

Baptist Women in Ministry

November 2009

In This Issue

Vocare

Ordinations

On the Move

Our Condolences

**Virginia Baptist Women in
Ministry-College Conference**

**Texas Women in Ministry
Conference**

**BWIM of North Carolina
Convocation**

Peace Conference

Open Church Positions

**Continuing Education
Opportunities**

State Information

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Celebrate God's Good Work

Mark your calendar. Make plans now. Go ahead and invite your preacher. Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching is almost here.

For the past three years 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 event has been a deeply significant source of joy and discovery for many women and churches.

The two questions I have most often been asked are: What if my church is just not ready to have a woman in the pulpit? and What if my church has women in the pulpit all the time?

If your church has never had a woman preach, my hope is that you can prayerfully and thoughtfully take small steps and help move your church toward being open. I have some suggestions, so e-mail me if you want to discuss ways to lead your church in inviting a woman into its pulpit AND I would love to hear stories from those of you who have been through this process and whose churches now welcome women preachers.

For churches that have a woman pastor or that often have women preach, this event is a great opportunity for you! This is an opportunity for your church to stand with and support Baptists who are still hoping for and dreaming of the day that their church will have a woman preach. This is an opportunity for you to publicly voice your support of women in ministry, to be counted with other Baptist churches in celebrating the calling and gifts of women, and to remind your congregation that God does indeed call women to the work of the kingdom. But most importantly, this is an opportunity for your church to invite into your pulpit a woman who has never had the opportunity to preach. This year I encourage you to invite and support a first-time preacher.

pamdurso@bwim.info

Of all the stories I have heard from churches and women about Martha Stearns Marshall Sundays, the most meaningful have been those of churches that for the first time invited a woman to preach--or those of women who for the first time were invited to preach. I have heard life changing stories--church changing stories.

Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching provides us all with a chance to celebrate--to celebrate God's good work in our midst. So start making plans. Pick a Sunday in February 2010. Invite a woman to preach.

Pam Durso

Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching February 2010

Baptist Women in Ministry invites all Baptist churches to make plans now to have a woman preach on any Sunday in February 2010. The number of participating churches in the Martha Stearns Marshall Month has steadily increased each year. Fifty-four churches participated in February of 2007, and seventy-six churches invited a woman into their pulpit in February of 2008. Last year, over one hundred (110 to be exact) celebrated God's gifting of women.

Here's how your church can be a part:

- 1) **SAVE THE DATE!!** Reserve ANY Sunday in February.

- 2) Invite a woman to preach--ask a member of your church, contact a nearby seminary or Baptist university and inquire about the availability of a student or professor, or ask someone in your community. If you need help, contact Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info for some ideas.

- 3) Download the certificate from the BWIM website, www.bwim.info, print it out, and present it to the preacher on your church's Martha Stearns Marshall Day of Preaching.

- 4) If you would like to order a "This is What a Preacher Looks Like" T-shirt to give to your preacher, see the BWIM website: www.bwim.info.

- 5) Incorporate the history of Martha Stearns Marshall during your worship service (available at www.bwim.info) or insert this information in your worship bulletins. If possible, include relevant songs in the worship service that celebrate women in ministry and women responding to God's call in their lives.

6) Please send your church name, city, state, pastor, the name of your guest preacher, and contact information to Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info. All participating churches and preachers will be listed in the Spring Issue of *Vocare*, the BWIM newsletter.

Vocare

The Fall 2009 issue of BWIM's newsletter, *Vocare*, is now available. If you are not on our mailing list, e-mail Pam Durso at pamdurso@bwim.info.

Vocare is our paper newsletter, and this issue features articles by **Katrina Brooks, Carrie Dean, Julie O'Teter Sadler, and Susan Shaw.**

Ordinations

Katie Anderson was ordained on November 15 by Buechel Park Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky.

Consuelo Campbell was ordained on November 22 by Fellowship Group Baptist Church, East Point, Georgia.

On the Move

Terri Byrd is the associate coordinator for Congregational Life and Missions for the Alabama Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Kerrie Clayton is the minister of music and senior adults at First Baptist Church, Smithfield, North Carolina.

Jan Hemrick is the minister to children and families at Peace Haven Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Maria Stinnett is associate pastor of spiritual formation at First Baptist Church in West Jefferson, North Carolina.

Our Condolences

Jeff Zurheide, former member of the BWIM Board of Directors, passed away on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, after a nearly six-year struggle with multiple myeloma. Jeff was the pastor of First Baptist Church in New London, New Hampshire. He had recently taken disability retirement from the pastorate in order to focus on health issues. Prior to serving in New London, Jeff was pastor of First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He was survived by his wife, Karen Johnson Zurheide, daughter Molly (a student at Colby College in Maine), and son

Andrew (a high school senior).

We are thankful for Jeff's life, his ministry, and his many contributions to BWIM. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. Jeff will surely be missed.

Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry Conference for College Students

Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry is planning a conference in **February 2010** for college women who feel called to ministry. The conference will be held at the Roslyn Conference Center in Richmond. If you are interested in helping to sponsor a student to attend this event, please e-mail **Nancy Stanton McDaniel** at nancysmcdaniel@aol.com.

Women in Ministry Conference-Texas

A Women in Ministry Conference, sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will be held **March 1-2, 2010**, at Truett Seminary in Waco, Texas.

BWIM of North Carolina

The annual convocation of BWIM of North Carolina will be held **March 19, 2010** at Knollwood Baptist Church, Winston-Salem.

Light to Live In:

The Biblical Call to Peace Rooted in Justice

A Conference for Peacemakers, Sponsored by the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America

July 12-17, 2010

Keuka College Keuka Park, New York

This life-sustaining week in the lovely Finger Lakes Region will include:

RACHEL MCGUIRE

Pastor and Urban Community Builder
Preaching

TONY CAMPOLO

Teacher, Writer, and Social Justice Activist

Keynote Address: Red Letter Christians: Taking Seriously the Words of Jesus
Bible Study: Following Jesus

PEGGY CAMPOLO

Long-time Advocate with the GLBTQ Community Joining Tony in "A

Dialogue on Homosexuality and Christian Faith"

MAUNG MAUNG YIN

Vice-Principal and Professor of Christian Ethics and Director of the Peace Studies Center at the Myanmar Institute of Theology

Morning Prayers: Sustaining a Heart of Peace in the Midst of Violence

PAT DUTCHER-WALLS

Associate Dean and Professor of Hebrew Bible at the Vancouver School of Theology

Bible Studies: Amos' Vision of Justice

Workshop Series: Modern Realities and the Prophetic Vision

KIM AND REGGIE HARRIS

Singers, Songwriters, Storytellers, Educators, Historical Interpreters and Cultural Advocates

Leading music throughout the week including a full family-friendly concert

Jesus once again addressed them, I am the world's Light. No one who follows me stumbles around in the darkness. I provide plenty of light to live in. John 8:12 from *The Message*

Open Church Positions

Central Baptist Church in Wayne, Pennsylvania, is searching for a pastor.

Concord Baptist Church in Granite Falls, North Carolina, is searching for a minister of youth and children.

Concord Baptist Church, Chase City, Virginia, is searching for a pastor.

First Baptist Church in Bryson City, North Carolina, is searching for an associate pastor

First Baptist Church in Hope Mills, North Carolina, is searching for a pastor.

First Baptist Church, Jefferson, Georgia, is searching for a minister of students.

First Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia, is searching for a children's minister.

First Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia, is searching for a minister to students.

First Baptist Church in Pageland, South Carolina, is searching for a minister of youth and children.

First Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia, is searching for a youth minister.

First Baptist Church in Wilmington, North Carolina, is searching for a minister to students.

Haddock Baptist Church in Haddock, Georgia, is searching for a youth minister.

Hallsboro Baptist Church in Hallsboro, North Carolina, is searching for a pastor.

Island View Baptist Church in Orange Park, Florida, is searching for a pastor.

Moffett Memorial Baptist Church in Danville, Virginia, is searching for a minister of music.

New Life Baptist Church in Goldsboro, North Carolina, is searching for a pastor.

North Riverside Baptist Church in Newport News, Virginia, is searching for a pastor.

Pintlala Baptist Church in Pintlala, Alabama, is searching for a minister of music.

Polkville Baptist Church in Polkville, North Carolina, is searching for a minister of worship and discipleship.

St. John's Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, is searching for a pastor.

St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky, is searching for a pastor.

Trinity Baptist Church in Conyers, Georgia, is searching for an associate pastor/pastoral intern.

Trinity Baptist Church in Moultrie, Georgia, is searching for a pastor.

Wake Forest Baptist Church in Wake Forest, North Carolina, is searching for

a minister of youth.

Woodville Baptist Church in Hertford, North Carolina, is searching for a pastor.

Continuing Education Opportunities

The School of Christian Ministry at Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond provides learning opportunities that are academically sound, biblically grounded, theologically challenging, and faith-affirming.

For more information, [click here](#).

State Women in Ministry Information

Arkansas

Contact Carolyn Yeldell Staley at cstaley@phbclr.com.

Georgia

Contact Carrie Veal at theologygirl@yahoo.com.

North Carolina

Contact Johnnie Jackson at jljackson@embarqmail.com.

South Carolina

Contact Christy McMillin-Goodwin at cgoodwin@oaklandchurch.com.

Tennessee

For information, contact Tambi Swiney at tambi22@mac.com.

Texas

Visit the Baptist General Convention of Texas website-- [click here](#).

Virginia

Contact Nancy Stanton McDaniel at nancysmcdaniel@aol.com or visit their website--[click here](#).