

a voice for women in baptist life

Vocare

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BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY
advocating • connecting • networking

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BWIM ANNUAL GATHERING

Celebrate and Worship with Baptist Women in Ministry

TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2022

WILSHIRE BAPTIST CHURCH • DALLAS, TEXAS

LUNCH & AWARDS AT 12:00 pm • WORSHIP at 1:15 pm



REV. DR. GINA STEWART
*President, Lott Carey
Our Preacher*

BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY



ANNUAL GATHERING 2022

IN PERSON OR ONLINE

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 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY STAFF



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Meredith Stone
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The past two years of pandemic living feel like they have been spent in the process of learning. We are learning new ways to go out in public, to eat in restaurants, to celebrate holidays, to gather, to be the church, to live.

For BWIM, we are learning too. We are learning how to be an organization with a core value of “connecting” when the two full-time employees began their tenures during times of limited travel. We are learning how to advocate within churches when they are already in the midst of tumultuous change. We are learning that the “women” of Baptist Women in Ministry are far more numerous and diverse than we imagined.

When you are learning, sometimes you look back on decisions made previously and realize that you would have done things differently if you had more information and insight. The phrase often uttered in those moments is, “If I only knew then what I know now.” And we stop there with passive regret.

However, in a particular moment of learning in the last year—an “if we only knew then” moment—Lynn quoted sacred wisdom to me which drew us past regret and toward action.

“As Maya Angelou said, when you know better, you do better.”

We have come back to this phrase time and time again during our work this year. We continue to grow in our knowing better, and thus we are invited into the accountability of doing better. The remorse of wishing we knew better is worth nothing unless it sparks progress.

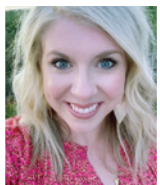
We are pleased to invite you into this journey of both **knowing better and doing better** through our Annual Gathering theme for 2022. Whether it be at Annual Gathering or another virtual or in-person event, we are looking forward to seeking progress together this year.

Meredith Stone is the executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry, Abilene, Texas.

BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

(First row) Leah Reed, Michael Mills, Ellen Di Giosia, Ossie McKinney, Micah Pritchett

(Second row) Xiomara Reboyras Ortiz, Rebecca Mathis, Ashton Wells, Tripp Martin



2022 BWIM ANNUAL GATHERING



Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart

Foreign Mission Society during the 124th session in August 2021. She is the first woman elected to this position, and the first female president of a national African American Baptist mission agency or convention.

Dr. Stewart earned degrees from the University of Memphis (BBA), Memphis Theological Seminary (MDiv), and Interdenominational Theological Center (DMin). She has won numerous prestigious awards including being inducted into the Martin Luther King Board of Preachers, Class of

BWIM is excited to host its first in-person Annual Gathering since 2019! We are joyfully making plans for a hybrid event so that those who cannot attend will be able to participate as well.

Our preacher for the event will be **Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart**, Senior Pastor of Christ Missionary Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. Stewart was installed as President of the Lott Carey Baptist

2018. She is author of *We've Got Next: HERstory in HISstory*, and her work has been featured in other publications such as *Faith: Christian Leaders Reflect on the Election of Barack Obama*, *What We Love About the Black Church: Can We Get A Witness?*, and *Black Practical Theology*.

We hope you will join us for the BWIM Annual Gathering on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas or online as we consider what it means to know better AND do better!

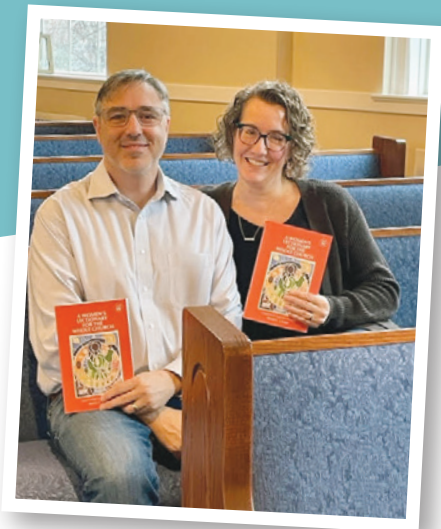


Dorisanne Cooper, 2021 Distinguished Mentor Award recipient

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

BWIM presents several awards at our Annual Gathering including the Frankie Huff Granger Distinguished Mentor Award and the BWIM Church of Excellence Award. Beginning in 2022, we are issuing an **open call for nominations** for these two awards. Find more information on how you can nominate an outstanding mentor of women in ministry or a congregation that has taken transformative action in support of women in ministry by visiting our website: www.bwim.info.

STORIES OF “DOING BETTER!”

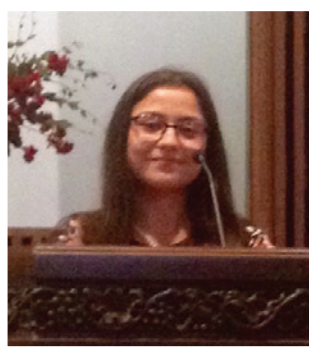


Congregations and ministry leaders are seeking to move their congregations toward greater affirmation of women by using Dr. Wilda Gafney's important work,

A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church (Church Publishing, 2021). Gafney's new lectionary highlights the stories and experiences of women EVERY week of the liturgical year. Some churches in the BWIM community who are using this new lectionary are Commonwealth Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA (pastors Robin and Marty Anderson pictured); Ravensworth Baptist Church, Annandale, VA; Myers Park Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC; and Wake Forest Baptist Church, Wake Forest, NC. You can also find weekly reflections following the Year W lectionary on the BWIM blog each Friday.



Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC is a women-empowering congregation. The women you see here are all serving in leadership roles. From left to right Rev. Mia M. McClain, Associate Minister of Faith Formation and Outreach; Leigh Anne Hagerman, Church Administrator; Carrie Veal, Executive Minister of Community and Engagement; and Rev. Tara Gibbs, Minister for Youth and College Ministries.



North Broad Baptist Church in Rome, Georgia empowers young women exploring ministry by inviting Amanda Owen, their youth intern, to preach her first sermon last year during BWIM Month of Preaching.



With the help of the Holy Spirit, each member of Ginter Park Baptist Church (Richmond, VA) commits to a rule of life including practicing radical acceptance and welcome of all persons, affirming them as created in the image of God and as beloved of God.



In 2021, the Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart became the first woman President of a major Black Baptist organization, the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Society, an organization that responds to disasters and fights poverty, hunger, and human trafficking.

STATE OF WOMEN IN BAPTIST LIFE REPORT

In June BWIM will publish an updated *State of Women in Baptist Life Report* which tracks important statistics about women preparing for and serving in ministry positions. These statistics will demonstrate how far Baptists have come toward embracing women leading in ministry, and how far we still have to go to achieve true equality and equity in our churches.

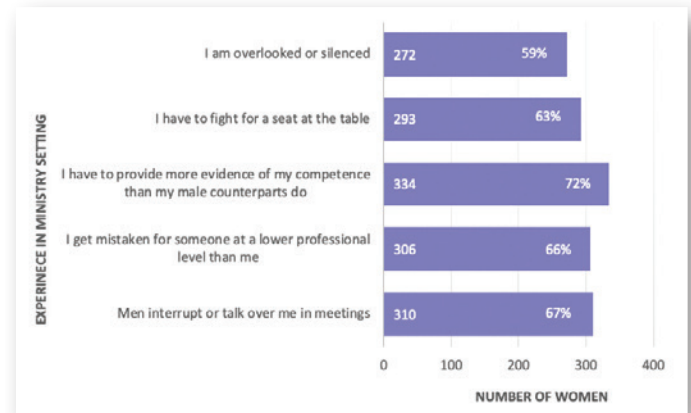
BWIM celebrates each time a woman is ordained or placed in a ministry position. But the work of equity does not end there. Women also need supportive and transformed ministry settings in which they can thrive.

Knowing this, BWIM conducted a survey to measure the level of flourishing that women in ministry are experiencing in their ministry contexts. The full results of the survey will be published in the *State of Women in Baptist Life Report*, but we wanted to preview a few highlights here.

The survey asked participants questions about their experiences in ministry and their perspective on their congregation's affirmation of women in ministry. 683 people completed the survey, the majority of whom were Baptist women in ministry.

One question revealed that 86% of women have experienced obstacles to their ministry because of their gender.

Another question asked women how often they had specific experiences of gender discrimination while in their



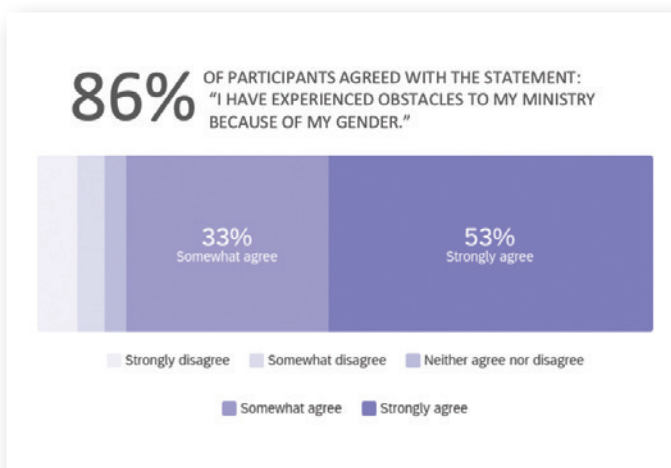
ministry contexts. For each example, women chose *never, rarely, sometimes, frequently, or very frequently*. Of the 464 women in ministry who answered this question, the chart above shows the number who experienced each form of discrimination *sometimes, frequently, or very frequently*.

Struggles like these which women experience while serving in ministry do not happen in a vacuum. Women's experiences are influenced by their ministry setting as 86% of women either strongly agreed or somewhat agreed with the statement: *"My congregation's/context's support of me as a woman in ministry has direct impact on my ability to thrive."*

The results of the survey indicate a continued need for advocacy and reform in our Baptist congregations until all of our church cultures embody true affirmation and empowerment of women's leadership in ministry.

We look forward to sharing full results of the survey and updated statistics on Baptist women preparing for or serving

in ministry in the final report this June. The report will be published electronically, so if you would like to receive a physical copy you can follow the QR code and complete the online form, or simply email lauraellis@bwim.info.



WITH MUCH THANKS TO

BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

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Amy McClure
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Mandy McMichael
Christy McMillin-Goodwin
Nenette Measels
Julie Mendenhall
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Deborah Neely
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 D. Katrina Reaves
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 F. Gayle Roberts
 Ashley Robinson
 Jamie Rorrer
 Anthony Mark Roza
 Helen Ruchti
 Ellen Sechrest
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 Naomi Walker
 Rebecca Wall
 Heather Lamb Webb
 Annie Sutton Westbrook
 Judith & Wallace Williams
 Jean Willingham
 Courtney Willis
 Glenda Aline Willoughby
 David & Ann Wilson
 Ellen Wolfe
 Barbara Wood
 Dionne Word
 Joyce Wyatt
 Charles & Judy Yarbrough
 Sejana Yoo

CHURCHES

Auburn First Baptist Church, Auburn, AL Baptist
 Church of the Covenant, Birmingham, AL
 Bayshore Baptist Church, Tampa, FL
 Calvary Baptist Church, Waco, TX

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Alexandria, LA
 First Baptist Church, Abilene, TX
 First Baptist Church, Aiken, SC
 First Baptist Church, Austin, TX
 First Baptist Church, Dalton, GA
 First Baptist Church, Greensboro, NC
 First Baptist Church, Greenville, SC
 First Baptist Church, Greenwood, SC
 First Baptist Church, Gretna, VA
 First Baptist Church, Morganton, NC
 First Baptist Church, Pendleton, SC
 First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
 First Baptist Church, Richmond, VA
 Grace Baptist Church, Richmond, VA
 Hayes Barton Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
 Holmeswood Baptist Church, Kansas City, MO
 Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville, TN
 Lamberth Memorial Baptist Church, Roxboro, NC
 Millbrook Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
 Milledge Avenue Baptist Church, Athens, GA
 NorthHaven Church, Norman, OK
 Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson, MS
 Pintlala Baptist Church, Hope Hull, AL
 River Road Church, Baptist, Richmond, VA
 Second Baptist Church, Liberty, MO
 Second Baptist Church, Lubbock, TX
 The Church at Highland Park, Austin, TX
 The Church Without Walls, Houston, TX
 The Memorial Baptist Church of Greenville, NC
 University Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, LA
 Watts Street Baptist Church, Durham NC
 Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas, TX

FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

Foundations

C.I.O.S. Foundation
 Christian Missions Concern
 Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation
 Grant Me the Wisdom Foundation

Organizations

Alliance of Baptists
 Baptist News Global
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Arkansas
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of NC
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Oklahoma
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Texas
 Center for Healthy Churches
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
 Fellowship Southwest
 Good Faith Media
 Story Telling House International
 Thread Strategies

Seminaries

Baylor University's Truett Seminary
 Campbell University Divinity School
 Central Baptist Theological Seminary
 Perkins School of Theology, SMU
 McAfee School of Theology

HONORARY GIFTS

In Honor

Angela Lowe, by Molly Marshall
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 Carolyn Blevins, Ellen Di Giosia & Christine Jones,
 by Nenetta Measels
 Carrie Nault, by Becky & Doug Jackson
 Cheryl Moore Adamson, by Debbie Dantzler
 Cheryl Moore Adamson & Katrina Reaves,
 by Deborah Haag
 Donna Hopkins, by Jody Harrison
 Doug & Pat Weaver, by Mandy McMichael
 Faith Fitzgerald, by Larry & Gail Dickens
 Jane Hull, by Emily Hull McGee
 Jessica Asbell Oravec, by Barbara Wood
 Dr. Joan Clark, by Paula Settle
 Julie Pennington-Russell, Mary Alice Birdwhistell
 & Hannah Coe, by Mallory Herridge
 Lynn Brinkley, by Howard Herring
 Lynn Brinkley, by Michael Cogdill
 Lynn Brinkley, by Larry Dickens
 Mandy McMichael, by Diane Dawson
 Mary Alice Birdwhistell, by Ken Johnson
 Mary Alice Birdwhistell, by Mark &
 Martha Birdwhistell
 Meredith Stone, by Bob & Teresa Ellis
 Meredith Stone, by Brent & Nancy Walker
 Meredith Stone, by Janie & Rob Sellers
 Meredith Stone, by Molly Marshall
 Mothers of Talbot Park Baptist Church,
 by Andrew Brittain
 Pam Durso, by Deniese & Jerry Dillon
 Pam Durso, by Joe LaGuardia
 Pam Durso, by Gala Van Eaton
 Sheila Sholes-Ross, Jann Aldredge-Clanton,
 Kyndall Rothaus & Paula Dempsey,
 by Craig Henry
 Sue Murphy Jasper, by Kate Hanch
 Twyla Hernandez, by Molly Marshall

In Memory

Addie Davis, by Anthony Mark Roza
 Cynthia Gayken Deaton, by Jackie Baugh Moore
 Iva Lou Hill Flowers, by Elizabeth Flowers Minnie
 Bingham, by Nancy Brock
 Miriam V. Jones, by Priscilla Tunnell
 Nancy Hauser by Nancy Stanton McDaniel
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BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

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A CHURCH THAT GIVES

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST
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River Road Church was founded in 1946 as an ecumenical church to meet the diverse needs of the community. Though many of its members came from various Christian denominations, River Road Church later added the comma and *Baptist* after its name to represent their desire to be foremost a church of Jesus Christ, and secondarily, shaped by Baptist values.

River Road Church, Baptist has been a strong supporter of women in ministry and expresses this support in their core values. Of the seven pastoral staff members at River Road Church, Baptist, three are women. Daniel Glaze, RRCB's pastor, is honored to have served as the first man on BWIM's leadership team. Along with yearly church budget gifts, many RRCB members choose to support BWIM through regular giving.

River Road Church takes seriously the value of nurturing the calling and giftedness of women in lay and ordained ministry. They currently have several women in the congregation considering or attending seminary with the goal of pastoral ministry. RRCB's first pastoral resident, Libby Grammer, now serves as the Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Martinsville, Virginia.

Baptist Women in Ministry gives thanks for River Road Church, Baptist and is grateful for their consistent and faithful support. RRCB's ongoing contributions make possible BWIM's work of advocating, connecting, and networking. Your church can be a supporter by giving online at www.bwim.info/give or sending a contribution to Baptist Women in Ministry, P.O. Box 207, Abilene, TX 79604.



Rev. Marnie Fisher-Ingram imposes ashes on a church member.