

## **Resolution on Recognizing and Affirming the Calling of Women in the Church**

The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) General Council, meeting in Nassau, Bahamas, July 7-12, 2019:

**CELEBRATES** the Baptist International Conference on Theological Education that met in Nassau, Bahamas, July 5-7, 2019, with the theme of “TOGETHER: Re-Imagining, Re-Reading HERstory in the Church,” with significant discussions of women in the church;

**REAFFIRMS** the resolution of the BWA entitled “Women” adopted in Nassau in 1988, which called for Baptists to “celebrate the multiple gifts and sensitivities women bring to the service of Jesus Christ and the work of the Baptist family around the world” and “commend Biblical and careful attention by our member bodies to the enabling of women and their gifts”; and

**CALLS** global Baptists to

**REPENT** from the teachings and practices through which we have prevented women from flourishing as human beings created in the image of God and full members of the body of Christ;

**OPEN OURSELVES** to the Holy Spirit to bring conviction, inspire discussion, and provoke transformation in individual lives and communities, affirming the God-given call of women for service in the church, so that their stories may take rightful place in the wider story of Christ’s body in the world;

**LEARN** and then use language that is affirming to both women and men in worship, communications, and publications, including Bible translations; and

**WORK** intentionally to create equal space for women in all leadership roles in the church, Baptist conventions and unions, and in the Baptist World Alliance.