



**Cooperative
Baptist
Fellowship
of Georgia**

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If you would like to unsubscribe
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or if you have comments and
questions please email:
re-visions@cbfga.org.

Calendar

**2007 CBF/GA General Assembly
March 9-10**

Smoke Rise Baptist Church,
5901 Hugh Howell Rd., Stone Mountain, GA
30087-2402

*Preaching
as testimony*

The true expression of the Word as Love

With Keynote Speaker



Anna Carter Florence
Associate Professor of Preaching and Worship at
Columbia Theological Seminary

At General Assembly You'll Find

Feb. 19-20
Self Preaching Lectures
McAfee School of Theology, Mercer
University, Atlanta
Speaker: Tom Long
For more information, email
frazier_d@mercer.edu.

Feb. 20
Sixth Annual Baptist Heritage
Preaching Contest
(Submission Deadline)
For more information, contact Pamela
R. Durso at pdurso@tnbaptist.org or
615-371-7937.

Feb. 26-March 1
Youth Ministers Retreat
Beach Cove Resort
North Myrtle Beach, SC
A retreat for "Rest and Renewal"
sponsored by the Cooperative Baptist
Fellowship of North Carolina. For
more information download the
brochure [here](#).

March 5-7
True Survivor VII
Scarritt-Bennett Center,
Nashville, TN
A Christian Educators' conference and
training event. Featuring Kyle
Matthews. The cost is \$75 per
participant. Click [here](#) to register
online. For more information download
the brochure [here](#).

March 9
Coordinating Council Meeting
CBF/GA General Assembly
Smoke Rise Baptist Church,
Stone Mountain
Time to be announced.

March 9-10
CBF/GA General Assembly
Smoke Rise Baptist Church,
Stone Mountain
Speaker:
Anna Carter Florence,
Assistant Professor of Preaching and
Worship at Columbia
Theological Seminary.

Over 15 Workshops
Network Gatherings
Fellowship
Child Care
Great Worship Experiences
Reports from CBF/GA Staff
Resource Fair

Workshops

"Baptists and Muslims: Finding Common Ground"
Leaders: Maryam M. Ozer and Rumeysa Aydogmus

"CBF/GA Update"
Leader: Frank Broome

"CBF Work in China"
Leaders: Renée Bennett and Becky Matheny

"Collegiate Ministry"
Leaders: Jason Loscuito and Neil Heath

"Getting Our Second Wind"
Leader: Tony Lankford

"Developing Different Ministries Among Latinos in Georgia"
Leaders: Ruth Cuellar; Participants: Edwin Perez, Vilma
Manoso, and Archie Gibelli

"How the Local Church Can Minister
to People with Disabilities"
Leaders: Cathy Humphrey and Bill Neal

"Introduction to Spiritual Formation"
Leader: Rick Bennett

"Is Your Résumé Old School?"
Leader: Alan Mitchell

"Klesis: God's Call and the Journey of Faith"
Leaders: Kathy Dobbins, Doris Nelms, and Colin Harris

"Making Room for the Sacred in Family Life"
Leader: Rick Bennett

"Nurturing the Called: On Being a Teaching Congregation"
Leader: Jake Hall

"Postmodernity: A Primer with Continual Reference to the
Life and Work of the Church"

March 15
Baptist Women in Ministry
Distinguished Churchwoman of the
Year Nomination *Deadline*

Click [here](#) for more information.

March 15
Baptist Women in Ministry
Sara Owen Etheridge Scholarship
Application *Deadline*

Click [here](#) for more information.

March 16-18
March Mission Madness
FBC Eatonton

A mission weekend for youth.
Participants will stay at
Rock Eagle Retreat Center.
For more information, visit
www.marchmissionmadness.org.

March 19-20
Urban Mission Workshop
McAfee School of Theology,
Atlanta

Workshop Leader:
Ray Bakke.
For more information, email
frazier_d@mercer.edu.

March 23
Michael Talbot Concert
Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip,
Atlanta

For more information call Jean Stafford
at 478-477-8706.

March 23-25
March Mission Madness
FBC Columbus

A mission weekend for youth.
For more information, visit
www.marchmissionmadness.org.

April 16
“Growing Generous Churches,
Growing Generous Christians”
Religious Life Center, Mercer
University, Macon

A free, one-day, ecumenical
conference featuring Lynn Miller,
Stewardship Theologian. Co-
sponsored by The Center for Baptist
Studies, Mercer University,
Congregational Life, CBF/National,

Leader: Jake Myers

“Putting Emergent Theology on Tap in Your Community”
Leader: Jake Myers

“Responding to Christian Nationalism”
Leader: Bruce Gourley

“The New Face of Retirement: Opportunity for Missions”
Leader: Jake Malone

“The People of God and the People of Darfur”
Leader: Liliane Kshensky Baxter

“Transforming Congregational Culture”
Leader: Jared Neal

Click [here](#) for more workshop information.
Workshops begin Friday at 1:00 p.m.

Network Gatherings

Chaplaincy Network
Children’s Ministry Network
Educators’ Network
Hispanic Network
Music Ministry Network
Pastors’ Network
Student Ministry Network
Laity Network

*Networks will meet Saturday Morning
beginning at 8:30 a.m.*

Child Care

CBF Foundation, and CBF/GA. Click [here](#) for more information.

April 16-20
“Intentional Interim Ministry”
McAfee School of Theology

This is the second course offered in 2007 for ministers seeking certification for intentional ministry. Sponsored by CBF/National and the Center for Congregational Health. For more information click [here](#).

April 28
BWIM of Georgia
Spring Meeting
Singing in Harmony:
A Homecoming
Peachtree Baptist Church
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Business Meeting 11:30 a.m.
If you have questions, please call Nikki Hardeman at 706-291-6850.

April 30-May 2
Session 4
Young Leader’s Program
Thomasville, NC
For more information visit the [Center for Congregational Health](#).

May 22
Coordinating Council Meeting
CBF/GA office, Macon
10:00 a.m.

June 27-29
CBF/National
General Assembly
Washington, DC
[Register Now!](#)

July 17-20
Alleluia! Church Music Conference
Baylor University
Presented by Baylor University Center for Christian Music Studies. For more information visit http://www.baylor.edu/christian_music/.

Aug. 1-3
Baptist History Celebration
First Baptist Church, Charleston, SC
For more information or to register for the event, go to



Child Care will be provided on a limited basis and only with a reservation. Child Care Reservation deadline is March 01, 2007. For child care reservations and details email Amanda Coe Burton (aburton@smokerisebaptist.org) or call 770-413-2133 ext. 218.

Pre-Registration

Because we know registration can be a frustrating process, we have provided an easy way for you to pre-register. If you don't want to fill out a registration form at General Assembly click the link below and a name tag will be waiting for you at the door.

[Pre-Register here!](#)

*Note: This is not for hotel reservations.
Click [here](#) and scroll down to housing
to see a list of hotel options in Stone Mountain.*

For detailed schedule, housing options, directions, and other details click [here!](#)

Publicity Resources

CBF/GA needs your help to publicize General Assembly in your church. We have striven to make publicity easy for you by providing Bulletin Inserts and Flyers that you can download. Click the links below to download.

[Bulletin Inserts](#)

[Flyer](#)

www.baptisthistorycelebration.org.

Aug. 14
Coordinating Council Meeting
CBF/GA office, Macon
10:00 a.m.

Nov. 4 or 5
Coordinating Council Meeting
CBF/GA Fall Convocation
First Baptist Church, Savannah
Date and time to be announced.

Nov. 4-5
CBF/GA Fall Convocation
First Baptist Church, Savannah

CBF/GA Event Updates

Georgia Youth Choir Festival



Over 100 youth and adults from 8 churches participated in the First Annual Georgia Youth Choir Festival sponsored by CBF of Georgia and the McAfee-Townsend Institute of Mercer University over MLK Jr. Weekend, January 12-14, 2007. This pilot event was held at the Calvin Center in Hampton, Ga., and included periods of extended rehearsals, as well as times for fellowship. On Sunday, the mass choir led worship at FBC Griffin in the morning service and gave concerts Sunday afternoon/evening at Kings Bridge Retirement Community and Briarcliff Baptist Church, Atlanta. John Simons, director of the McAfee-Townsend Institute, was the primary conductor for the weekend, with four other ministers of music directing one piece each. This event gives church youth choirs the opportunity to sing a wide variety of musical genres, to experience differing conducting styles and techniques, and to strengthen relationships with other CBF/GA churches.



Participating churches included:
Briarcliff Baptist Church, Atlanta
First Baptist Church, Forsyth
First Baptist Church, Gainesville
First Baptist Church, Griffin
First Baptist Church, Rome (financial sponsor)
Hardwick Baptist Church, Milledgeville
Peachtree Baptist Church, Atlanta
Smoke Rise Baptist Church (financial sponsor)
Vineville Baptist Church, Macon
Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta

Now Serving



On February 2-3, 2007, over 100 people participated in Now Serving: Atlanta. Students from Georgia churches and college groups, as well as groups from Alabama and South Carolina, gathered to worship at Mercer University's Atlanta Campus, and then went out into the city in smaller groups for a day of work. Students worked at a variety of mission sites, including food pantries, clothes closets,

churches, an animal shelter, a rape crisis center, and a ministry to exotic dancers. Worship was led by Anna Hutto, and speaker Phil Smith challenged the students to use whatever gifts and talents, or what they “had in their hands” to minister and serve.

Kyle Matthews



Singer/songwriter, Kyle Matthews, engages workshop participants to consider how churches express themselves through worship and outreach. This CBF/GA sponsored event was held January 23 at Highland Hills Baptist Church, Macon.

In the News

CBF/GA Disaster Relief Update from Florida

During a recent conference call, Tommy Deal, Associate Coordinator, CBF/Florida, along with Charles Ray, CBF/National Disaster Response Coordinator (both were on the scene in Lake Mack, Florida) updated CBF offices on the status and needs for the disaster area in Lake Mack. Lake Mack is a small community outside of Deland, Florida. Base of Operations for the disaster relief effort is located at the Central Baptist Church Camp on Hwy 42 outside of Deland. Staff members and volunteers report that the greatest need at this time is financial.

For full story click [here](#).

Fellowship to offer Spiritual Formation Retreats over next two years

**By Courtney Hodges
CBF Communications**

ATLANTA – The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Spiritual Formation Network will offer four retreats in the next two years, including retreats for associate pastors.

For the first time the network will host three regional spiritual formation retreats for associate ministers of children, youth, education, faith formation, spiritual formation and associate pastors and chaplains. A fourth retreat is scheduled for pastors.

“While pastors are ultimately responsible for the spiritual formation of their congregation, it is often associates who are charged with the tasks of congregational spiritual formation, especially that of youth and children,” said Rick Bennett, the Fellowship’s associate coordinator for congregational life.

Like the network’s previous pastors’ retreats, the retreats for associates will focus on Sabbath. Led by Bo Prosser, the Fellowship’s coordinator for congregational life, and Bennett, participants will experience Sabbath through silence, solitude, study, reflection, worship, and fellowship.

For full story click [here](#).

Fellowship Baptists invited to participate in celebration of Baptist history

**By Patricia Heys
CBF Communications**

ATLANTA – An event celebrating Baptist history will be held Aug. 1-3 at First Baptist Church of Charleston, S.C.

Leaders from 20 Baptist groups have been involved in planning the event for the past five years. The meeting will commemorate the 300th anniversary of the oldest continuing Baptist association in America – the Philadelphia Baptist Association.

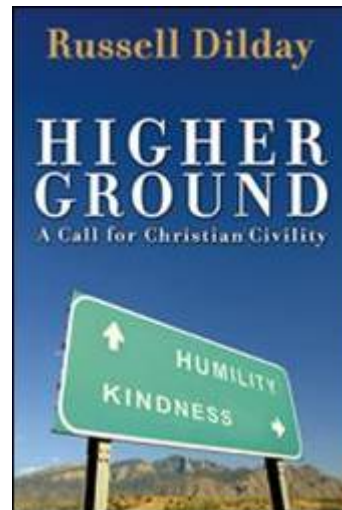
Speakers will include Cooperative Baptist Fellowship moderator Emmanuel McCall, who will lead a discussion on Baptists and the Civil Rights movement.

“Baptists have an interesting history,” said McCall. “The Lord has done great things with us through cooperating, rather than through forced, judicatory structure. The Charleston event helps us to see how God has used us, sometimes in spite of ourselves. We will celebrate where God has brought us from, and look forward excitedly to

what God will do.”

For full story click [here](#).

Resources



In his inspiring new book, *Higher Ground: A Call for Christian Civility*, Russell Dilday, the former president of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, writes that it is time for Christians to move beyond the squabbles and struggles that characterize much of their interaction with one another and set their relations on a more biblical and spiritual path. Dilday focuses his attention particularly on the question: How shall divided Baptists, as well as other Christian groups weighed down by a recent history of controversy, move forward, leaving unfortunate fractures behind, and press on to higher ground? He resolutely answers in nine chapters expounding the theme that we need to move beyond the lowlands of caustic controversy to the higher ground of Christian civility. Ultimately Dilday attempts to shine the lamp of experience on our history and let it guide Baptist Christians to learn a gracious, restrained, and well-mannered civility among one another. Read more at www.helwys.com/books/higherground.html or call 800-747-3016.

Eyeing Easter, Walking through Lent

This is a free, eight-week Bible study produced in partnership by the Baptist Center for Ethics and the Baptist World Alliance.

Click [here](#) to download a sample. Join over 300 others from around the world who have already done so.

The complete eight-week study is available at www.ethicsdaily.com and will include separate student and leader guides. Lent begins February 21, and the first lesson is designed to be used February 18.

Baptistnet.com Website Relunched

Smyth & Helwys Publishing

MACON, GA -- January 29, 2007 [Baptistnet](http://www.baptistnet.com) (www.baptistnet.com), one of the original Baptist portals, has relaunched. This free service gathers a wide range of information in one place, making it fast and convenient for Baptist ministers and laypersons to stay informed. [Baptistnet](http://www.baptistnet.com) is a service of Smyth & Helwys Publishing.

Mission Opportunities

Christian College Students On Mission in China 2007

Christian College Students who are guided to serve in China are needed now for May and/or July and/or August 2007. Please contact us or review info at the web site www.volunteersforchina.org

You can download an application from the Volunteers for China website above.

For More Opportunities visit the CBF/GA website by clicking the link below.

<http://www.cbfga.org/missions/opportunities.html>

**“Growing Generous Churches,
Growing Generous Christians”**



A free, one day, ecumenical conference featuring Lynn Miller, Stewardship Theologian.
Co-Sponsored by *The Center for Baptist Studies, Mercer University, Congregational Life, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, CBF Foundation, and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia*

April 16, 2007

9:00 a.m.

Religious Life Center, Mercer University, Macon, GA

The Conference is Free!
Click [here](#) to Register Now.

Designed especially for Ministers and local church stewardship committee members, but all are welcome.

Reference Referral

Position Openings

A large CBF church in the greater Athens, GA, area is seeking a part-time minister of music. Interested persons, please contact CBF Reference & Referral at amitchell@cbfga.org.

A small church in a small town near Athens, GA, is seeking a Pastor on a permanent part-time or bi-vocational basis. The church would like for the Pastor to live in their parsonage. Interested persons, please contact CBF Reference & Referral at amitchell@cbfga.org.

A church in a small town between Atlanta and Athens is seeking part-time Associate Pastor for youth and children. Minimum education level is 2 years of college. Interested persons, please contact CBF Reference & Referral at amitchell@cbfga.org.

First Baptist Church of Milledgeville is accepting applications for the position of Associate Pastor for Music/Youth. Applications may be obtained by contacting First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 795, Milledgeville, Georgia 31059-0795--attention Jerry Bradley or by emailing fbcmville@alltel.net. Applicant must be an ordained minister with experience in the areas of music and youth. This is not an entry level position; applicant must have had experience within the last two years. Salary to be determined based on training and experience. Position will remain vacant until filled.

Upcoming Opportunities

Thomas Long to Speak at 2007 William L. Self Preaching Lectures McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta February 19-20

For more information call Diane Frazier at 678-547-6470 or 1-888-471-9922 or email frazier_d@mercer.edu.

Sixth Annual Baptist Heritage Preaching Contest February 20 (*Submission Deadline*)

The Baptist History and Heritage Society is now accepting submissions for the **Sixth Annual Baptist Heritage Preaching Contest**. Sermon manuscripts must be submitted by February 20, 2007. Contest awards include: \$400 for first place, \$300 for second place, and \$200 for third place. For more information, contact Pamela R. Durso at pdurso@tnbaptist.org or 615-371-7937. Contest guidelines available at <http://www.baptisthistory.org/preachingcontest.htm>.

Opening Doors GA Regional Meeting First Baptist Church of Decatur March 20

Who opened the doors of ministry for you? For whom will you hold the door and extend an invitation? Join us as we explore the nature of teaching congregations through practices of calling and qualifying young ministers. This event is sponsored by the Shiloh Network. For more information contact the network coordinator, Jake Hall at jhall@shilohnetwork.org or 678-939-8235.

John Michael Talbot Concert in Atlanta! Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta March 23, 7:00 p.m.

The Atlanta Episcopal Cursillo Community will be hosting an evening with John Michael Talbot, a prolific Catholic Christian singer/songwriter known throughout the world for his spiritually meditative compositions. Proceeds benefit Second Harvest and Mercy Corps. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at the Cathedral Bookstore, 404-237-7582 or on-line at www.itickets.com/events/169926.html

For more information call Jean Stafford at 478-477-8706.

**Baptist Women In Ministry of Georgia
Spring Meeting
Singing in Harmony: A Homecoming
Peachtree Baptist Church
April 28, 2007
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Business Meeting 11:30 a.m.**

Please join us for a time of remembering from where we have come and a time to look toward the future. We are excited to have Dorthea Gatlin and Devita Parnell as our preachers for the morning. Please join us and bring someone who you think will benefit from our organization. Keep looking here for more information. If you have questions, please call Nikki Hardeman at 706-291-6850.

**Alleluia! Church Music Conference
Baylor University
July 17-20**

Presented by Baylor University
Center for Christian Music Studies
For more information visit

http://www.baylor.edu/christian_music/.

Financial Picture

Budget Receipts as of 01/31/07

Year to Date:	\$386,165.54
Requirement:	\$465,618.67
Over/Under:	<\$ 79,453.13>
Month to Date:	\$71,768.29
Monthly Req.:	\$58,202.33
Over/Under:	<\$ 13,565.96>
