

# 2009 WNCC Women In Ministry Annual Day Tuesday, May 19th @8:30am

Western North Carolina Women in Ministry May 2009

My Dear WIM Sisters:

This edition of the WIM Newsletter, with just days to go before we convene, it is our prayer that you will enjoy our articles by Rev. Dr. Barbarett McGill and Rev. Dr. Ruth Smith. We want to send out a special thank you to both of them for bringing us some sound scriptural advice when dealing with the weight of ministry. Plus we want to send out a special invitation to all WIM to come to our Annual Day. We have anointed women of God to come and impart key strategies that will catapult all of us to new levels of ministry. Come and glean what you need to undergird your ministry. Don't forget to invite another WIM Sister to come and share the day. You will be empowered, enlighten and restored as continue into our new conference year. We have planned a delicious lunch along with an entertaining fashion show that will even help you get new ideas in clergy attire. The Western North Carolina WIM is connecting; we are communicating and we are collaborating in all areas ministry. You don't want to miss our 2009 Annual Day. It will be a day that you will never forget.



## 2009 WIM Annual Day is Here!

The WNCC WIM Board is excited because our 2009 Annual Day is here! We have met, strategized, and planned, organizing this year's events. We know that the Lord is going to bless all who attend. We have some anointed and gifted Women of God who have prepared awesome presentations, dealing with the Weight and Pressure of Ministry. Come expecting to be blessed and encouraged by the workshops dealing with politics of the church, promotion and protocol. These are issues that seldom get discussed, so we know that you are going to be empowered by all of their hard work. We have tried to take our Annual Day to whole new level. We have a beautiful conference bag that we know you will be carrying all summer. Plus this will be a time for fellowship and collaborating with our WIM Sisters. So come expecting a mighty move of God. It is going to be an awesome time in the Lord. I know that we all shall be blessed.

## Conference Agenda

- 8:30-9:00 AM .....Registration
- 9:00-9:15 AM .....Devotions
- 9:15-10:05 AM ..... **Workshop #1**  
*Church Culture and Ministry Effectiveness, Rev. Dr. Joan Wharton, SED WIM President, Facilitator*
- 10:15-11:05 AM ..... **Workshop #2**  
*Promotion: Wise as a Serpent and Harmless as a Dove, Rev. Dr. Allonia Holmes, Facilitator*
- 11:15-12:00 PM..... WIM Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
- 12:15-1:30 PM..... Luncheon and Clergy Attire Fashion Show
- 1:40 - 2:30 PM..... **Workshop #3**  
*Protocol: Following the Rules of the Game, Rev. Dr. Mary Peterson, Facilitator*

# How Do We Do the Dance?

## Effectively Dealing with the Weight and Pressure of Ministry

This year we will look at three key elements of ministry. **Church politics** (or as we termed it, church culture); **promotion** and **church protocol**. These three areas can make or break a minister if she doesn't know how to do the tango of management, the waltz of administration and the two-step of interpersonal relationship. Sometimes the dance boils down to how we interact with others or how we managed the last dispute at our last assignment. Many times the dance is simply a slow waltz between our congregations, other ministers, our elders and ourselves as we manage the local church. Sometime the weight of it all bears down on us whereas we are physically affected and our congregation suffers. As women in ministry, we have to learn to do the dance where we are balanced, prayerful and in tune with the Holy Spirit. Learning to effectively deal with church politics, promotion and church protocol will equip all of us to do the dance effectively where God will get the glory in all that we do. At our 2009 WNCC WIM Annual Day, we will learn the choreography of dealing with the weight and pressure of ministry. Come and learn how to do the dance so you will be the best WIM you can be.



### Don't Forget to Intercede for the Following Families plus Lift Up Our WIM Annual Day.

The Family of our late great Bishop, Bishop Vernon Randolph Byrd  
Presiding Elder J. B. Wilder and Family  
Rev. Renee Shade  
Rev. Joyce Avery

We ask the Lord to bless our WNCC WIM Annual Day that all that attends will be blessed and empowered to serve with a spirit of humility, service and anointing. Lord, bless our presenters, Rev. Dr. Wharton, Rev. Dr. Holmes and Rev. Dr. Peterson and give them a relevant word that will equip us to serve.

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Matthew 21:22

## The Balancing Act of Ministry

by Rev. Dr. Barbareta A. Welch McGill

*She is Pastor of historic Friendship A.M.E. Church, Ramseur, NC. Her beloved, husband, Henry McNair McGill (Hank) partners with her in the ministry as he serves in various capacities. Dr. McGill is currently an Assistant Professor at North Carolina Central University in the Department of Nursing. She is a scholastic advisor for Senior, RN to BSN and Accelerated BSN students. Dr. McGill teaches courses in Path physiology, Pharmacology, Introduction to Professional Nursing, Medical Terminology and guest lecturers in Pediatrics and Professional Role Development. In spring 2009 she is also serving as the faculty liaison for a group of senior students completing their final clinical experience. Dr. McGill served as interim Associate Director of Special Programs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine.*

When Rev. Boone asked me to consider writing this article, I was reminded once again that God has a sense of humor. Earlier that evening, my husband had been listening patiently to my laundry list of all that had to be done in just a few days and my verbal acrobatics about how it would all be accomplished at all, much less well, on time, and to the glory of God. So, the invitation to write - a great love that I don't take the opportunity to do often enough - brought a blend of responses.

The first, as already indicated, related to God's sense of humor. The second was how in the world can I write about balance when most of the time balance is what I do with my bags, organizer, and keys on my way to wherever it is I'm going next. My thoughts began to race automatically to things like, "what are the objectives of the article" and "how will I present the information". Third, my rambling mind slowed down and I began to laugh, for in that moment, I realized that once again our God was bringing me out of my Martha world to draw upon my Mary heart.

After some time of quiet reflection, the Lord revealed that we are His beloved children. God is Almighty and has invited us to join in the work of Kingdom building. For us, Women in Ministry, the invitation includes a call to serve in many roles: itinerant or local minister, student, wife/significant other, mother and varied other family member roles, active member of other organizations in the community. We look at all that we have to do, find ourselves under pressure, weighted down, juggling all that we have to do and before long we are like India Arie's "Bag Lady", we are carrying the bags of duty and obligation. Some of us find ourselves like Martha beseeching the Lord, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" (Luke, 10:40, NASB) Or perhaps you are the martyr, deeming that all that you have to do is your lot in life and as a good Christian woman, not to mention a minister you will endure in silence and make it into heaven all by yourself anyhow. That isn't the way!!!

Child of God, there is no magic, no list of steps that if you follow in just the right order will make your life simpler, easier, and more manageable; however there are actions that we can take that will help us make wise choices and serve the Lord with joy and a glad heart. We must journey to the well that is our Lord, Jesus Christ and drink slowly and fully to absorb the lessons that are prepared for us. God doesn't call us to do anything that He doesn't equip us to accomplish successfully for the glory and honor of His Name. In our preparation, which involves personal devotion and study with Him, as well as our academic preparation, the Scriptures are our guide. They teach us to set boundaries, to choose what is important to what God has invited us to do, and to respond to the specific work appointed for us by God, not to what our families, our churches, and even we ourselves, want us to do. How do we do that?

We must begin with our relationship with God. Are we spending time with Him to learn of Him, to rest in Him, to trust Him for all that we need? (See Matt. 28:19-20.) We are more than conquerors through Christ (See Romans 8, especially vv 28-37), so let your attitude reflect Whose you are, Who has called you. What we are called to do is not a burden, a weight, or a load to bear. It is in fact a privilege, an honor, a sacred trust. Now, remember to breathe - learn to Exhale all the cares of this world then Inhale the power of the Holy Spirit - to plan deliberately, adjust accordingly, set boundaries prayerfully, prepare diligently, and implement faithfully.

Remember that the battle is not ours, but the Lord's. We don't have to approach our assignment as though we are at war. While we are in a spiritual battle, not all of our challenges are attacks from Satan. Yes, some of the challenges we face are the work of Satan and his minions; others, are the result of our not being in right relationship with the Lord, while still others come from the Lord to teach us, to mold us to be the women He has created us to be. God is in control and He will work in us, through us, and for us. Hold fast to the assurance, as you look at your unending To Do List, "'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty." (Zech. 4:6, KJV.)

The victory is already won. We just need to trust the Lord to direct our paths. He, Who called us to do the work, is able to complete the work. (Philip. 1:6.) God is at work in us, through us, for us, all to the glory of His Name. You see, when all that we have to do come pressing in upon us like the winds and the waves assaulted the ship on the Sea of Galilee, we have to remember that Jesus is in our ship. We only need call upon Him and He will speak peace to our hearts. Recognize that the peace that He offers

may take us out of our comfort zone, away from the familiar, separate us from what we are used to. But in God, we are more than conquerors, (Romans 8:28) we can do all things (Philip. 4:13) BUT we must be in God's plan. Over and over again the Word speaks to us through those who have gone before us, and most clearly in the life of Christ. The essence of what they speak to our weary hearts is in the thought Choose Balance.

C - Christ is the center of our joy, the Way through which we accomplish what is before us.

H - Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the Paraclete, Who walks beside us, prays for us, making intercession when we are unable to, or don't know what to pray for because we find ourselves overwhelmed.

Obey God's Word

Observe God's leading; He is showing you what, when, where and how to do what He wants you to do.

Serve - as God directs rather than by your wants or those of others.

Edify yourself and others through study of the Word, academic and continuing education, and the lessons of Life;

Believe that God is with you; He has equipped you for the work

Abide in God; Allow God to Abide in You. Put on the whole armor of God. You're in His hand and He will never let you go.

Love - God's love is the source of your strength; share that love with others; Laugh often. It is good for the soul and makes the heart merry.

Adjust -what you want to the leading of the Lord

Nurture/Nourish -Remember to observe the Sabbath and allow God to nurture you so that you are able to do the same for those you are called to serve;

Comfort - God will comfort you and you are to pay that comfort forward

Engage - Engage the Lord in communication. Take time to pray. "Prayer is the antidote to anxiety." (Chip Ingram); cast your cares upon Him; give thanks to the Lord for all He is, then listen and wait for His response. Peace will flow; it will enfold you as you go forth to glorify the Lord.

"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of love, of power, and a disciplined mind." Don't be anxious, frazzled, or afraid. You are a chosen vessel chosen for such a time as this. Go forward in the joy of the Lord - Choose Balance!!!

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### *Congratulations to our WIM Sisters Who Will Be Ministering at Annual Conference*

Rev. Barbaretta McGill, Pastor of Friendship AMEC, Ramseur is the speaker for the Women's Missionary Society Luncheon which will be on Monday, May 18th. Let's pray that as many WIM will attend the luncheon as possible to support Rev. McGill. Registration is \$60.

Also Rev. Barbara Barbour, will be the Noon Day Hour of Refreshing Preacher on Wednesday, May 20th.

Let's keep our WIM Sisters in our prayers and let all of WIM encourage and support both of our WIM Sisters as they minister at WNCC Annual Conference.

Congratulations to you both.

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# Women in Ministry Devotional Prayer

by Rev. Dr. M. Ruth Smith

Pastor, First A.M.E. Church of Greensboro

*The Reverend Dr. M. Ruth Smith is the Pastor of First A.M.E Church of Greensboro. She is an Itinerant Elder in the Second Episcopal District of the Western North Carolina Conference-Western District. Dr. Smith serves on the Board of Examiners where she is the Third Year Instructor, New Testament and First Year Class Instructor of Old Testament. She is active in WNCC Women in Ministry. Dr. Smith matriculated and earned the following degrees: United Theological Seminary, D.Min; Duke University, M.Div; North Carolina A&T State University M.S.-Counseling; North Carolina A&T State University, B.S.-Economics and she also matriculated at University of North Carolina-Greensboro.*

*She has served 2 years on the National Nominating Board of YWCA, New York, New York and served on the Board of the American Lung Association of North Carolina and the Board of the American Lung Association of the Piedmont. She has also served as Chaplin for the Pulpit Forum of Greensboro, North Carolina. She is married to David B. Smith, Esq. and they are the blessed parents of Darrell Alan (Kecia), Damon Maurice (Andrea) and Daniel Smith. They have four grandchildren: Matthew, David, Kanaan and Aaron.*

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## Acceptance in Ministry

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O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth! Our Gracious and Sovereign God, in the name of Jesus, Your women in ministry come with humility and humble hearts thanking you for grace, mercy, guidance and forgiveness in accepting us into your fold. We lift our eyes unto the hills from whence comes our help. We know our help comes from the Lord! We love you with all our hearts, souls, and minds.

Gracious Lord, bless your women in ministry to seek first the Kingdom of God and Your righteous that we may understand that all things will be added unto us, including acceptance, wisdom, knowledge and understanding. We ask You, O Lord, to teach us how to acknowledge You in all of our ways to magnify, honor, praise and glorify Your name! Open our hearts with courage and perseverance to be empowered through the Holy Spirit to love and forgive those individuals who try to eradicate Your plans for women in ministry.

Dear Lord, thank you for our call and the privilege to serve you for the up building of your kingdom. May your favor bless us with the acceptance to fulfill your purpose and will for your call on the Women In Ministry of the Western North Carolina Conference. O God give us a fresh anointing of Your Holy Spirit to women in ministry. Help us to have faith in You to show acceptance to others through the fruit of the Spirit's virtues: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Thank you for bringing us this far by faith. Again, we yield in faith in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, our Alpha and Omega!

**References: Matthew 6:33, Psalm 8:1, Psalm 121:1-2. Gal. 5:22-23**

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## The Profound Power of Prayer for Women in Ministry

by Rev. Dr. Ruth Smith

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Women in Ministry have the profound power of prayer in accepting God's call, becoming one in Christ and sustaining a spiritual life to glorify, sanctify and justify His work. God loves "these He also called; and whom He called; these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified (Romans 8:30).

Prayer is a request to God with two-way communication. Prayer provides women in ministry the opportunity to have a relationship with God. Jesus Christ is our Mediator and Intercessor "who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us" (Roman 8:34). We are blessed to have the Holy Spirit, our comforter, Advocate, Spirit of truth and Intercessor makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:27) We are women in ministry who trust God to give us strength when we are weak, to give us hope when there is despair, faith when there is doubt and to be our Commander-In-Chief when we are in trouble and in battle.

Women endure in exemplary ways to resonate praise, honor, glory, faith, humility and service under girded by fervent prayer.

"If my people who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14)

The splendor of Christ praying to His Father in teaching the disciples how to pray provides women in ministry the opportunity to understand the principles for effectual prayer:

Pray to the Father in the name of Jesus.

Pray with the right motive for God's will to be done.

Pray without using vain repetitions.

Pray with the understanding that our Father knows the things that we have need of before we pray.

Pray and have faith in God through Jesus Christ to answer prayer.

PRAY:

P: Praise and Pray

R: Repent and Repair,

A: Ask and Accept,

Y: Yield and Receive in Faith.

***Jesus said, "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut the door, pray to your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." (Matthew 6:6)***

Rev. Dr. M. Ruth Smith

Pastor, First A.M.E. Church

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## **Congratulations to Our New Pastors**

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A heartfelt salute and hearty congratulations to our new Pastors. Sister Mary Lloyd who was recently assigned to Little Rock A.M.E. Church, Collettsville, NC and Rev. Patrice Fields who was assigned to Israel Chapel-Connley Springs A.M.E. Church, Connley Springs, NC. We are grateful to God and our church leadership who empowered you to serve in the pastorate at this time. We give praise and thanksgiving to God for the great things He has done in your lives and ministry.

***And ye shall serve the lord our God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee. There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfill. (Exodus 23:25, 26)***

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## Don't Forget WNCC WIM Elections!

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Our WIM Annual Meeting and Election of Officers will be held at 11:15am on Tuesday. We want to extend the invitation to all to come and participate. And if you are financial for the past two years, you are eligible to hold a office. Are you ready to serve? If so, contact our WIM Nominating Committee.

### **WNCC WIM Nominating Committee:**

Rev. Diane Conley, Chairperson  
828-584-2888  
[revdia@bellsouth.net](mailto:revdia@bellsouth.net)

Rev. Marcia Isley  
336-228-8374  
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[ambvt1873@aol.com](mailto:ambvt1873@aol.com)

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## Don't Forget Our WIM Luncheon and Fashion Show

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*Don't forget your additional \$25 for the WIM Luncheon and Fashion Show. We have collected a beautiful representation of clergy attire for women of all sizes. We know that there will be something that will interest you. You can pay at the registration table beginning at 8:30am on Tuesday morning.*

## Just What Do I Wear?

Opening - Black Robes  
Closing - Black Robes  
Communion - White Robes

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