### a voice for women in baptist life

#### VOLUME 4, NO. 2, SPRING 2010

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BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY advocating • connecting • networking

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Sermons by BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY

PAMELA R. DURSO EDITOR

# COMING SOON!

#### BAPTIST WOMEN IN

MINISTRY will host several gatherings and a workshop and participate in a book signing during the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's General Assembly on June 24-26, 2010, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Make plans to attend. More information about these events is on page 2.

IUNE 24	Breakfast and Worship at Providence Baptist Church
UNE 24	Book Signing, <i>This Is What a Preacher Looks Like:</i> Sermons by Baptist Women in Ministry
UNE 25	Workshop, "True to Your Voice: Women of Courage"
JUNE 26	Breakfast with Lauren Winner, author of <i>Girl Meets God</i> Co-hosted with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Initiative for Ministerial Excellence

#### **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.



June 25, 3:00 p.m.: Panel Discussion "True to Your Voice: Women in Courage" Panel, I to r: Loyd Allen, moderator, Andrea Jones, Melissa Fox, and Reba Cobb.

Smyth and Helwys has released This Is What a Preacher Looks Like: Sermons by Baptist Women in Ministry, a collection of thirty-eight sermons by thirtysix Baptist women. Featured preachers in the book are:

Mary Yangsook Ahn Robin Bolen Anderson Patricia A. Bancroft Faithe Beam Bonnie Oliver Brandon Katrina Stipe Brooks Amy Butler Eileen Campbell-Reed Dorisanne Cooper Lynn Dandridge Isabel N. Docampo Elizabeth Rickert Dowdy Pamela R. Durso Kristy L. Eggert F. Sue Fitzgerald Tammy Jackson Gill Elizabeth Evans Hagan Amber C. Inscore Essick LeAnn Gunter Johns Andrea Dellinger Jones Martha Dixon Kearse Iulie Merritt Lee Jewel M. London Nora O. Lozano Molly T. Marshall Amy Mears Robin Norsworthy Suzii Paynter Julie Pennington-Russell Suzanah Raffield Nancy Hastings Sehested Sarah Jackson Shelton Amy Shorner-Johnson Sarah Stewart Lisa L. Thompson Joy Yee

### BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY EVENTS JUNE 24-26, 2010

#### **BREAKFAST, JUNE 24**

Join us at 7:30 for a breakfast and worship at Providence Baptist Church. The church is located at 4921 Randolph Road in Charlotte. For directions, visit the church's website: www.providencebc.org. The cost of the breakfast is \$15. To register and pay, visit the BWIM website—www.bwim.info/events/ or e-mail Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info.

#### **BOOK SIGNING, JUNE 24**

Visit the Smyth and Helwys exhibit on Thursday after the evening worship. You can buy a copy of *This Is What a Preacher Looks Like: Sermons by Baptist Women in Ministry*, and some of the preachers featured in the book will be there to sign your copy!

To order your copy of the book, visit Smyth & Helwys Publishers at http://www.helwys.com/ books/newbooks.html



At 1:30, the Whitsitt Baptist Historical Society will present its Courage Award to Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, 1974-1989, and founding mother of Baptist Women

WORKSHOP, JUNE 25

in Ministry. Come share in this celebration and hear Carolyn tell about her journey.

At 3:00, Baptist Women in Ministry will host a panel discussion titled "True to Your Voice: Women of Courage." Loyd Allen, professor at McAfee School of Theology, will introduce and moderate the panel, which includes Andrea Jones, Melissa Fox, and Reba Cobb.

#### **BREAKFAST, JUNE 26**

Come to breakfast and hear Lauren Winner! The breakfast, which begins at 7:30, is co-hosted by Baptist Women in Ministry and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Initiative for Ministerial Excellence. Lauren Winner, an assistant professor of Christian spirituality at Duke University's Divinity School, is author of several books including *Girl Meets God.* The breakfast will be held at the convention center and costs \$20. To register and pay, visit the BWIM website—www.bwim.info/events/ or e-mail Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info.



#### THIS IS WHAT A PREACHER LOOKS LIKE

"This Is What a Preacher Looks Like" T-Shirts are available in sizes Youth Large; Small; Medium;

Large; X-Large; XX-Large. The cost is \$10 plus shipping. To order a T-Shirt, visit http://www.bwim.info/what-a-preacher-looks-like/.

### THE BIRTH OF IMMANUEL PROGRESSIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

The inaugural worship service of Immanuel Progressive Baptist Church was held on Easter Sunday, 2006, in Covington, Georgia. The idea for a new fellowship came to me in October 2005, during moments of fasting, prayer, and meditation. At the time, I was in my first year of seminary at Candler School of Theology at Emory University. I was a fortysix-year-old second career student, returning to academia after many years. I had my mind only on my studies, but apparently, the Lord had other plans.

David Key, director of Baptist Studies at Candler, prophesied during our first meeting that before I graduated from Candler, I would be serving as a pastor of a church and might even start one. But I had a heavy school schedule and was enduring physical challenges during that first semester. I was learning how to study all over again, and the thought of more responsibility from God in leading God's people in a weekly church setting was not what I had in mind.

Eventually though I realized that the Lord was leading and guiding this effort, and I knew that Immanuel Progressive would not just be a Sunday morning church. We were being tasked by God to be available in ministry to fellowship with all peoples of the world. To prepare for the new church, Audrey Morgan, Thomas Johnson (then age 9), and I began having prayer meetings at my home each Sunday afternoon. Sometimes we were joined by Rev. Asa Floyd, Thomas' brother, Sharoski, and their mother, Larenda. We met over a couple of months, praying for the new fellowship called "Immanuel," which means "God with us."

The announcement of the new church was made at my home church, Bethlehem Baptist Church, in Covington, Georgia, in February 2006. But there were still so many unanswered questions, including where we would meet. We finally settled on Porterdale Elementary School. The principal, Lizella Dotson, allowed us to hold our first worship service there, but she said we would not be able to meet there regularly.

We decided to hold our first service on Sunday afternoon, April 16, 2006. As we talked about new beginnings and ministry opportunities, the local community and members of Bethlehem offered support of this new ministry.

Finally, the day came, and our first service was wonderful. But we wondered where we would meet the next week. Pastor Clara Lett of Rainbow Covenant Ministries called me the next morning to offer her support to us. I asked her to pray with us that we would find a weekly meeting space. She told me that our prayer had already been answered. We could meet at her church, and we would not have to pay rent. *Hallelujah* and *Praise the Lord* was my response, along with a resounding YES! We met at Rainbow Covenant for seven months and were then offered space at New Hope Baptist Church in Covington, Georgia, where we still meet today, thanks to their pastor, Harold Miller, and the congregation.

Immanuel's mission statement is "God with us as we move faithfully to make a positive difference in the lives of all peoples." For us, the word "peoples" indicates our openness to anyone anywhere in the world. Most of our members have been or are living in shelters or prisons. Most have no stable source of income. We do not have a church budget. But Immanuel is a missional church and a giving church. One story-we had a family whose van needed repair but they had no funds. I negotiated with a local repair shop, and the cost was lowered from \$2,100 to \$1,200, but although the church did not have \$1,200, the Holy Spirit assured us that we would be able to pay for the repairs in thirty days. In twentyseven days we had the money. As a result, two young men from that family joined our fellowship and were baptized.

At the invitation of Deacon Forrest and Deaconness Sharon Sawyer, the church is now a regular guest on "Thy Brother's and Sister's Keeper," on 1430AM, WGFS radio in Newton County. During the program, the Immanuel youth choir sings, and I pray and bring words of encouragement.

Immanuel Progressive Baptist Church is excited about what lies ahead, and we look forward to participating in the ministry and work of the Lord.

#### JONCI WOMACK Bethel Baptist Church Scottsburg, VA



**KATE HANCH** Holmeswood Baptist Church Kansas City, MO



MARTHA WOULD BE PROUD

> One hundred and five Baptist churches across the nation and one in Cuba joined together in February 2010 to observe the fourth annual Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching. Churches in eighteen states (Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia) and District of Columbia invited women into their pulpits to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. The event has grown since in 2007, when fifty-five churches participated in the inaugural Month of Preaching.

> Sponsored by the Baptist Women in Ministry, the event is named for Martha Stearns Marshall, an eighteenth-century North Carolina Separate Baptist woman, who preached alongside her brother and husband. The event is both a celebration of women in the pulpit and an opportunity to educate congregations about women in ministry.

> Micah Pritchett, pastor in Kansas City, Missouri, invited two students from William Jewell College, Hannah Lewis and Abby Pratt, to preach at Englewood Baptist Church. In the welcome to worship, Pritchett told stories of his own opportunities as a seminary student to preach in small Texas churches, and he reminisced, "Those churches gave me an opportunity to explore my calling and see if this was what God really wanted me to do. They let

me use my gifts and gain some experience. Those little country churches play an important role in preparing young ministers for ministry. But most of those little churches won't invite a woman to come preach. Young women don't get those opportunities that I had." Pritchett continued, "Today we are saying that we support women in ministry-not just in theory, but in a very practical way as we bless and encourage these two young women as they explore God's call on their lives."

For Martha Stearns Marshall Day at Bethel Baptist Church, Scottsburg, Virginia, JONCI WOMACK preached on Phil. 1:12-14, reminding the congregation that "we can give all of our troubles to God because he has promised to never leave us or forsake us." Of the experience of preaching, Womack said, "I felt that having the opportunity to speak was a chance for me to show that we are all called to speak out and share God's love with this broken world, not only on Sunday morning, but each and every day of our lives."

KATE HANCH, children's ministry associate at Holmeswood Baptist Church in Kansas City, Missouri, preached on Luke 4 and the temptations of Jesus. Keith Herron, the church's pastor, expressed his appreciation for her words: "What was so extraordinary about Kate's sermon was the obvious attention she put into writing a wellcrafted word on a tough text. That's not a text one

#### BAILEY EDWARDS NELSON

preached at Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church, Jacksonville, FL, and First Baptist Church, Rockingham, NC

LAUREN COLWELL preached with the assistance of a translator, Marioles, at Iglesia Bautista Genesaret in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba



## MARTHA STEARNS MARSHALL MONTH OF PREACHING, 2010

can nibble around the edges because the text itself demands one go courageously to the heart of the story. Kate demonstrated that she knew how to approach the text and her sermon was well done because she had seriously listened to the story and helped us listen too."

**BAILEY EDWARDS NELSON** preached twice for Martha Stearns Marshall Day, once at the church where she serves, Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church, Jackonsville, Florida, and once at First Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina. Nelson was preaching for the first time as a mother, having given birth to her son, Aidan, on December 17, 2009. "To step into the pulpit for the first time as a mother," Nelson noted "was a distinct and overwhelming intersection with the evercreating God. My son has colored the way I approach the Holy, and as a result, the way I approach the task of preaching. Love, mercy, and hope have been manifested in my life and I can hold him in my arms . . . who dare not be changed by that?"

This year Martha Stearns Marshall Day was observed for the first time in Cuba. **LAUREN COLWELL,** associate minister for spiritual formation and families at First Baptist Church, Savannah, Georgia, preached with the assistance of a translator, Marioles, at Iglesia Bautista Genesaret in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba. "I was nervous about conveying a relevant and coherent message through a translator," Colwell said, "but Marioles dispelled those fears immediately. My limited Spanish knowledge told me that she not only provided a better than dynamically equivalent translation, but also matched the tone, inflection and emphasis in my delivery. What a powerful experience it was to share the act of preaching in two different languages before our sister congregation in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba." Colwell's sermon focused on the story of Hagar and Ishmael in the desert, and she challenged her listeners: "We are often quick to forget what we have seen or learned in the past, but we still have reason to look to an expectant, hopeful future. When we allow God to open our eyes, like Hagar, we experience a different outlook."

Baptist Women in Ministry is grateful to all the churches and women preachers who participated! A list of the participants is on pages 6-7. If you participated and your church is not listed, please contact Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info. And please get Martha Stearns Marshall Month on your 2011 calendar!

# MARTHA STEARNS MARSHALL MONTH OF PREACHING PARTCIPANTS, 2010

STATE	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	PREACHER
AL	Jacksonville	First Baptist Church of Williams	Mike Oliver	Terri Byrd
AL	Mobile	First Baptist Church	Chris George	Elizabeth Mangham Lott
AL	Montavello	University Baptist Church	Robin Norsworthy	Robin Norsworthy
AL	Pintlala	Pintlala Baptist Church	Gary Burton	Mandy McMichael
AR	Jonesboro	First Baptist Church	Bruce Tippit	Kathy Holler
AR	Little Rock	Pulaski Heights Baptist Church	Randy Hyde	Carolyn Staley
AR	Little Rock	Second Baptist Church	Matt Cook	Betsy Young
CA	San Jose	New Community of Faith	LeAnn Gunter Johns	Renee Remy
CA	San Francisco	Nineteenth Avenue Baptist Church	Joy Yee	Joy Yee
DC	Washington	Calvary Baptist Church	Amy Butler	Amy Butler
FL	Jacksonville	Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church	Kyle Reese	Bailey Edwards Nelson
FL	Orange Park	Island View Baptist Church	Richard Phillips	Alex Geovanni
GA	Athens	Milledge Avenue Baptist Church	Edward Bolen	Christy Correll-Hughes
GA	Atlanta	Park Avenue Baptist Church	Tony Lankford	Becky Slocum, Missy Ward, Courtney Hodges
GA	Atlanta	Peachtree Baptist Church	Robert Walker	Susan Rogers
GA	Americus	Fellowship Baptist Church	Wendy Joyner	Wendy Joyner
GA	Augusta	First Baptist Church	Greg DeLoach	Veronice Miles
GA	Carrollton	Tabernacle Baptist Church	Jimmy Gentry	Mandy McMichael
GA	Cartersville	Heritage Baptist Church	Brett Younger, Interim	Gina Fortenberry
GA	Cleveland	Covenant Baptist Church	Jan Thompson	Jordan Wilkes,
GA	Covington	Community Baptist Church	Alan Mitchell	Brenda T. Buckelew
GA	Covington	Immanuel Progressive Baptist Church	Avis Williams	Avis Williams
GA	Decatur	First Baptist Church	Julie Pennington-Russell	Julie Pennington-Russell
GA	East Point	Fellowship Group Baptist Church	Emmanuel McCall	Consuelo Campbell, Yvette Gates and Carolyn Dozier
GA	Grayson	In Christ We Trust Christian Church	Gwen Brown	Devita Parnell
GA	Griffin	First Baptist Church	Brian McCartney	Nancy deClaisse-Walford
GA	Jefferson	First Baptist Church	Michael Helms	Erica Hartman Cooper
GA	Morrow	First Baptist Church	Thomas Quisenberry	Devita Parnell
GA	Rome	North Broad Baptist Church	Katrina and Tony Brooks	Katrina Brooks
GA	Savannah	First Baptist Church	John Finley	Carolyn Hale Cubbege
GA	Stone Mountain	Smoke Rise Baptist Church	Bob Browning	Carra Hughes Greer
IL	Chicago	Agape Korean Baptist Church	Mary Ahn	Mary Ahn
KS	Prairie Village	Prairie Village Baptist Church	Heather Entrekin	Ruth Rosell
KY	Georgetown	Faith Baptist Church	Bob Fox	Katie Anderson
KY	Lexington	Baptist Seminary in Kentucky	Greg Earwood	Jessica Margrave Schirm
KY	Midway	Midway Baptist Church	Tom Allen	Susan Quisenberry Allen
MD	Baltimore	University Baptist Church	Bill Carrell	Robin Anderson
MD	Baltimore	Woodbrook Baptist Church	John Ballenger	Amy Butler
MD	Kensington	Kensington Baptist Church	Bill George	Kim Hyekyung Ock
MO	Jefferson City	First Baptist Church	Doyle Sager	Leigh Halverson
MO	Kansas City	Holmeswood Baptist Church	Keith Herron	Kate Hanch
MO	Liberty	Second Baptist Church	Jason Edwards	Christy Edwards
MO	St. Louis	Southwest Baptist Church	James Hill, Jr.	Leslie Limbaugh
MO	St. Louis	Third Baptist Church	Warren Hoffman	Jennifer Harris

CTATE			DACTOD	
STATE	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	PREACHER
MS	Columbus	Columbus Fellowship Church	Amanda Duckworth	Ula Abrams, Linda Harris, Ella McCloud, Dorothy Sanders, Lora Spann, Selinda Walker
MS	Hattiesburg	University Baptist Church	Phillip Reynolds	Ashley Gill
MS	Starkville	University Baptist Church	Bert Montgomery	Lela Hendrix
NC	Ahoskie	First Baptist Church	Daniel E. Glaze	Cara Lynn Croom Vogel
NC	Brevard	Mount Moriah Calvert Baptist Church	Steve Jones	Brenda Pace Jones
NC	Brunswick Islands	Brunswick Islands Baptist Church	David Stratton	Terry C. Stratton
NC	Cary	Westwood Baptist Church	Mike Eddinger	Ka'thy Gore Chappell
NC	Chapel Hill	Lystra Baptist Church	Virginia Taylor	Margaret McWilliams, Maria Swearingen
NC	Charlotte	Sardis Baptist Church	Tim Moore	Mandy England Cole
NC	Charlotte	St. John's Baptist Church	Layne Smith, Interim	Clara Kremer, Liz Solitario, and Amy Hammond
NC	Dunn	Westfield Baptist Church	Chris Dawson	Kelly Jones
NC	Durham	Watts Street Baptist Church	Mel Williams	Diane Hill
NC	Enfield	Antioch Baptist Church	Susan James	Becky Landrum
NC	Greensboro	First Baptist Church	Ken Massey	Ellen F. Davis
NC	Hendersonville	Providence Baptist Church	Julie Merritt Lee	Julie Merritt Lee
NC	Hickory	Viewmont Baptist Church	Bill Johnson	Kathy Naish
NC	Madison	First Baptist Church	Charles P. McGathy	Linda Jones
NC	Mt. Airy	Piney Grove Baptist Church	Matthew Johnson	Claire C. Johnson
NC	Raleigh	HomeStar Fellowship	Jan Cartledge	Caroline Allen
NC	Raleigh	Millbrook Baptist Church	Andrea Dellinger Jones	Paula Clayton Dempsey
NC	Rockingham	First Baptist Church	Jim Nelson	Bailey Edwards Nelson
NC	Shelby	-	Garin Hill	Rachel Hunt Hill
NC	Smithfield	Sandy Plains Baptist Church		
NC	Wilson	Sharon Baptist Church	Christopher Ingram	Kerrie L. Clayton Sandy Bittman
NC	Winston-Salem	First Baptist Church Knolleys of Partist Church	Doug Murray	Sandy Pittman
		Knollwood Baptist Church	Roger Underwood, interim	Raygina Beale
OK	Oklahoma City	First Baptist Church	Tom Ogburn Katharra Dalar	Kyndall Renfrow
RI	Jamestown	Central Baptist Church	Kathryn Palen	Ethel Corbin
SC	Anderson	Boulevard Baptist Church	Johnny McKinney	Marcy Mynatt
SC	Charleston	Providence Baptist Church	Don Flowers	LeAnn Gardner
SC	Clemson	First Baptist Church	Rusty Brock	Beverly Crowe Tipton
SC	Columbia	Eau Claire Baptist Church	James Goudelock, Kelly Dickerson Strum	Kelly Dickerson Strum
SC	Conway	Rivertown Community Church	Lindsey Inman	Susan Ulrich
SC	Florence	Florence Baptist Fellowship	Ted Mears	Amy Mears
SC	Greenville	Augusta Road Baptist Church	Chris Cadenhead	Toni Pate
SC	Greenville	First Baptist Church	Jeff Rogers	Maria Swearingen
SC	Lake View	First Baptist Church	Brett Patterson	Stephanie Patterson
SC	Spartanburg	Morningside Baptist Church	Kirk Neely	Holly Irvin, Carrie Veal
TN	Chattanooga	Central Baptist Church	Robert Bowman, associate pastor	Danielle Nicole Smith
TN	Chattanooga	First Baptist Church	Bob Johnson, interim	Maria Stinnett
TN	Cookeville	Providence Baptist Church	Melissa Roysdon	Beth Duke
TN	Memphis	Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Eric L. Winston, Sr.	Bonnie Oliver Brandon
TN	Nashville	Glendale Baptist Church	April Baker, Amy Mears	Claire McKeever, April Baker, Amy Mears
TN	Nashville	Immanuel Baptist Church	Stephen Meriwether	Leah Knox
ΤX	Belton	Hope Community Church	Mike Bergman	Dorothy Foster, Rebekkah Retta, Nancy Bergman
ΤX	Dallas	Royal Lane Baptist Church	David Matthews	Susan Matthews
TX	Lubbock	Second Baptist Church	Allen Walworth,	Stephanie Nash
			Hardy Clemons, Interim Pastors	
TX	McKinney	Community North Baptist Church	Bruce Austin	Betty Talbert
TX	Waco	Calvary Baptist Church	Jim Coston	Mary Alice Birdwhistell
TX	Waco	Lakeshore Baptist Church	Dorisanne Cooper	Rachel Sciretti
TX	Waco	Seventh & James Baptist Church	Raymond Bailey	Liz Ngan, Rosalie Beck
VA	Alexandria	Commonwealth Baptist Church	Ben Boswell	Dorey Riegal, Leah Grundset

#### **BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY**

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Baptist Women in Ministry is committed to advocating for, connecting to, and networking with Baptist women in ministry and those who care about them. We provide our resources (our new website, our blog, our newsletter and e-newsletter) to any and all who request them. We sponsor Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching, Addie Davis Awards for Outstanding Seminarians, a new book titled THIS IS WHAT A PREACHER LOOKS LIKE, an annual gathering and workshop, and much more. We seek to educate, inform, and stir the waters some.



BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY advocating • connecting • networking To make all this possible, we depend on those who support the cause, and we would love for you to be one of our supporters.

To contribute online, visit http://www.bwim.info/support-us/

To contribute by mail, send a check to: Baptist Women in Ministry • P. O. Box 941294 • Atlanta, GA 31141-1294

Your support makes a significant difference!