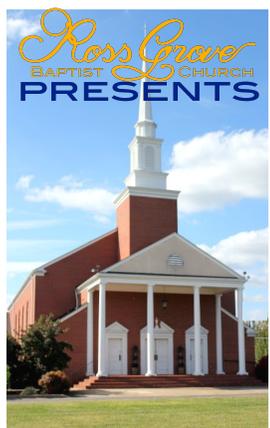


# MARTHA STEARNS MARSHALL MONTH

## A MONTH CELEBRATING BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY @rossgrove

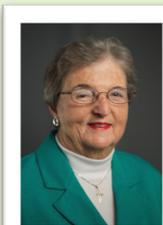


### BAPTIST WOMEN TO PREACH AT ROSS GROVE IN FEBRUARY!

Historically, Baptist congregations have long honored Baptist women in the month of February. For example, February would be a time to highlight the work of the Women's Missionary Union (WMU). For this very reason, our congregation will be hosting four amazing ladies as our special guest speakers all month long on Sunday Mornings at 11AM in February. We are not alone in this exciting effort. Other Baptist churches from around the globe will join us in this same way. According to Baptist Women in Ministry, an organization that promotes such occasions, "This event has been a deeply significant source of joy and discovery for many women and churches. 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... Martha Stearns Marshall provides us all with a chance to celebrate God's good work in our midst." This event is named for Martha Stearns Marshall, the first recorded female Baptist preacher, who preached alongside her husband, Daniel Marshall. They both traveled throughout the South during the 18<sup>th</sup> Century preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Martha was a dynamic preacher and was unafraid of the consequences of doing what God had called her to do at a time when it was unbecoming for a woman to do just that. She was once jailed in Virginia for refusing to stop preaching the Gospel; she was three months pregnant at the time. It is said that her conviction was so powerful that her arresting officer and the local magistrate converted to Christianity upon hearing her testimony. Martha Stearns Marshall was a pioneer for many women who would come after her. With this in mind, Ross Grove is committed to honoring, celebrating, and promoting women as they set out in ministry. All month long, we are hosting dynamic speakers who have excelled in their respective ministries. Come Join us at 11AM in February for a time of worship and inspiration as we hear from four women who hold up the torch for Baptist Women who minister!

### February 4<sup>th</sup> Dr. Alice Cullinan (GWU, GCCBA ret.)

Dr. Alice Cullinan serves as Professor Emerita of Religion and Religious Education at Gardner-Webb University (GWU), having retired from there after 30 years in 2005. From there, Dr. Alice served as the Spiritual Enrichment/Christian Education Leader at the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association (GCCBA) until retiring in 2017. Over the years, she has served both full-time and bi-vocationally as Minister of Music and/or Education for 35 years. She has written five books, her most recent being *Nuts and Bolts of Deacon Ministry* and *Furry Philosophy: What We Learned from our Four-Legged Friends*. She has also written twenty-eight devotional books. Some of her books and devotional works can be found online at amazon.com. Dr. Alice has been in the ministry her whole life and still has a great deal to proclaim. She brings both grace and experience to us as our first guest speaker!



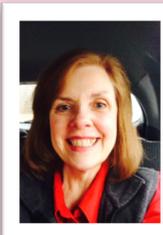
### February 11<sup>th</sup> Elisabeth Edmonson Cothran (GWU)

Elisabeth Edmonson Cothran graduated from Gardner-Webb University (GWU) with a BA in Religious studies and a Masters in Christian Ministry. She has served at many churches since she was enrolled in college. During her time serving at Lattimore Baptist Church she was ordained as a Minister of the Gospel. The day following her ordination she felt the beginning pains of an autoimmune disease that would be diagnosed two months later. Through a marathon of doctors' appointments and testing it was determined that she has dermatomyositis. Despite Elisabeth's health challenges, she continues to find courage and strength from God's calling on her life. She now serves as a Data Specialist within the for the Digital Learning Department at GWU. She is the youngest of our guest speakers and brings a unique voice to our stellar cast of God's leading ladies in Baptist life!



### February 18<sup>th</sup> Ka'thy Gore Chappell (CBFNC)

Ka'thy Gore Chappell is Leadership Development Coordinator with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina (CBFNC) where she has served since 2011. Ka'thy's areas of responsibility include theological education and ministerial excellence. Through 45 years of ministry with children, youth, college students and divinity students, Ka'thy has served as Associate Pastor with three North Carolina churches, Associate Dean of Students at Baptist Theological Seminary of Richmond, and serves today with CBFNC. Ka'thy has also been honored by Baptist Women in Ministry with The Anne Thomas Neil Award for Outstanding Contributions to Women in Ministry in 2015 (NC) and The Frankie Huff Granger Distinguished Mentor Award (National) in 2016. Ka'thy is married to Russell Chappell and they have a daughter, Ali, who is married to Harrison DeHay. We look forward to hearing the Good News from Ka'thy!



### February 25<sup>th</sup> Cecelia Beck (CBF)

Cecelia Beck was commissioned in 2009 as a Field Personnel (missionary) for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF). She is committed to ministry through relationship and living in the neighborhood in which she serves. Beck's ministry in this Northeast Shelby neighborhood is founded on presence. Cecelia doesn't just serve in an area with high rates of crime and violence, low education rates and unemployment provide limited opportunities, she lives there and in the midst of these challenges and shines a light of love and compassion, loving and empowering children, youth, and adults for a better life. Being a stable, reliable presence is essential in offering the hope of Christ to her neighbors. She works to ensure that young people can participate in experiences despite logistical or economic issues. Cecelia was ordained at Ross Grove in 2012 and we look forward to hearing the latest her and her ministry!



#### Ross Grove Baptist Church

(704) 482-6051  
1225 Fallston Road  
Shelby, NC 28150

#### Regular Service Times

Sunday School @ 9:45AM  
Sunday Morning Worship @ 11AM  
Wednesday Night Bible Study @ 6PM

#### Connect with Us!

www.rossgrove.org  
email: info@rossgrove.org  
Like us on Facebook  
@RossGroveShelby