Small	TN	Memphis	First Baptist Church	Abigail Kellett, Laura Stephens-Reed
NC	Kinston	Spillman Memorial Baptist Church	Jennifer Garcia Bashaw	TN	Nashville	Glendale Baptist Church	Kelly Moreland Jones
NC	Madison	First Baptist Church	Julie Keith	TN	Nashville	Immanuel Baptist Church	Judy Skeen
NC	Monroe	First Baptist Church	Ka'thy Gore Chappell	TX	Abilene	Logsdon Seminary	Emily Row
NC	Mt. Airy	First Baptist Church	Mary Kaylor	TX	Abilene	Pioneer Drive Baptist Church	Meredith Summers
NC	Mt. Airy	Piney Grove Baptist Church	Mary Kaylor	TX	Austin	First Baptist Church	Carrie Schoenert Houston
NC	Murfreesboro	Murfreesboro Baptist Church	Amber Simpson	TX	Austin	Highland Park Baptist Church	Masyn Evans-Clemments
NC	New Bern	First Baptist Church	Dee Dee Moody	TX	Bryan	St. Joseph Hospital Chapel	Ashley Weir
NC	Raleigh	Forest Hills Baptist Church	Rebecca Hewitt-Newson	TX	Dallas	Royal Lane Baptist Church	Victoria Robb Powers, Robin Murray, Kristin Warthen, Lisa Hancock
NC	Raleigh	Hayes Barton Baptist Church	Kristen Muse	TX	Fort Worth	Agape Baptist Church	Kelsey Higbee
NC	Raleigh	Martin Street Baptist Church	Andrea Singleton	TX	Fort Worth	Iglesia Bautista Victoria en Cristo	Noris Menedez
NC	Raleigh	Milbrook Baptist Church	Tiffany Triplett Henkel, Meagan Smith	TX	Harker Heights	Trinity Baptist Church	Sara Elliott
NC	Raleigh	St. John's Baptist Church	Summer Caniglia Rice	TX	Houston	South Main Baptist Church	Dolores Rader
NC	Raleigh	Watts Chapel Baptist Church	Idella Johnson	TX	Marshall	First Baptist Church	Minda Purdi
NC	Shelby	Calvary Baptist Church	Alicia Beard	TX	Round Rock	Peace of Christ Church	Nataly Mora
NC	Shelby	First Baptist Church	Missy Smith, Carol Ann Hoard	TX	San Antonio	Woodland Baptist Church	Diana Bridges
NC	Spindale	Spencer Baptist Church	Kelly Settlemyre	TX	Waco	Park Lake Drive	Nataly Mora
NC	Spring Hope	First Baptist Church	Summer Caniglia Rice	TX	Waco	Seventh and James Baptist Church	Harper Hoover
NC	Spruce Pine	Central Baptist Church	Jessica Lanning	VA	Annandale	Ravensworth Baptist Church	Theresa S. Thames
NC	Wake Forest	Heritage Baptist Church of Wake Forest	Sandy Stillman Alvin	VA	Bedford	Bedford Baptist Church	Katrina Brooks
NC	Weaverville	First Baptist Church	Regina Conner Johnson	VA	Blacksburg	Blacksburg Baptist Church	Rebecca Wheeler
NC	Wilmington	First Baptist Church	Becca Jones	VA	Bristol	First Baptist Church	Mary Amburn-Bowman
NC	Wilmington	Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church	Colette Caldwell	VA	Chesapeake	Centerville Baptist Church	Betty Pugh Mills
NC	Wilmington	Shiloh Baptist Church	Anthonette Wright Cochran	VA	Chesapeake	Churchland Baptist Church	Kim Miiler
NC	Wilmington	Winter Park Baptist Church	Laura Bullock	VA	Danville	First Baptist Church	Tracey Allred, Ka'thy Gore Chappell, Kelly Grooms, Angela Zimmerman
NC	Winston-Salem	First Baptist Church on 5th	Emily Hull McGee	VA	Henrico	Derbyshire Baptist Church	Alice Cates Clarke
NC	Winston-Salem	Peace Haven Baptist	Michele Shadden	VA	Madison Heights	Madison Heights Baptist Church	Angela Sale
NC	Cary	Westwood Baptist Church	Brittany Caldwell	VA	Martinsville	Chatham Heights Baptist Church	Libby Grammer
NY	New York	Metro Baptist Church	Meagan Smith, Tiffany Triplett Henkel	VA	McLean	McLean Baptist Church	Meg Thomas-Clapp
OK	Ardmore	Northwest Baptist Church	Carrie Gunter Nault	VA	N. Chesterfield	Huguenot Road Baptist Church	Beth Reddish Wright
OK	Norman	North Haven Church	Addie Shelton and Jillian Mitchell	VA	Richmond	Cedarfield Retirement Community	Kylie Perdue
SC	Aiken	First Baptist Church	Megan Turner Doud	VA	Richmond	First Baptist Church	Yvette Jackson
SC	Anderson	Boulevard Baptist Church	Lucy Cauthen	VA	Richmond	Grace Baptist Church	Addison Schmitt
SC	Anderson	First Baptist Church	Caroline Self	VA	Richmond	River Road Church, Baptist	Anna Perry Miller
SC	Camden	Lakeview Baptist Church	M. Karen Ballard	VA	Richmond	Second Baptist Church	Katie Vance Lucas, Dayna Schoonmaker, Kathi Traficanti
SC	Charleston	Providence Church	Cara Morgan	VA	Williamsburg	Williamsburg Baptist Church	Robbie Jones Miller
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	LeAnne Ryan	WA	Lynnwood	Good Shepherd Baptist Church	Catherine Franssen
SC	Columbia	Augusta Heights Baptist Church	Christine Powell Kellett				
SC	Greenville	Pelham Road Church	Ashley Twitchell				
SC	Greenville	First Baptist Church	Lane Riley				
SC	Greenwood	First Baptist Church	Jennifer Rygg				
SC	Pendleton	First Baptist Church	Lee Anne Bailie				
SC	Spartanburg	Fernwood Baptist Church	Pam Durso				
TN	Clinton	First Baptist Church	Ellen Di Giosia				
TN	Jefferson City	First Baptist Church	Andrea Wheeler				
TN	Knoxville	Ball Camp Baptist Church	McCoig				

# BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY'S 2020 MENTORING PROGRAM COHORT



*Amy Stertz, Emily Collins, Kaylee Godfrey,  
Ali Chappell DeHay, Kim Brewer*



*Emily Hull McGee, Molly Shoulta Tucker, Emily  
Holladay, Danielle Bridgeforth, Sabrina Smith*



*Demetria Williams, Raquel Webb, Joanne Henley,  
Bethany Busby, Allison Rogers*



*Tambi Swiney, Jenny Hodge, Linsey Addington,  
Heather Franklin*



*Margaret Harvey, Regina Johnson, Lynn Brinkley,  
Johanna Kelley, Mallory Herridge*

# KEEPING UP WITH BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

## THE BWIM BLOG

Baptist Women in Ministry welcomes you to read, enjoy, and share our blog. Many of our Wednesday blog themes this year focused on “For all that has been, Thanks. For all that is to come, Yes” and “Coping with COVID-19.” Our Friday blogs continue to feature our popular series, **THIS IS WHAT A MINISTER LOOKS LIKE**.

## THE BWIM WEBSITE

The BWIM website is packed full of resources, including information about our Month of Preaching, Addie Davis Awards, the Clergy Sexual Misconduct Task Force’s work, and a resource page, which includes maternity leave policies, ordination and installation service resources, ministry search and personnel helps, state and regional BWIM contact information, and a list of helpful books and articles.

## DISCERNMENT RETREATS

Each year BWIM hosts discernment events for college and seminary women. These events create intentional space for college women to reflect on God’s calling. Due to concerns surrounding COVID-19, the discernment retreat planned for this September is currently on hold until a date is best determined to ensure the safety of all participants.

## MINISTRY SEARCH RESOURCES

BWIM offers resources and assistance both to churches searching for a minister and ministers searching for a new position. BWIM’s monthly e-newsletter includes a list of current openings and additional resources are provided on the website for both churches and candidates. Both churches and candidates in need of assistance may submit information, job descriptions, and resumes via BWIM’s Ministry Search Registration Forms.

## MENTORING

The fourth cohort of BWIM’s Mentoring Group Program has now begun their two-year-long journey together. The 2020 cohort gathered in January for a three-day retreat at the Sacred Heart Monastery in Cullman, Alabama. The year’s cohort includes five mentoring groups—one for new pastors, one for associate ministers, one for chaplains, and two for outside-the-box ministers. Each group includes one mentor and four participants. The five groups will have two more retreats and meet monthly via ZOOM with their mentors: Lynn Brinkley, Joanne Henley, Emily Hull McGee, Tambi Swiney, and Amy Stertz.

## MONTH OF PREACHING

BWIM sponsored the first Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching in 2007! That year, 54 churches participated and invited a woman to preach during February. In 2020, we changed the name of this annual event to “Month of Preaching” to embrace a larger and more diverse group of Baptist women. In 2020, 156 churches participated in our Month of Preaching event. We are grateful for these churches that participated (especially during a national pandemic) and publicly voiced their support of women in ministry. These churches stood with other Baptist churches in celebrating the calling and gifts of women, and reminded their congregations that God does indeed call women to the work of the kingdom. Resources for the Month of Preaching, including a bulletin insert in both English and Spanish, are available on the BWIM website.

## BWIM OFFICE HOURS

During the pandemic, BWIM has hosted weekly office hours conversations with women from all of the US and the UK who meet via Zoom to share any anxieties or fears during this chaotic season. Office Hours are generally held at 11:00 AM once a week.

## CLERGY SEXUAL MISCONDUCT TASK FORCE

BWIM and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship’s joint Clergy Sexual Misconduct Task Force has produced two significant resources developed for use by churches, seminaries and partnering organizations. “Safe Churches and Ministers” is an educational video that provides much-needed definitions, statistics and stories that are designed to help churches, students and leaders take seriously their responsibility in preventing abuse. It is accompanied by a leader guide and discussion guide, and is available in both English and Spanish. “Clergy Sexual Abuse Prevention Recommendations for Churches” is a collection of prevention guidelines and documents intended to prompt congregations to create their own policies, procedures, processes and covenants. Both videos and written resources are available at [bwim.info/safechurches/](http://bwim.info/safechurches/).

**BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY**

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