

**2017 MBA LADIES RETREAT**  
*I Run to Christ* – HEBREWS 4:16  
**WORKSHOP SPEAKERS AND TOPICS**

*Faith Taylor* – Keynote Speaker

Faith is a redeemed sinner, saved by God's indescribable grace, who is seeking to know her Savior better each day and to grow in Christlikeness. Faith loves to teach, explaining the Word of God as it practically applies to the lives of ladies, and sharing with them His working in her own life.

Faith is a graduate of Bob Jones University with a B.A. in Church Ministries and is currently pursuing her M.A. in Biblical Studies. Following graduation she spent 4 years on staff at Bob Jones as a teacher of ladies' classes and as the director of Ladies' Extension Ministries. Faith is the author of *A Look Within*, a women's Bible study book and of *Pray for Him*, a prayer booklet for ministry wives.

Faith is thrilled to spend her life by the side of Dr. Dean Taylor. Following Dean's completion of seminary, Dean and Faith entered local church ministry. In 2016, after pastoring for 25 years in Indiana, Wisconsin, and South Carolina, Dean became a college professor and chairman of the ministerial training program at Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa.

The desires of Faith's heart are to be continually growing in Christlikeness, to support her husband in his life calling, to be an encouragement and help to their four adult children and beautiful granddaughter, Wren, and to be used of God to encourage growth in the lives of others around her as she experiences.

*Joy Mielke* – Friday Workshop Speaker

Joy (Ekblad) Mielke was born into a strong Christian home and was saved early in life but struggled with assurance of salvation until the age of twelve. From then on she felt an irrefutable burning desire to be a pastor's wife. Joy attended Pillsbury Baptist Bible College where she met Marlon Mielke who was studying for the pastorate. Together they have served the Lord in ministry for 35 years, of which the last 18 years have been in Joy's home church at First Baptist of Milltown, WI. Being a pastor's wife to Joy means investing in the lives, the joys, and the hurts of those in her church family and surrounding community, showing people that God is sufficient for everything life sends. Joy home schooled their five sons, and when they were grown, she pursued her dream of getting her Biblical Counseling degree at Central Baptist Theological Seminary from where she graduated in 2016. Teaching the Word of God as God has taught her is her greatest delight.

*“Godly Counselling in a Fallen World”*

Help! Life hurts! How can I be a victor when the world says I'm a victim? Come learn about the sufficiency of Scripture for all of life's problems.

*Cori Stuhr* – Friday Workshop Speaker

Cori is 30 years old and single. Being single has given her the opportunity to be on a committee called W.A.I.T. Women Alone Involved Together. W.A.I.T reaches out and encourages women who are widows, single, divorced, and those who have husbands that may not come to church. She also enjoys singing in the church choir. Currently Cori is a full time care provider assisting her mom during her journey of breast cancer. She also enjoys dog sitting when the opportunity presents itself.

### *“Transformed by Grace”*

“My story is not unlike Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland," where Alice finds herself in an unfamiliar world among strange characters and confusing situations. I too wandered into a world I didn't belong, a world that promised to be 'An Adventure in Wonderland.' But I came to realize things aren't always as they appear.”

### *Sharon Gutwein* – Friday Workshop Speaker

Sharon Gutwein has had a wide variety of life experiences which God has used to equip her for each step of ministry.

She grew up in a Christian home, the daughter of a pastor and wife, and accepted the Lord as her personal Savior when she was a child. She graduated from Bible school where she met her husband. He spent several years in the military as a helicopter pilot, including two year-long tours of duty in Viet Nam. Their daughter Rhonda was three years old when the Lord took the family to the Middle East where they lived for five years. After the death of her husband more than thirty-two years ago, Sharon returned to college to complete her degree in Elementary Education, and then taught sixth through eighth grades at Grandview Park Baptist School in Des Moines, Iowa, for eight years.

She has served more than twenty years at Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa. She was Dean of Women for many years and currently is the Music Department Administrative Assistant, hospitality coordinator for the campus, and an English tutor.

Sharon's focus on the power and pertinence of God's Word, and on God's sovereignty in the lives of His children gives opportunity to reach out to those in a variety of circumstances through a ministry of encouragement. Her extra-curricular interests are varied....family, cooking, knitting, reading, music, rubber stamping, games, sports, English grammar 😊, children's books, traveling, other areas of ministry, and encouragement.

### *“Everyday Encouragement”*

Sharon's workshop focus will be on “Biblical Principles for Growing in Everyday Encouragement,” putting into practice Hebrews 3:13 “...encourage one another day after day...” With those, she will share a variety of creative applications to help put encouragement into action for many situations we all face.

### *Rebecca Straub* – Friday Workshop Speaker

Southern born and born again at 9 years old as a result of a neighbor's weekly children's CEF Bible story in her home. By God's grace married 36+ years to Jeff whom I have followed on a wonderful faith adventure serving the Lord in two countries and many states! We especially appreciate the privileged of serving the Lord at Fourth Baptist Church and Central Seminary. I work full time in Advertising Specialties and care for our adult disabled son. Two of my favorite treasures are Romans 11:36 and James 1:2-5.

### *“Loving Those Who Differ-Biblically loving those who are different than me”*

When God graciously provides difficult relationships for us and we run to Christ, we find His help to love those who are different in our eyes. You will leave with specific practical ways to love those who seem difficult to love. Plus scripture has MUCH to say to help us love those that may seem “unlovely”. For a pre-retreat blessing, read I John and list all God says about love in those four short chapters, bring your list to this session!

## *Sandy Capon* – Saturday Workshop Speaker

After Sandy and her husband Tim came to Christ for salvation in 1983, Tim responded to God's call to the gospel ministry. Tim left his profession as a civil engineer to train for the pastoral ministry at Faith Baptist Bible College. Sandy began homeschooling their three children, worked alongside her husband in ministry, and actively involved the kids in every way she could. She has served the Lord as a pastor's wife for over 28 years, 5 years in South Des Moines, and then 23+ years at Faith Baptist Church in Carroll. Most recently, in May of 2014, the Lord directed Tim and Sandy to a new ministry. Tim now serves as the IARBC State Representative and they now make their home in Ankeny. God has blessed them with almost 40 years of marriage, 3 children, two sons-in-law, a daughter-in-law and 8 grandchildren. Sandy enjoys cooking, camping, hiking, kayaking, and really enjoys turkey hunting with her husband. Sandy has always loved working with children, younger moms, ladies God has brought into her life and new believers. She loves teaching the Word of God and helping others to learn to apply it to their lives.

### *“Intentional Relationships–Women connecting with women”*

Do you find it easier to write a check to give to missions, even on a tight budget, than to go next door and talk to your neighbor? Come learn some ways that you can connect with other women with the goal of sharing Christ with them.

## *Allyson Hodak* – Saturday Workshop Speaker

Allyson Hodak is a wife of thirty years and the mother of five beautiful daughters. She ministers with her husband at Fourth Baptist Christian School teaching Junior High Bible and elementary chapels. She also runs the daily hot lunch program delighting in feeding bodies and souls. She and her husband are in their seventh year of ministry at Fourth Baptist and reside in Brooklyn Park.

### *“Sufficiency of Christ”*

I recently wrote my inscription for my tombstone. No, I am not planning on leaving this world any time soon. It was written along with my Junior High Bible class. It stated, "Finally, Satisfied with His likeness". The kids thought it strange, but I came across a verse in Psalm 17:15 many years ago and decided that not until I see His face will I ever be fully satisfied. So where do we find our satisfaction and sufficiency until that day? How much is enough? Let's examine together a mindset of sufficiency found only in Christ.

## *Jennifer Linscott* – Saturday Workshop Speaker

Jennifer was born and raised in a Christian home in Grand Rapids, Michigan and accepted Christ's free gift of salvation when she was 14 years old. Soon after high school she met Greg Linscott and they moved to Iowa to attend Faith Baptist Bible College as a married couple. She graduated with her Elementary Education degree and he graduated with his degree in Pastoral Ministry. The Lord has allowed them to serve in vocational ministry together for the past 16 years in the states of Iowa, Maine, and Minnesota. They currently serve at First Baptist Church in Marshall, Minnesota along with their 7 kids (ages 5-18), golden retriever, and pot-bellied pig. Jennifer spends her days homeschooling their kids, preparing lessons for Kids 4 Truth and ladies Sunday School class, and ministering alongside her husband of 22 years in the adventures of a pastor's family.

### *“Parenting in the Pew”*

Sitting through a worship service and soaking in the Word of God while offering praise and thanksgiving back to the Lord is a wonderful time. Attempting the same while training talkative, creative, and spontaneous children to worship can leave a parent frustrated and wondering if it is worth it. YES, it is worth every broken necklace, ripped hymnbook and soiled chair!

Join us as we look into God's Word for instruction and discuss practical training tips to make the worship service a God-honoring time for everyone.

## *Sarah Stephens* – Saturday Workshop Speaker

Sarah was born in Albuquerque, NM, into a Christian family and accepted Christ as her Savior at the age of 7. She graduated from Pillsbury Baptist Bible College with a Bible and counseling degree. It was during those years that God began stirring in her heart a desire to share God's Word with women to encourage them as they live for God. It was at Pillsbury where she met her husband Jeremy. They have been married for 17 years. Their time together has included him graduating from Central Seminary, and pastoring in 2 churches. Currently they are at Fourth Baptist Church, where Jeremy serves as Pastor of Outreach and Discipleship. Sarah serves in several areas in the church and school, and assists her husband as he ministers in the church and community. They have five children, ages 7 to 15 and enjoy all the blessings and busyness that their children bring! God's Word has been her comfort, encouragement and source of hope in the story God has written for her life. She's thankful for every opportunity that God gives to share His Word of hope to women.

### *"Purity: Guarding Your Heart and Mind"*

This workshop will present Scriptural principles regarding purity in heart in our devotion to God which will lay the foundation for our conversation on moral purity. We will discuss practically how women of any age must guard their hearts and minds in a world where moral purity is scoffed and dismissed. We will also talk about ways women can disciple women to embrace and strive for spiritual and moral righteousness before Christ.