

VOLUME 8, NO. 2, SUMMER 2014

a voice for women in baptist life

Vocare

THRIVE: **LIVING INTO OUR CALL** BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2014

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DECATUR, GEORGIA

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.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

Devita Parnell

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Pam Durso

INVOCATION

Karen Hatcher

LITANY

Angela Fields

SEASONS OF LIFE

In all of the seasons of life,
God, the Creator, give us a song!

There is a song for the beginning of life's journey and a song for going home.
God, the Creator, give us a song!

There is a song for one voice and a song for many voices,
God, the Creator, give us a song!

There is a song for victory and a song for defeat.
God, the Creator, give us a song!

There is a song for times of plenty and a song for times of want.
God, the Creator, give us a song!

There is a song for mourning and a song for celebration.
**In all of the seasons of life,
God, the Creator, give us a song!**

From Celebrating Grace: Hymnal for Baptist Worship, #538

HYMN

Rachel Gunter Shapard

TEN THOUSAND REASONS

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul; Worship Your holy name;
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

CHORUS

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

CHORUS

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

CHORUS

By Matt Redman, 2012

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 13:24-30 *Erica Evans Whitaker*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 29:1-7 *Racquel Gill*

HYMN *Rachel Gunter Shapard*

IN THE BULB

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

By Natalie Sleeth, Celebrating Grace: Hymnal for Baptist Worship, #545

SERMON "Thy Kingdom Come" *Shelley Hasty Woodruff*

WORDS OF COMMUNION *Dorisanne Cooper*

SONGS OF COMMUNION *Lydia Fields*

COMMUNION SERVERS *Racquel Gill and Erica Evans Whitaker
LeAnn Gunter Johns and Teresa Pugh
Martha Kearsse and Kim Schmitt Holman
Molly Brummett and Angela Fields*

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE *Video Presentation*

A TIME FOR REMEMBERING AND GIVING *LeAnn Gunter Johns*

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Andrea Dellinger Jones*

A FEW ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pam Durso*

CLOSING CHORUS

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship Your holy name;
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name

BENEDICTION *Sue Fitzgerald*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Molly Brummett — 2013 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. She serves as minister of youth and community at Knollwood Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Dorisanne Cooper — pastor of Watts Street Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina.

Pam Durso — executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry, Atlanta, Georgia.

Racquel Gill — 2014 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. She is a student at Duke Divinity School, Durham, North Carolina.

Angela Fields — 2012 Addie Davis Award for Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry. She is a writer and speaker, living in Lexington, South Carolina.

Lydia Fields — associate pastor of college and multimedia, First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Georgia.

Sue Fitzgerald — 2014 recipient of the Frankie Huff Granger Distinguished Mentor Award. She lives in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Karen Hatcher — 2010 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. She serves with A Christian Ministry in the National Parks in the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia.

Kim Schmitt Holman — 2000 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. Kim is a staff chaplain at Piedmont Fayette Hospital, Fayetteville, Georgia.

LeAnn Gunter Johns — 2004 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. She is the co-editor of *The World is Waiting for You: Celebrating the 50th Ordination Anniversary of Addie Davis*.

Andrea Dellinger Jones — 2002 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. She is the pastor of Millbrook Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Martha Kearse — 2005 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. She is associate pastor of St. John's Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Devita Parnell — networks manager of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Decatur, Georgia.

Teresa Pugh — 2005 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry. She is pastor of Trinity Community Church, Hampton, Georgia.

Rachel Gunter Shapard — associate coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Florida, Jacksonville, Florida.

Erica Evans Whitaker — 2014 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry. She will graduate from Truett Seminary in August 2014.

Shelley Hasty Woodruff — 2007 winner of the Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. She is currently completing a Doctor of Theology degree in Homiletics at Duke Divinity School, Durham, North Carolina.

BWIM EVENTS, JUNE 25-27, 2014

Luncheon

If you have purchased a ticket for the BWIM luncheon, join us in the fellowship hall following worship. The award recipients will join us for lunch. Please take a moment to congratulate them.

Book Signings

Following lunch, visit the book signing hosted by Smyth & Helwys Publishers. We welcome nine of the preachers whose sermons are including in *The World is Waiting for You: Celebrating the 50th Ordination Anniversary of Addie Davis*. Books are available for purchase. Co-editors **Pam Durso and LeAnn**

Gunter Johns will also be signing books at the Smyth & Helwys exhibit on Thursday evening following the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship worship service.

The BWIM Workshop

BWIM will host a workshop, "THRIVE: Successfully Negotiating the Search Process," on **Thursday, June 26, at 2:45 p.m.** during the CBF General Assembly. The workshop will meet in the University Room of the Hyatt Hotel and will feature a panel of lay church leaders and ministers who have recently journeyed through the search process and navigated the challenges of that process. The discussion will focus on practical helps for the candidate and for the congregation in completing a successful search.

The BWIM Networking Breakfast

BWIM will host a networking breakfast on **Friday, June 27, at 7:30 a.m.** at the Hyatt Hotel in the Hanover Room. The cost of the breakfast is \$18. Tickets are available on the CBF website. Join us for a time of conversation, fellowship, and encouragement.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With much appreciation to all who have made this gathering possible and who support the ongoing work of Baptist Women in Ministry:

Smyth & Helwys Publishing and Keith Gammons for their ongoing partnerships with BWIM in so many good projects, including the publications of *This is What a Preacher Looks Like: Sermons by Baptist Women in Ministry* (2010), an issue *Reflections* written by 122 BWIM supporters (2013), a weekly NextSunday blog series titled “Thrive” (2014), devotions, and now *The World is Waiting for You: Celebrating the 50th Ordination Anniversary of Addie Davis* (2014).

Our friends who have sponsored tables at our luncheon: from Baptist Fellowship of the Northeast, Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond, Campbell University Divinity School, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Foundation, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Arkansas, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Florida, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South Carolina, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Duke Divinity School, First Baptist Church, Asheville, North Carolina, First Baptist Church, Austin, Texas, Highland Hills Baptist Church, Macon, Georgia, Logsdon Seminary, McAfee School of

Theology, Tennessee Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Truett Seminary, Watt Street Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina.

Danny Musten and Hayes Barton Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina, for producing the video for our worship service.

The Baugh Foundation for faithful and generous support of Baptist Women in Ministry.

First Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia for hosting our worship and lunch and for their warm hospitality.



BWIM Leadership Team

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: Courtney Allen, Judith Bledsoe Bailey, Julie Long, Emily Hull McGee, Kristen Muse, Stacy Pyle, Meredith Stone, and Tonya Vickery. Emily, Kristen, and Stacy will rotate off the Leadership Team following this gathering, and we will greatly miss their faces around our table. Their support of BWIM and its vision has been invaluable.

We are excited to welcome three new team members: Mary Alice Birdwhistell, Lynn Brinkley, and Tambi Swiney.



Stacy Pyle, Emily Hull McGee, and Kristen Muse

GRATEFUL RECOGNITIONS



NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

2014

Baptist Women in Ministry
Church of Excellence

In 2013, Baptist Women in Ministry on its thirtieth anniversary established two new recognitions: the Baptist Women in Ministry Church of Excellence and the Frankie Huff Granger Distinguished Mentor Award.

The decision to recognize a Church of Excellence was made by the Leadership Team as they reflected with gratitude that so many churches have supported BWIM with prayers and contributions and have nurtured the faith of girls and women, affirmed women's callings and giftedness, blessed and ordained women as ministers, called women to serve in their midst, and sent women out to serve in the world. This recognition is our way of saying thank you each year to one church, a church

that has gone above and beyond in its encouragement of women ministers and of BWIM.

The 2014 Church of Excellence is Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. Northminster is a congregation that has not only welcomed and affirmed ministry by women through words, but also through its deeds. Founded in 1967, Northminster has always encouraged women to use all their gifts, beginning with Karen Gilfoy, who, in the earliest days of the congregation, served as a leader of the music ministry. In the 1980s, the church elected the first Baptist female deacon chair in the state of Mississippi. In its history, Northminster has ordained seven people to the gospel ministry, five of whom are women.

Another woman is currently in the ordination process. Northminster currently has three women serving on its pastoral staff: Jill Barnes Buckley, associate pastor for community ministry, Amy Finkelberg, associate pastor for adults, and Lesley Ratcliff, associate pastor for children.

Rebecca Wiggs, a long-time lay leader at the church, writes,

“Northminster has a strong tradition of lay leadership. I think that is the source of our commitment to women in ministry. Women are servant leaders in every part of our life together at Northminster; we serve as musicians, deacons, caregivers, planners, drivers, money managers, hostesses, and teachers. Why would you only equip half the membership when there is so much work to be done? As our pastor, Chuck Poole says, ‘We ordain women because we baptize girls.’ The fact that over half the people that we have ordained to the ministry in our church’s history are women, I think, is a natural outgrowth of how we have raised our children and welcomed newcomers.”



Lesley Ratacliff, Jill Barnes Buckley, and Amy Finkelberg

For many years, Northminster has been faithful and generous in its financial support of Baptist Women in Ministry. Each month a portion the church's denominational relations dollars is sent directly to BWIM. This consistent and dependable support has made a significant difference for this organization as well as for women called by God to ministry. Northminster truly has been and continues to be a Church of Excellence!

Baptist Women in Ministry has also been sustained by the many mentors among us, women and men who have given of their time, their words, their love and encouragement to Baptist women called by God. These mentors have walked alongside, listened to, and occasionally nudged women new to ministry to follow God's leading, to use their best gifts for God's kingdom.

In 2014, Baptist Women in Ministry recognizes and honors Sue Fitzgerald as the recipient of the Frankie Huff Granger Distinguished Mentor Award. Born in Gretna, Virginia, into a Baptist family, Sue has been a quiet, faithful minister of the gospel for over sixty years. She is a graduate of Meredith College (1952) and Andover Newton Theological Seminary (1959), and over the course of her ministry, she has served on staff at First Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia, Franklin Baptist Church, Franklin, Virginia, and Mars Hill Baptist Church, Mars Hill, North Carolina. After nearly twenty years of church ministry, Mars Hill

Baptists ordained her to the gospel ministry on May 5, 1973.

Two years later, Mars Hill College invited Sue to begin a new Center for Christian Education Ministries. She spent the next twenty years serving all over western North Carolina through preaching, teaching, leading workshops, counseling, and being present for pastors and leaders who needed new ideas, materials, or just a listening ear. Sue retired from Mars Hills College in 1995, but she did not retire from ministry. She served as a hospice chaplain for ten years while at the same time continuing to provide resources for church leaders. She enclosed her carport and made it into a library, and ministers from all over western North Carolina made their way to her home for materials and conversation. Also in "retirement," Sue served as volunteer president and director of Madison County Neighbors in Need, a ministry that provides food for families in crisis.

In 2011, at the age of eighty, Sue left her beloved Mars Hill and moved to Winston-Salem in order to be closer to extended family. But even in this new place, she continues finding ministry opportunities. Sue has spent much of her time in the last three years visiting nursing homes and providing encouragement and care for those who are lonely or sick or just in need of someone to listen.

While she has given many gifts to our world, perhaps one of her best gifts has been her willingness to mentor ministers, both women and men. She

has been a quiet voice of reason, a kind voice of encouragement, and a steady voice of affirmation for hundreds of ministers in North Carolina and beyond. One of those she has mentored is Wanda Kidd, college ministry coordinator at Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina. Of Sue, Wanda writes, "Just say the name, Sue Fitzgerald in western North Carolina, and regardless of whether you are speaking to a man or a woman, a lay member or a minister, a slow smile comes to their face. Sue has broadened more people's concept of a gender specific clergy than anyone I know. She is just 'Sue,' a minister and an ambassador for Mars Hill College, who has always shown up to support, encourage, push, educate, and love all of the people in these mountains. She is my hero."

We give thanks to God for Northminster Baptist Church and Sue Fitzgerald.



SUE FITZGERALD
2014 Frankie Huff Granger
Distinguished Mentor
Award



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014 ADDIE DAVIS NOMINEES

THE 2014 ADDIE DAVIS AWARDS

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN PASTORAL MINISTRY

Allison Benfield
Gardner-Webb School
of Divinity

Meggie Dant
McAfee School
of Theology

Gretchen Jones
Logsdon School
of Theology

Meg Lacy
Candler School
of Theology

Ashlee Murphy
Baptist Theological Seminary
in Richmond

Amanda Standiford
Baptist Seminary
of Kentucky

EXCELLENCE IN PREACHING

Claire Chadwick
Central Baptist
Theological Seminary

Laura Edgar
Baptist Seminary
of Kentucky

Jennifer Simmons Lyon
McAfee School
of Theology

Katie Renéé Mussat
George W. Truett
Theological Seminary

Stephanie Nash
Logsdon School
of Theology

Clara M. Owens
Baptist Theological
Seminary in Richmond

Abigail Pratt
Wake Forest University
School of Divinity

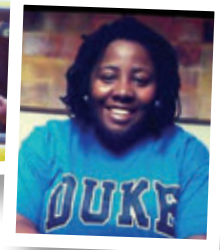
Lynnette James Sills
Gardner-Webb
School of Divinity



Erica Evans Whitaker



Racquel Gill



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 have been and are an affirmation of all the women nominated and recognition of the award recipients, but the awards are an acknowledgement of the unique gifts, voices, and strengths of all women.

The 2014 recipient of the Addie Davis Award for Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry is Erica Evans Whitaker. Erica will graduate from Baylor University's George W. Truett Theological Seminary in August 2014. She currently serves as minister of outreach at Agape Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

Erica's journey into ministry came out of "an ongoing revelation over the span of six years." She fell in love with local congregational ministry at the age of eighteen but quickly realized that her gifts were not in the area of children's ministry. Erica then explored a calling in youth ministry, serving in two Baptist churches. In the second church, she encountered a roadblock and discovered that not all Baptists would support her calling or her ministry—because of her gender. Leaving that church with "manageable wounds," Erica began to doubt her call and was disheartened.

In the fall of 2010, Erica enrolled as a student at Truett seminary and there was challenged to rethink

her calling. She spent a year talking with professors, observing the ministries of Baptist women pastors, and seeking to hear God's voice, and in the course of discernment, she found healing and renewal. She also found home. Erica writes, "The local Baptist church is where I have found my home—preaching and pastoring, leading and loving the church." "I know without a shadow of a doubt that God is moving and breathing life into the brokenness that makes up the church, and I want to partner with God as a pastor of God's church. I am called to preach and to pastor through my strengths and my weaknesses and through my successes and my failures by the grace of God that pours out into my life each day."

Angela Reed, assistant professor of practical theology and director of spiritual formation at Truett, recommended Erica for this award: "Erica has a deep love for people and wonderful gifts for empathetic listening. . . Erica is also a strong leader who can identify what needs to be done and determine how to meet those needs. When the church she currently serves entered into a challenging transition, Erica offered a strong and supportive presence. She provided pastoral leadership . . . with courage, honesty, and grace. Instead of becoming discouraged, Erica has taken this opportunity to understand the work of pastoral ministry more fully."

Dean Dickens, the pastor in the interim of Agape Baptist Church, where Erica serves on staff, writes of her "Erica is loved by old and young in

this congregation because, in a ‘coming-apart-crisis,’ she ministered effectively and lovingly to the whole congregation. Addie Davis would be proud to be associated with Erica Whitaker. So am I.”

The recipient of the 2014 Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching is Racquel Gill. Racquel just completed her second year at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. She has been preaching most of her life. Racquel was licensed to preach at the age of fourteen by her home church, St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church in Winnsboro, South Carolina, and she traveled across her home state during her high school years preaching in churches and speaking at youth events.

For Racquel, the gift of preaching has been transformational, for she writes, “I do not exaggerate at all when I say that preaching changed my life. Within my first few years in the preaching ministry, I transitioned from a very bashful, insecure, and unmotivated

teenager to a confident, articulate, and socially conscious young woman.”

When she was eighteen years old, her home church ordained her and sent her off to Columbia College in Columbia, South Carolina. She completed her undergraduate degree in May 2012 and enrolled at Duke Divinity School that fall.

One of Racquel’s mentors has been Oreon K. Trickery, associate pastor of congregational life at LaSalle Street Church in Chicago, Illinois. Racquel served as a summer intern at LaSalle Street in the summer of 2013. In recommending her for this award, Rev. Trickery writes, “Her poise and presence in the pulpit were impressive as she presented God’s Word to our congregation. Racquel interwove scripture, current issues and events, her own experiences, and life applications for our congregants in a powerful and accessible way. Her entire presentation made apparent Racquel’s call to preach, her giftedness as an expositor of the Word, and her skill as a communicator.”

Racquel’s award winning sermon is titled “Purpose in the Midst of Pain: It Doesn’t Need a Blame to Have a Purpose” and is based on the text John 9:1-13. She preached this sermon at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Heath Springs, South Carolina. In her sermon about Jesus healing of a blind man, Racquel reminds us: “While the disciples look at this blind man and try to find his sin, Jesus looks at this man and sees God’s potential to use him. While the disciples try to find the blame for this man’s pain, Jesus reveals the man’s purpose in the midst of pain. Sometimes you ought to be glad for those people in your life who didn’t try to locate your sin but they tried to bring out your potential. They didn’t try to judge you but they tried to help you. They didn’t play the blame game, but they looked at your messed up self and said, ‘God can use you.’”

We give thanks for the gifts and ministry of Erica Evans Whitaker and Racquel Gill, our 2014 recipients of the Addie Davis Awards.

Our Graduates.

TRUETT SEMINARY

Truett graduates pastor large and small congregations. They spearhead international missions organizations and local ministries. They minister to children, adults, and seniors. They feed the hungry, house the homeless, and care for the sick. They lead nonprofits, write books, and build discipleship programs. Truett graduates respond in mighty ways to Christ’s command to proclaim the gospel.



BAYLOR
TRUETT SEMINARY



AURELIA PRATT MDIV '12
TEACHING PASTOR, GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH



“When I wanted to set up an endowment in my late husband's name, CBF Foundation President, Jim Smith, and the Foundation staff worked with me personally. I was able to honor Roy’s lifetime career by giving a gift that would continue far into the future at the seminary in Colombia where we taught.”

-Joyce Cope Wyatt

COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP
FOUNDATION www.cbff.org
 (770) 220-1600
jgraham@cbff.org

COOPERATIVE BAPTIST
FELLOWSHIP
 of South Carolina

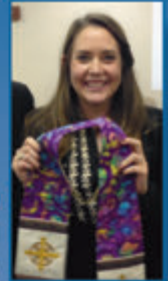
& The Baptist
 Women in Ministry
 of South Carolina

Congratulate...

South Carolinian *Racquel Gill*
 the 2014 recipient of the
 Addie Davis Excellence
 in Preaching Award;



and *Beth McConnell*
 on her call to pastor
 Kathwood Baptist
 Church, Columbia, SC;



and *Merianna Neely Harrelson*
 on her call to pastor Emmanuel
 Baptist Church, Lexington, SC.

*Growing as a community of grace...
 Connecting people to Christ and one another...*

**The Baptist House
 at Duke Divinity invites
 you to stop by our booth!**

Discover . . .

- Current updates from the Baptist House
- Our new degree programs
- What our graduates are doing now
- New books from Baptist faculty
- Information on events
- Opportunities to visit and be involved

**DUKE
 DIVINITY
 SCHOOL**



Celebrating another year as a National and CBFNC Partner School!

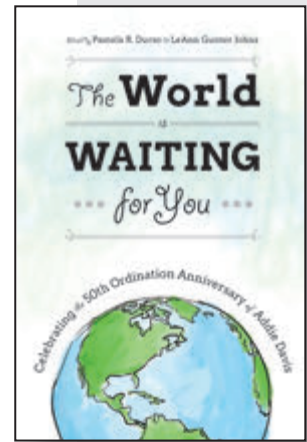
THE WORLD IS WAITING FOR YOU: A NEW BOOK FROM BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Baptist Women in Ministry is pleased to partner with Smyth & Helwys Publishers in the production of a new book, *The World is Waiting for You: Celebrating the 50th Ordination Anniversary of Addie Davis*. The collection is co-edited by Pam Durso and LeAnn Gunter Johns and includes Addie's story, two of her sermons, and twenty-five sermons by eighteen Addie Davis Award recipients.


The preachers featured in the book are Gwen Brown, Erin James-Brown, Molly Brummett, Caroline Lawson Dean, Bailey Nelson Edwards, Griselda Escobar, Angela Fields, Nicole Finkelstein-Blair, Karen Hatcher, Kimberly Schmitt Holman, LeAnn Gunter Johns, Andrea Dellinger Jones, Martha Kears, Veronice Miles,

Heather Mustain, Teresa Pugh, Kyndall Rae Rothaus, and Shelley Hasty Woodruff.

The World is Waiting for You: Celebrating the 50th Ordination Anniversary of Addie Davis will be available for sale at the June 25 lunch, and nine of the preachers featured in the book will be present for a book signing. Pam Durso and LeAnn Gunter Johns will also be signing books during General Assembly at the Smyth & Helwys exhibit on Thursday, June 26, following the evening worship service.



Pam Durso and LeAnn Gunter Johns



BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY at RICHMOND

Supporting

WOMEN IN MINISTRY

for

25 YEARS

EST. 1989

www.BTSR.edu | 804-355-8135

Living into the Story






Rev. Addie Davis

Rev. Dorisanne Cooper

Fifty years after ordaining Reverend Addie Davis as the first female Southern Baptist Minister, Watts Street Baptist Church welcomes Reverend Dorisanne Cooper into the pulpit and into this story!

We are a people seeking to follow Jesus. Come live this story with us.

Watts Street Baptist Church
800 Watts St., Durham, NC 27701
www.wattsstreet.org

MARTHA STEARNS MARSHALL

ST	CITY	CHURCH	PREACHER	ST	CITY	CHURCH	PREACHER
AL	Alpine	Alpine Baptist Church	Terri Byrd	KY	Georgetown	Baptist Seminary of Kentucky Chapel	Amanda Standiford
AL	Birmingham	Baptist Church of the Covenant	Ann Lautenschlager and Hope Lewis	KY	Georgetown	Faith Baptist Church	Laura Edgar
AL	Huntsville	First Baptist Church	Jane Hull	KY	Jackson	Emmanuel Fellowship	Becky Caswell-Speight
AL	Jacksonville	First Baptist Church of Williams	Dori Gragg	KY	Lexington	Central Baptist Church	Meredith Holladay
AL	Madison	Trinity Baptist Church	Amy Hatchett Sims	KY	Louisville	Broadway Baptist Church	Susan Reed
AL	Mobile	First Baptist Church	Stephanie Little Coyne	KY	Louisville	Crescent Hill Baptist Church	Andrea Woolley and Brittani Bair
AL	Pintala	Pintala Baptist Church	Terri Byrd	KY	Louisville	Highland Baptist Church	Carol Harston
AL	Tuscaloosa	Woodland Forest Baptist Church	Hannah Hudson	KY	Louisville	Ridgewood Baptist Church	Laura Barclay
AR	Little Rock	Pulaski Heights Baptist Church	Carolyn Staley	KY	Middlesboro	First Baptist Church	Kristy Bay
CA	Fremont	Crossroads Church	Frances Tuck	KY	Midway	Midway Baptist Church	Cynthia Insko
CA	Glendale	First Baptist Church	Fela Barrueto and Sara Hunt	KY	Port Royal	Port Royal Baptist Church	Alix Davidson Keller
FL	Eustis	Lake Church	Fela Barrueto and Sara Hunt	LA	New Orleans	St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church	Elizabeth Mangham Lott
FL	Jacksonville	Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church	Rachel Gunter Shapard	MA	Jamaica Plain	First Baptist Church	Mary Little Apicella
FL	Lakeland	Church in the Meadows	Meredith Key and Anna Roberts	MD	Baltimore	University Baptist Church	Christina Perkins
FL	Orlando	College Park Baptist Church	Deena Williams Newman	MD	Baltimore	Woodbrook Baptist Church	Amy Butler and Tiffany Triplett-Henkel
FL	Tampa	Bayshore Baptist Church	Stacy Nowell	MD	Bowie	Village Baptist Church	Starlette McNeill
GA	Americus	Fellowship Baptist Church	Tammy Snyder	MD	Kensington	Kensington Baptist Church	Kim Hyekyung Ock
GA	Athens	Milledge Avenue Baptist Church	Jennifer Lyon	MO	Jefferson City	First Baptist Church	Melissa Hatfield and Jeanie McGowan
GA	Athens	First Baptist Church	Rachel Sloan	MO	Kansas City	Englewood Baptist Church	Jennifer Harris Dault
GA	Atlanta	Druid Hills Baptist Church	Suzi Paynter	MO	Kansas City	Holmeswood Baptist Church	Meredith Holladay
GA	Atlanta	Friendship Baptist Church	Carra Hughes Greer	MO	Kirkwood	Kirkwood Baptist Church	Donna Watts
			Frances Bryant-Lowery, Gwendolyn Hudgin, Caroline Terry, and Julianna Turner	MO	Springfield	University Heights Baptist Church	Muriel Johnson
GA	Atlanta	Northside Drive Baptist Church	Pam Durso	MO	Stanton	First Baptist Church	Ali Sakas
GA	Atlanta	Park Avenue Baptist Church	Meg Lacy	MO	Webster Groves	Webster Groves Baptist Church	Leslie Limbaugh, Linda Taylor, and Dyyone Alberty
GA	Atlanta	Peachtree Baptist Church	Karen Massey	MS	Clinton	Northside Baptist Church	Susan Meadors
GA	Atlanta	Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church	Barbara Brown Taylor	MS	Jackson	Northminster Baptist Church	Holly Benzenhofer Redford
GA	Commerce	First Baptist Church	Jennifer Lyon	MS	Starkville	University Baptist Church	Kelly Kessler Brown, Lela Hendrix, Sara Herrington Jones, and Susan Hooks Meadors
GA	Conyers	Macedonia Baptist Church	Shivern Jones-Jeeter	NC	Ahoskie	First Baptist Church	Claire Presley
GA	Conyers	Trinity Baptist Church	Karen Woods	NC	Angier	Neill's Creek Baptist Church	Lynn Brinkley
GA	Dalton	First Baptist Church	Courtney Allen	NC	Archer Lodge	White Oak Baptist Church	Kim Wyatt
GA	Decatur	First Baptist Church	Ruth Perkins Lee and Devita Parnell	NC	Asheville	Calvary Baptist Church	Pat Stillwell
GA	Devereaux	Beulah Baptist Church	Karen Manus-Pennings	NC	Asheville	Morningside Baptist Church	J. Gail Coulter
GA	Duluth	Parkway Baptist Church	Natalie Vinson King	NC	Benson	Benson Baptist Church	Jill Martin
GA	Fayetteville	National Heights Baptist Church	Robin North	NC	Black Mtn.	First Baptist Church	J. Gail Coulter
GA	Fitzgerald	First Baptist Church	Sarah Holik Murray	NC	Boone	First Baptist Church	Courtney Mills Jones Willis
GA	Greensboro	Lake Oconee Church	Becky Matheny	NC	Buies Creek	Memorial Baptist Church	Amy McClure
GA	Haddock	Haddock Baptist Church	Rebecca Andrews	NC	Candler	Hominy Baptist Church	Donna Satterfield Shook
GA	Jefferson	First Baptist Church	Erica Cooper	NC	Cary	Greenwood Forest Baptist Church	Lauren Efrid, Robin Hardison, Lydia Hoyle, and Sara Jobe
GA	Macon	First Baptist Church of Christ	Julie Long	NC	Cary	Westwood Baptist Church	Lydia Hoyle
GA	Macon	Highland Hills Baptist Church	Erin Robinson Hall	NC	Chapel Hill	Lystra Baptist Church	Chesley Woods Mitchell
GA	Macon	St. Clare Baptist Church	Karen Manus-Pennings	NC	Chapel Hill	HillSong Church	Beth Roberts
GA	Milledgeville	Community Baptist Church	Amanda Wilson Harper	NC	Chapel Hill	University Baptist Church	Janice Haywood
GA	Morrow	First Baptist Church	Jennifer Lyon	NC	Charlotte	Park Road Baptist Church	Amy Jacks Dean
GA	Rome	North Broad Baptist Church	Leslie-Ann Hix	NC	Charlotte	St. John's Baptist Church	Mary Beth Foust and Suzi Paynter
GA	Savannah	First Baptist Church	Lauren E. Colwell	NC	Clayton	First Baptist Church	Kim Wyatt
GA	Snellville	Cornerstone Church	Kenza Gumbs	NC	Cullowhee	Cullowhee Baptist Church	Tonya Vickery
GA	Stone Mtn.	Smoke Rise Baptist Church	Kelli Kirksey	NC	Durham	Watts Street Baptist Church	Mary Elizabeth Hanchey and Diane Eubanks Hill
ID	Boise	Mountain View Community Fellowship Church	April McCullen and Mamie Oliver	NC	Elkins	First Baptist Church	Mary Beth Foust
KS	Lawrence	First Baptist Church	Aline Silva-Schreiner	NC	Fairview	The Chapel Door	J. Gail Coulter
KS	Liberty	Second Baptist Church	Meredith Holladay	NC	Greensboro	First Baptist Church	Leslie-Ann Hix
KY	Danville	Lexington Avenue Baptist Church	Amanda Standiford	NC	Hendersonville	Providence Baptist Church	Rebecca Mathis
KY	Elizabethtown	Living Faith Baptist Fellowship	Laura Barclay				
KY	Frankfort	First Baptist Church	Cynthia Insko				

ST	CITY	CHURCH	PREACHER	ST	CITY	CHURCH	PREACHER
NC	Kernersville	Union Cross Baptist Church	Erin Lyssé	TX	Belton	Meadow Oaks Baptist Church	Lillian Hinds
NC	Louisburg	Hickory Rock Baptist Church	Sara Lamkin	TX	Dallas	Royal Lane Baptist Church	Suzi Paynter
NC	Madison	First Baptist Church	Jan Walsh	TX	Dallas	Wilshire Baptist Church	Britt Carlson
NC	Marion	First Baptist Church	Donna S. Shook	TX	Elm Mott	First Baptist Church	Megan Byrd
NC	Mocksville	First Baptist Church	Tiffany Brown	TX	Ft. Worth	Agape Baptist Church	Erica Evans Whitaker
NC	Mt. Airy	Calvary Baptist Church	Amy Collins	TX	Ft. Worth	Gambrell Street Baptist Church	Susanna Watson
NC	N. Wilkesboro	First Baptist Church	Rebecca Husband-Maynard	TX	Ft. Worth	Western Hills Baptist Church	Deirdre LaNoue
NC	Oxford	Oxford Baptist Church	Ashley Gill Harrington and Stacy Pardue	TX	Harker Heights	Trinity Baptist Church	Meredith Stone
				TX	Houston	South Main Baptist Church	Amy Grizzle Kane
NC	Pfafftown	Pfafftown Baptist Church	Dorothy Barham	TX	Houston	Willow Meadows Baptist Church	Trisha Taylor
NC	Pittsboro	Mt. Gilead Baptist Church	Ashley Mangrum				
NC	Plymouth	First Baptist Church	Karen Pruette	TX	Irving	Valley Ranch Baptist Church	Amy Wilkins
NC	Raleigh	Crabtree Valley Baptist Church	Caitlin Estes	TX	Lubbock	Second Baptist Church	Stephanie Nash
				TX	McKinney	Community North	Annette Thornburg
NC	Raleigh	Forest Hills Baptist Church	Alta Witt	TX	Round Rock	Grace Baptist Church	Aurelia Pratt
NC	Raleigh	Hayes Barton Baptist Church	Sarah Mears,	TX	San Angelo	Southland Baptist Church	Katie Mussat
			Louisa Monroe,	TX	San Antonio	Covenant Baptist Church	Kyndall Rae Rothaus
			Kristen Muse, and	TX	San Antonio	Woodland Baptist Church	Ellen DiGiosia
			Wendy Tingle	TX	Spring	Wildwood Baptist Church	Meredith Stone
NC	Raleigh	Longview Baptist Church	Faithe Beam	TX	Waco	Calvary Baptist Church	Mary Alice Birdwhistell
NC	Raleigh	Millbrook Baptist Church	Molly Shoulta	TX	Waco	First Baptist Church	Jamie McCallum
NC	Raleigh	Tabernacle Baptist Church	Mary Langley	TX	Waco	Lake Shore Baptist Church	Jaime Steiert McGlothlin
NC	Raleigh	Trinity Baptist Church	Karen Metcalf Eickhoff	TX	Waco	Seventh and James Baptist Church	Katie Mussat
NC	Richfield	Richfield Baptist Church	Kimberly Miller				
NC	Rowland	First Baptist Church	Darlene Jacobs	TX	Waco	Speegleville Baptist Church	Chansin Esparza
NC	Sanford	Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church	Bailey Edwards Nelson	TX	Waco	University Baptist Church	Lindsey Trozzo and Natalie Webb
				VA	Alexandria	Commonwealth Baptist Church	Courtney Hodge and Jessie Kearns
NC	Sylva	First Baptist Church	Rebecca Mathis				
NC	Wake Forest	Heritage Baptist Church	Carin Daniels	VA	Annandale	The United Baptist Church	Twyla J. Turner
NC	Whiteville	First Baptist Church	Becca Jones	VA	Arrington	Woodland Baptist Church	Elizabeth Bartley
NC	Wilmington	Winter Park Baptist Church	Lydia Hoyle	VA	Bedford	Bedford Baptist Church	Melissa Scott
NC	Wilson	First Baptist Church	Elizabeth Edwards	VA	Blacksburg	Blacksburg Baptist Church	Jennifer Mullins
NC	Wingate	Wingate Baptist Church	Sara Sparr Stubbs	VA	Bruington	Bruington Baptist Church	Christy Foldenauer
NC	Winston-Salem	Ardmore Baptist Church	Sheree Jones	VA	Charlottesville	University Baptist Church	Elizabeth Rickert Dowdy and Allison Hager Jackson
NC	Winston-Salem	North West Baptist Church	Ka'thy Gore Chappel and Rebecca Wright	VA	Chesapeake	Churchland Baptist Church	Tracy Hartman
			Nicole Johnson,	VA	Chester	Chester Baptist Church	Alice Cates
			Judy McReynolds,	VA	Crozet	Crozet Baptist Church	Laura Anderson, Elizabeth Bartley, Jenny Call, and Tammy Carter James
			Michelle Melton,				
			Ashton Murray,	VA	Glen Allen	Biltmore Baptist Church	Alice Cates
			Leann Steele, Sheryl Wells, and Chelsea Yarborough	VA	Halifax	Beth Car Baptist Church	Miriam Dakin
NY	New York	Metropolitan Baptist Church	Sarah Lusche	VA	Independence	First Baptist Church	Melanie Storie
OK	Norman	NorthHaven Church	Sarah Stewart	VA	Martinsville	Starling Avenue Baptist Church	Molly Shoulta, Susan Spangenberg, and Kristin Whitesides
RI	Jamestown	Central Baptist Church	Kathryn Palen	VA	Montross	Nomini Baptist Church	Jessica Garland Williams
SC	Aiken	First Baptist Church	Pam Durso	VA	North Garden	Mooreland Baptist Church	Jillian Andrzejewski
SC	Anderson	Boulevard Baptist Church	Ellen Sechrest	VA	Portsmouth	Westhaven Baptist Church	Traci Powers
SC	Camden	Lakeview Baptist Church	Carrie Nettles	VA	Red Oak	Antioch Baptist Church	Jane Lyon
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Richmond	Central Baptist Church	Christy Foldenauer
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Richmond	Huguenot Road Baptist Church	Melissa Fallen
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell				
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Richmond	Patterson Avenue Baptist Church	Natalie Kline
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Richmond	River Road Church	Sheryl Johnson
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Richmond	Tabernacle Baptist Church	Julie Gaines
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Richmond	Westover Baptist Church	Sheila Russ
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Roanoke	Colonial Avenue Baptist Church	Natalie Kline
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell				
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Troy	Bybee's Road Baptist Church	Christy Foldenauer
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Waynesboro	First Baptist Church	Tracy Hartman
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Williamsburg	Williamsburg Baptist Church	Nancy B. Moore
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	VA	Winchester	First Baptist Church	Kristen Adkins Whiteside
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	WA	Lynnwood	Good Shepherd Baptist Church	Terri Stewart
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell	Sanur	Bali, Indonesia	Gateway Community Church	Tina Kay Boyles Bailey
SC	Columbia	Kathwood Baptist Church	Beth McConnell				
TN	Chattanooga	First Baptist Church	Geanne Baucom				
TN	Cookville	Providence Baptist Church	Lauren McDuffie				
TN	Knoxville	Ball Camp Baptist Church	Megan Hurst Carter,				
			Emily Collins, and				
			Danielle Walker				
			Jane Hull				
TN	Knoxville	First Baptist Church	Jane Hull				
TN	Memphis	Central Baptist Church	Felecia LaVant				
TN	Murfreesboro	First Baptist Church	Danya Scoonmaker				
TN	Nashville	Immanuel Baptist Church	Tambi Swiney				
TX	Abilene	Crosspoint Fellowship Church	Kristen Harris Bridwell				
TX	Abilene	First Baptist Church	Meredith Stone				
TX	Abilene	Logsdon Seminary	Stephanie Nash and Meredith Stone				
TX	Austin	First Baptist Church	Meredith Stone				
TX	Austin	Highland Park Baptist Church	Cheryl Kimble				

GIFTS IN HONOR OF MSM PREACHERS

With much thanks to the churches that contributed to BWIM in honor of their MSM preachers!

Ardmore Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

In honor of Sheree Jones

Baptist Church of the Covenant, Birmingham, Alabama

In honor of Ann Lautenschlager and Hope Lewis

Boulevard Baptist Church, Anderson, South Carolina

In honor of Ellen Sechrest

Central Baptist Church, Chesterfield, Virginia

In honor of Christy Foldenauer

First Baptist Church, Austin, Texas

In honor of Meredith Stone

First Baptist Church, Dalton, Georgia

In honor of Courtney Allen

First Baptist Church, Madison, North Carolina

In honor of Jan Walsh

Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, Cary North Carolina

In honor of Lauren Efir, Robin

Hardison, Lydia Hoyle, Sara Jobe

Pintlala Baptist Church, Pintlala Alabama

In honor of Terri Byrd

White Oak Baptist Church, Clayton, North Carolina

In honor of Kim Wyatt



Megan Byrd



Missy Ward Angalla and friends at Refuge and Hope

WHY MARTHA MATTERS

by Pam Durso

Since 2007, Baptist Women in Ministry has invited Baptist churches to participate in Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching by having a woman preach during the month of February. This annual emphasis, named for an eighteenth-century Separate Baptist preacher, has been a deeply significant source of joy and discovery for many churches as they have celebrated the giftedness of women. The MSM emphasis has also been a source of joy and discovery for the women who have stepped into the pulpit. In 2014, we celebrate the 213 “Martha” churches that partnered with us and invited a woman into their pulpit.

A few weeks ago I sat and listened to Missy Ward Angalla tell the story of her calling to ministry. Missy serves as refugee women’s advocacy coordinator at Refuge and Hope International in Kampala, Uganda. As a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel, Missy ministers with great courage, compassion, and kindness to and with women who have lived through unimaginable hardship and horror. In telling her own story, Missy recalled the moment that she fully recognized and embraced her ministerial identity. It was the Sunday she preached for the first time, and that first experience came as a result of a Martha Stearns Marshall invitation: “On that day, standing in the pulpit, I finally felt like a minister and knew that I was living fully into the calling God had given to me.”

Another young woman, Megan Byrd, a young minister in Texas, recently sent me an email and shared these beautiful words: “Thank you so much for encouraging women in ministry and for encouraging me. I am unsure if I would have ever preached from the pulpit were it not for the Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching. . . . There is this little voice deep within that makes me question what I am doing. The fact that there are people I love who so adamantly believe that women should not preach always makes me question if what I am doing is truly pleasing to the Lord. I wrestled with this thought most of the week as I prepared my sermon, but after this past Sunday, if I should have the opportunity to preach again I don’t believe that voice will be back.”

These young women give voice to the life-affirming nature of BWIM’s Martha Stearns Marshall emphasis. They are the reason we continue forward with this emphasis and why we keep encouraging and asking churches to provide a welcoming place for especially “new” ministers to share their gifts. “Martha” churches are truly making a difference as they stand together to support the good preaching gifts God has given to women.

First Baptist Church of Asheville

Celebrates Women in Ministry

"some women among us amazed us . . ." Luke 24:22

The women in ministry at First Baptist Church of Asheville joyfully celebrate Baptist Women in Ministry. We are grateful for all women whose ministries have made ours possible.



Freedom. Friendship. Faith.

First Baptist Church of Asheville

5 Oak Street, Asheville, NC, (828) 252.4781 www.fbca.net

Courageously Listening to God's Call since 1983!

Congratulations Baptist Women In Ministry

From Your Sisters and Brothers at First Austin, Texas



First Baptist Church of Austin | fbcaustin.org | 512.476.2625



ANSWER THE CALL

It's worth a life.



(800) 760-9827 ext. 1830
divinity.campbell.edu

Christ-Centered | Bible-Based | Ministry-Focused

DISCOVER YOURSELF
IN THE STORY

MCAFFEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

3001 Mercer University Dr, Atlanta, GA 30341 theology.mercer.edu theoadmiss@mercier.edu 678-547-6474

DEAR ADDIE

Addie



ADDIE DAVIS

DEAR ADDIE,

Someone I respect recently suggested that my skin may not be “thick enough” to serve on a church staff. This worries me, because I’m preparing for church ministry. While I hate conflict and can be overly sensitive to criticism, I love the church and want to spend my life serving it. Will my sensitivity be an issue? How do I grow thicker skin?

Thin Skinned

DEAR *Thin Skinned*,

Being a sensitive person probably means that you are attentive to the feelings and needs of those around you, which is a great asset for ministry. Sensitive ministers can be exceptionally effective in expressing God’s love and grace in thoughtful, creative, untried ways. Sensitivity is something to celebrate in your ministry. At the same time, this is a gift that suggests what your growing edge needs to be.

Given your love and commitment for the church, hear the words of your friend not as a vocational dead end, but as a reminder to balance the feelings you experience throughout your ministry with the constant pursuit of God’s vision for your ministry. Sensitive ministers can be so relational that their primary ministry goal becomes trying to please everyone. This will prove to be impossible, impractical, short-sighted and unhealthy. A better goal for ministry is to help the church discern God’s vision. While striving to follow Christ’s vision may offer you new lessons

in church conflict, this will also lead you to meaningful and significant ministry.

As you seek God’s vision for your ministry, your ministry skin will grow thicker. Thin skin ministers constantly focus on how they are doing, how great or weak their skills and talents are, what kind of leadership they provide, and what their reputations are. Thick skin ministers can move beyond these concerns and focus on being faithful to the big picture God provides, helping others experience God’s great love, and participating in what the Spirit is doing in the world.

To stay balanced as they spin, ballet dancers look for a particular spot to focus on each time they turn. Focusing on the point they choose keeps them from falling. Church ministry keeps us spinning, too. Our tasks can become so chaotic, that we can lose our focus and falter. When we are wise, we keep our eye on Christ’s vision.

May this way of approaching the chaos and conflict that comes with ministry, keep you dancing in the middle of it—and help your skin grow.

LOVE,

Addie

“Dear Addie”
is a bi-monthly blog.
If you are in need of advice
from a wise and trusted minister,
send your questions to
dearaddie.advice@gmail.com.
“Addie” will answer via
the BWIM blog.

*The photo of Addie Davis
is provided courtesy of
Special Collections, Jack Tarver
Library, Mercer University,
Macon, Georgia.*



LOGSDON SEMINARY JOINS BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY
BY CELEBRATING THE ONGOING WORK BEING DONE
BY GOD IN AND THROUGH BAPTIST WOMEN.



LEARN MORE AT WWW.LOGSDONSEMINARY.ORG
Pictured Above: Kaitlin Brockman, Logsdon Master of Divinity Student & Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Leadership Scholar

**The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina
is proud to partner with Baptist Women in Ministry in**

*remembering and celebrating
the 50th anniversary of
Addie Davis' ordination*

at Watts Street Baptist Church in Durham, NC

*With BWIM, CBFNC seeks to bring women and men together for
Christ-centered ministry, and bring about God's transformation
in our lives, our churches, our communities, and our world.*



www.cbfnc.org

KEEPING UP WITH BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

NEXTSUNDAY

BWIM in partnership with Smyth & Helwys in 2014 is providing a weekly devotional, written by Baptist women ministers and posted on the NextSunday Resources blog. These “Thrive devotionals” walk through the Gospel of Matthew, focusing attention on the ways in which God is at work in our lives. The twelve writers are Kristy Bay, Lauren Brewer Bass, Valerie Burton, Pam Durso, Erin Hall, Allison Kentle, Katie McKown, Julie Pennington-Russell, Kyndall Rae Rothaus, Amy Shorner-Johnson, Melanie Storie, and Cynthia Williams.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE WORK

For BWIM to live into its dreams, we will need your prayers, your financial contributions, and your encouragement. We invite you to participate in BWIM 360, our fundraising drive that began during our thirtieth anniversary celebration. **We ask you to give a gift of \$360 (\$30 a month for the next twelve months) to help BWIM expand its ministries.**

Enclosed is an envelope for your gift or pledge. You can also give online at <http://www.bwim.info/support-us/>. Your gifts make our work possible!

Since 1983, Baptist Women in Ministry has lead the way in advocating, connecting, and networking with Baptist women, seeking to further God’s work by encouraging women to use their gifts and to live fully into their calling. In 2014, BWIM continues to expand its vision, broaden its ministries, and serve as a leading voice among Baptists for change and renewal. Below are just some of the resources that BWIM is providing in 2014.

CALL RETREATS

BWIM has contracted with Lauren Brewer Bass to write a book on discernment in which she will explore new metaphors to understand calling and ministry. This book will help broaden the conversation about vocational ministry. It will be available in early 2015 and will be used at BWIM-sponsored Ready to Respond retreats, which are designed for women students exploring God’s call to ministry.

COMMUNICATION

To share stories of women ministers and news about events, BWIM produces two publications: a monthly e-newsletter and printed newsletter, *Vocare*. The monthly e-newsletter has information about meetings, ordinations, new ministry positions, and a listing of ministry position openings. BWIM most successfully communicates through its Facebook page, which features announcements about events, blog links, and photos from ordinations and of Martha Stearns Marshall preachers.

DEAR ADDIE

“Dear Addie” is a bi-monthly blog post that is designed to provide encouragement and advice from a seasoned minister, “Dear

Addie,” who offers answers to questions posed by women seeking to navigate life and ministry. See page 17 to read a Dear Addie question and response.

MENTORING

BWIM now sponsors ten mentoring groups with a seasoned minister fostering conversations with “young” or “new” ministers. Eight of these groups were formed in early 2014. One of our new mentors recently provided a “glimpse into the awesomeness that is this group. These women are spunky, feisty, faithful, honest, dear, and beloved! It is a great gift to me to spend (virtual) time with them. THANK YOU for the encouragement and the opportunity to do so!”

MONTHLY CONVERSATIONS

A collaborative group led by Devita Parnell and Pam Durso gathers monthly for conversations based on shared interest in the roles of women in Baptist life. The group meets via phone conference call and/or online live meetings. In 2014, the conversations have served as continuing education for ministers with each call addressing challenges faced in congregational ministry, including sticky legal problems, personnel issues, and placement concerns. Included in our guests have been George Mason, Molly Marshall, Rebecca Wiggs, and Pat Wilson.

PLACEMENT

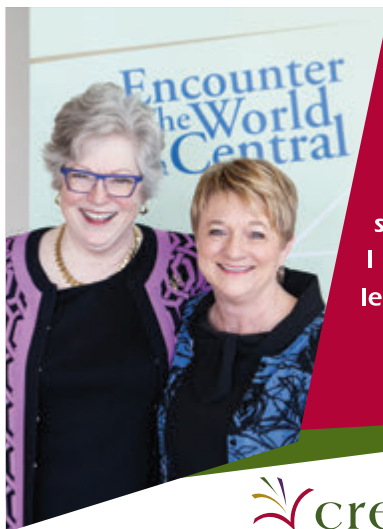
BWIM provides a lengthy list of open ministry positions in its e-newsletter, and BWIM staff offers conversation and assistance in the search process for Baptist women ministers.

BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

P. O. Box 941294
Atlanta, GA 31141-1294

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1603
Atlanta, GA



“There are many new opportunities for women in leadership, however, many women remain marginalized in churches and other places of service. The Body of Christ suffers because of their exclusion. Central is putting strength into Christ’s service through its women’s leadership initiative. I heartily endorse this creative educational pursuit. Equipping God’s called for leadership and fellowship is a joyful charge for us all and a movement of the Spirit.”

–Suzii Paynter
Executive Coordinator, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship



The “stained-glass ceiling” still exists! Even though women have made magnificent strides in employment equality in varied professional fields, they still face significant barriers in ministry positions and executive leadership in non-profits. With our select initiative for Leadership Development for Women, Central is taking steps toward a radical transformation of the horizon for women called to leadership in ministry.



Bright, creative, young women have been selected to be a part of this unique all-women cohort of master of divinity students set to begin in the fall at the Scarritt-Bennett Center, the new site for CBTS in Tennessee.

Visit www.cbts.edu to learn more