

# Baptist Women in Ministry

## August 2009

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## Baptist Women in Ministry News

In 2009, Baptists worldwide are celebrating the 400th anniversary of Baptist beginnings, and the most exciting part of this celebration year for me has been the opportunities I have had to expand my circle of Baptist friends, especially my circle of Baptist women minister friends.

In late January, I met two incredible German Baptist women ministers: **Carmen Rossol**, who was the first Baptist woman pastor to be ordained in what was then West Germany, and **Andrea Strubind**, who is a theology professor at Oldenburg University and who has served as a co-pastor with her husband. In July, I met **Raquel Contreras Eddinger**, president of the Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches of Chile and vice president of the Baptist World Alliance.

Through email, I have met **Neema Mpeli**, who serves with her husband as a co-pastor in Tanzania, and **Mary Ahn**, who is co-pastor of Agape Korean Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois.

Mary recently emailed me, asking for our prayers. She is hoping to organize the first conference for Korean Baptist Women in Ministry in the United States. She has also been working on the translation and publication of a Korean-English book, *Christianity for Beginners*, which should be completed by next summer and will be distributed in Korea.

Mary also invited us to pray with her for the Korean Baptist Convention, which will meet September 21-23, 2009, in South Korea. That convention may have the opportunity to vote on the ordination of Korean Baptist women ministers. Mary has been working and praying for almost thirty years for Korean Baptists to affirm the gifts and callings of their women.

I am grateful to God for these amazing women and the work they are doing, and I can not wait to hear more of

their stories.

*Pam Durso*

## Vocare

To receive BWIM's newsletter, **Vocare**, please send your mailing address to Pam Durso at [pamdurso@bwim.info](mailto:pamdurso@bwim.info).

## Ordinations

**Judy Conway** was ordained August 2, 2009 by First Baptist Church of Morrow, Georgia. Judy has served as minister of congregational care since 1999.

**Emily Hull** was ordained August 9, 2009 by First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee. She is minister of adults at Highland Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Natalie Wigg-Stevenson** was ordained on May 3, 2009 by First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee. Natalie is a doctoral student and a fellow in the Theology and Practice Program at Vanderbilt University.

## On the Move

**Lin Bunce** is associate minister at College Park Baptist Church, Greensboro, North Carolina.

**Delane Tew** is associate professor and director of the Christian Women's Leadership Center at Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama.

## In the News

**Wade Burleson**, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Enid, Oklahoma, speaking at the New Baptist Covenant meeting in Norman, Oklahoma, on August 9, 2009, noted: "History will one day look back on how we Baptists in the 21st century treated our women who were called by God to minister. It is my prayer that conservative, Bible-believing men will not make the same mistake our Southern Baptist forefathers made when they remained quiet two centuries ago as another minority experienced abuse." A transcript and video of Burleson's presentation may be found on his blog: Grace and Truth,

<http://kerussocharis.blogspot.com/> The title of his presentation was "A Personal Confession, A Public Challenge," August 08, 2009.

**Judy D. Cummings**, executive minister at Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, and director of the Nashville Chapter of the National Consortium of Black Women in Ministry, preached at the Tennessee Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly on April 18, 2009. Last fall Judy received the doctor of ministry degree in preaching and church leadership from Asbury Theological Seminary. Her dissertation was titled "The Stained Glass Ceiling: The Continuing Paradox of Liberation."

## **Retreat for Women Clergy**

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is sponsoring "Nourished by the Word: Finding Grace in Scripture and Creation." This retreat for women clergy will be held **September 28-30, 2009**.

Spiritual formation author **Marjorie Thompson** is the featured faculty. The retreat will be held at Ignatius House Retreat Center in Atlanta, Georgia, and the registration fee is \$135.

For more information, contact **Devita Parnell**, CBF's congregational resources specialist, [dparnell@thefellowship.info](mailto:dparnell@thefellowship.info).

## **Global Voices Summit**

Global Women will hold a gathering on **September 25-26, 2009**, at Monte Vista Baptist Church in Maryville, Tennessee.

This year's theme is "Come to the Well." The summit fee is \$35 with optional registration of \$15 for students or \$20 without any meals. To assist Global Women in planning, please register no later than September 15. The schedule and online registration is available at [www.globalwomengo.org](http://www.globalwomengo.org).

## **Certificate Program**

### **Christian Women in Leadership**

In partnership with Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina, Campbell University Divinity School will be offering a Christian Women in Leadership Certificate, beginning in the fall of 2009. This certificate program is designed to enhance the ministry of women in leadership by offering credit that can be earned on its own or as part of a Master of Arts in Christian Education or a Master of Divinity degree program. The courses in this certificate program will explore the roles of women in the Bible as well as in church history; they will provide opportunities for self-discovery; and they will allow women to develop their ministry and leadership skills so that they can use their gifts more effectively in their churches, communities, and beyond. For more information, contact Kelly Jones at 1-800-760-9827, ext. 1865 or [kjones@campbell.edu](mailto:kjones@campbell.edu).

## Continuing Education Opportunities

The B TSR School of Christian Ministry (SCM) provides a variety of online continuing education opportunities for clergy and laity.

Visit the SCM website:

<http://scm.btsr.edu/s/918/index.aspx?sid=918&gid=1&pgid=473>

You are invited to sign up to receive the SCM e-newsletter, which is distributed about seven times per year. These e-newsletters will keep you informed about upcoming online learning opportunities. You can unsubscribe quickly and easily at any time.

You may want to become a fan of the School of Christian Ministry on Facebook in order to get the latest updates about courses, events, discussions, and more. On the SCM website, you will find additional resources for Christian education, pastoral care, and church administration

For more information, see

<http://scm.btsr.edu/s/918/index.aspx?sid=918&gid=1&pgid=711>

## State Women in Ministry Information

### Arkansas

For information, contact Carolyn Yeldell Staley at [cstaley@phbclr.com](mailto:cstaley@phbclr.com).

### Georgia

For information, contact Carrie Veal at [theologygirl@yahoo.com](mailto:theologygirl@yahoo.com).

### North Carolina

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### South Carolina

For information, contact Christy McMillin-Goodwin at [cgoodwin@oaklandchurch.com](mailto:cgoodwin@oaklandchurch.com).

### Tennessee

For information, contact Tambi Swiney at [tambi22@mac.com](mailto:tambi22@mac.com).

### Texas

For information, contact Julie O'Teter Sadler at [julie.sadler@bgct.org](mailto:julie.sadler@bgct.org) or visit [www.bgct.org/WILM](http://www.bgct.org/WILM).

### Virginia

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<[www.vbwim.org](http://www.vbwim.org)>.