

# VISIONS



Aug / Sept '05

## Morningstar Treatment Services reaps benefits of your support

COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP OF GEORGIA has proven its partnership skills with Morningstar Treatment Services, Inc., and Morningstar Baptist Foundation, Inc. Morningstar Youth Estate Campus (MYEC) hosts an average of two thousand volunteers each summer, most of whom represent CBF churches in Georgia. Morningstar is grateful for the financial support provided by CBF of Georgia. Perhaps the greatest gift has been CBF of Georgia's role as a "conduit" for mission work on the MYEC in Brunswick. We have used CBF money to purchase materials, and volunteers have brought their own supplies on some occasions. Volunteer workers have made capital improvements to the campus with value exceeding \$500,000. Morningstar Academy, "the blue building" (photo above), houses part of the on-campus school at MYEC. Highland Hills Baptist Church in



Morningstar Academy

Macon, among other volunteer groups, helped to paint the "blue building" which was historically known as the post office for Boys Estate. A teller or postmaster window with iron bars can be seen in the building. Our on-campus school serves the special education needs of most of the residents. As children make progress in their treatment, they can go to off-campus school, a much coveted privilege.

A greenhouse, built by First Baptist Church of Rome, will allow residents



Retreat Center



Activity Center Annex

to learn horticultural skills and enjoy digging in the dirt and watching plants grow. Several churches, including Highland Hills Baptist Church in Macon,

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Morningstar Chapel

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## Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia

P.O. Box 4343, Macon GA 31208-4343  
phone 478-742-1191 fax 478-742-6150  
website www.cbfga.org

### CBF of Georgia Staff

#### Coordinator

E. Frank Broome • fbroomecbfga.org

#### Missions Coordinator

Jimmy B. Lewis • jblewiscbfga.org

#### Associate Coordinator for Congregational Life

Devita B. Parnell • dparnellcbfga.org

#### Senior Assistant for Finance and Administration

Suzanne Powell • spowellcbfga.org

#### Assistant for Communication and Resources

Nancy A. Copeland • ncopelandcbfga.org

#### Assistant to the Coordinator for Reference and Referral

Alan Mitchell • amitchellcbfga.org

### CBF of Georgia Coordinating Council

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All questions and comments may be directed  
to Nancy Copeland,  
478-742-1191 ext 27 or ncopelandcbfga.org.

# When you contribute

## YOU PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS for ministerial students at McAfee and Candler Schools of Theology.

"This scholarship has given me the opportunity to finish my theological degree at McAfee School of Theology so that I can focus my efforts on the ministries of Evergreen Baptist Church. I am truly appreciative to the churches and the individuals who have made this scholarship possible. Your generous donations to the CBF/GA Scholarship Fund are making it possible for students like me to prepare for the work of ministry throughout Georgia."

**Todd Lowe**, Pastor, Evergreen Baptist Church, Milledgeville

## YOU PROVIDE PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE to local churches looking for staff and also to ministers who are seeking places to serve.

"As of April 1, 2005, it was my great joy to begin serving as the first full-time pastor of "The Oaks—A Traditional Baptist Church," in Lyons. God worked this out over a number of months in late 2004 and the first part of 2005 through a number of people. When I think of those whom God used to bring this about, Alan Mitchell is at the top of that list.

"From the moment Alan began his service as Assistant to the Coordinator for Reference and Referral for CBF of Georgia, he was hard at work with pulpit committees, pastors, and others across the state and beyond. I was very sure that he was praying and working for God's will in my search from the very beginning. His concern was not just to make a placement, but to be sure that the placement was a good one for the church, my family, and for me. As a pastor, Alan's approach to his work is to provide a ministry to everyone involved. He has walked the road himself, and he knows the curves and pitfalls along the way.

"One of the best parts of my experience with Alan was the way that he kept me informed. I heard from him at least once a week during the process, both by phone and by email. I'm told that the search team from the church also heard from him with frequency and regularity. His diligent work, combined with his knowledge of the churches all around Georgia, resulted in a wonderful placement that is beyond anything I could have hoped for. I wholeheartedly recommend Alan to churches, pastors, and staff members who are in the search process."

**Doug Ivey**, Pastor, The Oaks, Lyons

### *Congratulations to others who have used the Reference and Referral system:*

**Gregory Smith**, who has been called as Chaplain at King's Bridge Retirement Center on Briarcliff Road in Atlanta.

**Mark Ashworth**, who begins his ministry as pastor of Union Cross Baptist Church in Kernersville, NC.

**Joe McKee**, who has accepted the Youth Ministry Resident position at First Baptist Church of Dalton, GA.

**Kim Heath**, who has accepted the position as the Children's Ministry Resident at First Baptist Church in Dalton, GA.

**Corey Goode**, who has been called as Minister of Music at Signal Mountain Baptist Church in Tennessee.

**Keith Goretzka**, who is the new pastor at First Baptist Church of Erwin, NC.

**Randy Shepley**, who has accepted a call to First Baptist Church of Marietta as Associate Pastor of Faith Development.

**Rhonda Abbott**, who has accepted a position at the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship as the Associate Coordinator for Missions.

**Dan Hughes**, who has accepted the position of pastor of First Baptist Church of Claxton.

# to the CBF of Georgia budget...

**YOU PROVIDE ASSISTANCE to new churches in Georgia.**

"Hola!

"When I started the Rainbow of Love Ministry in Newnan, I brought with me a suitcase filled with dreams, hopes, and energy. Thus, I started my journey; soon I realized after months of trying to relate to Hispanic Baptist Churches (SBC), where men are pastors, I always found an impenetrable wall where women, called to serve God as pastors, are not welcome. Nevertheless, I continued my journey with my suitcase filled with dreams, trusting in God, and knowing that one day long ago, He called me to bring women and men to Christ.

"Through God's plan one day Dr. Joel Richardson of Central Baptist Church of Newnan gave me the phone number of Frank Broome. Since our first conversation, I was welcomed and supported by him. My walk with CBF/GA, although not long in time, has been a good time because I have been receiving blessings through the CBF/GA.

"Last year I received a scholarship to participate in the Mercer Preaching Consultation. I felt the calling of Christ in each speaker. Christ's presence in their ministry was an inspiration to me. In addition, I was supported by CBF/GA with the presence of Suzanne Powell in the first ordination of deacons, two women and two men, in our church. Suzanne brought a special message from Frank Broome and from CBF/GA. Our service was mostly in Spanish, but we trusted the Holy Spirit to help Suzanne understand that 'tongue.'

"As our church was developing, we were aware that we should enhance our financial capabilities by installing a computerized financial program - one more phone call to Frank! Suzanne Powell came to our aid once again. She spent time with me in Newnan, teaching me how to use the Quick Books program. She was so patient!

"I must say that in my journey now, I have partners in Christ who help me to carry my suitcase, still full of dreams, callings, and hopes."

**Ruth Cuellar**, Pastor, Rainbow of Love Ministries, Newnan



**Oscar Hernandez and Rev. Ruth Cuellar during Oscar's baptism, November 2004.**



**Ruth and her husband, Chris Avila, dressed for the Latino's Day Celebration at the church, September 2004.**

**YOU SUPPORT WOMEN PASTORS and Baptist women in ministry across Georgia.**

"When I arrived in Georgia two and one-half years ago to serve my first pastorate at Fellowship Baptist Church in Edison, I felt a long, long way from home. I was moving from a Washington, DC, suburb after over twenty years. I had also recently graduated from the Baptist Theological Seminary of Richmond (BTSR) in Virginia. Shortly after my arrival in Georgia, I attended the CBF of Georgia Fall Convocation and discovered two of my fellow BTSR graduates, as well as other very familiar faces. It began to feel more like home.

"Before long, Frank Broome invited me to Macon to get acquainted with CBF of Georgia and to meet with him, Devita Parnell, and Surelle Pinkston. They all welcomed me to Georgia and encouraged me and assured me of their support for my ministry here. In September, I was offered a scholarship to attend the Mercer Preaching Consultation on St. Simons Island. I was one of four Baptist women pastors to be offered this scholarship through the CBF of Georgia, Mercer University, McAfee School of Theology, and The Center for Baptist Studies at Mercer. This generous assistance made it possible for me to attend an excellent event and meet even more Georgia Baptists.

"Although I traveled several hundred miles to serve the Lord in Edison, Georgia, CBF of Georgia and Frank Broome have certainly made me feel welcome. They have affirmed my ministry and provided on-going encouragement and assistance to me and to my congregation. I recently had the opportunity to let my seminary president, Dr. Tom Graves, know that CBF of Georgia has taken me under their wing and made me feel right at home! Thank you!"

**Bonnie Decuir**, Pastor, Fellowship Baptist Church, Edison



**YOU ENABLE CBF/GA TO "TELL THE STORY" to individuals and groups in person, in writing, through the internet, and through music.**

"Last year, it was my joy to be a part of the beginning of the CBF/GA Choir. Under the direction of our excellent leader, Carey Huddlestun, Minister of Music at Briarcliff Baptist in Atlanta, we met for a fall rehearsal in Macon and a winter rehearsal in Atlanta. We were privileged to lead in worship at the spring convocation at First Baptist Church of Rome. Each time our group has grown in number.

"I'm very thankful that CBF/GA is sponsoring this group. It provides me, as a minister of music, the much-needed opportunity to be a part of an ensemble that I do not direct. This broadens my musical experience, sharpens my skills,

*(continues to page 9)*



**\$** 815,721.00 was given to CBF of Georgia during the 2004 – 2005 fiscal year!

Our fiscal year ended May 31st. The August/September issue of *Visions* is the traditional time we give a detailed report of the previous year. Last year our budget was \$557,700.00. We spent slightly more than that—the total being \$594,827.00. However, we received more than expected. One hundred and thirty-eight churches contributed \$585,744.00 to the budget. An additional \$46,007.00 was given by individuals to the budget for a total of \$631,751.00. This is good news for those of us who like to stay in the black.

What about designated income? This is income given by churches or individuals for specific projects. It also includes cost recovery fees paid by participants. This past year we received \$183,970.00 in designated income. \$94,974.00 came from churches, \$35,075.00 came from individuals,

and \$53,921.00 came from foundations.

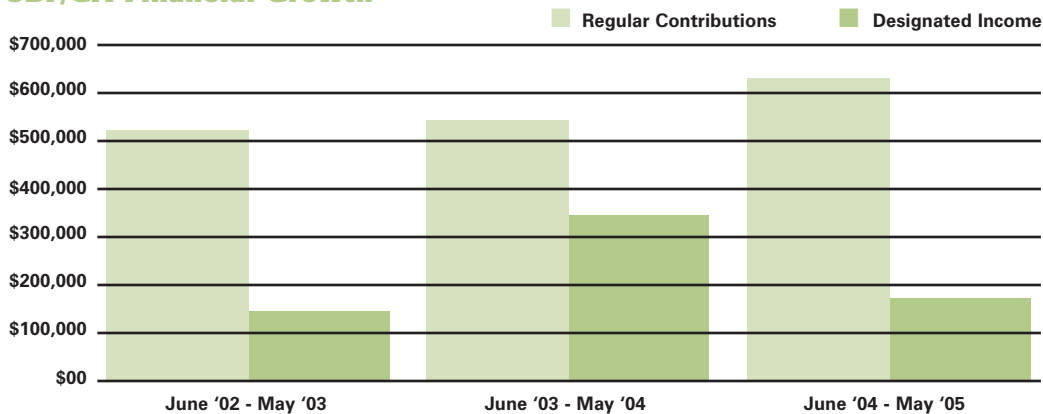
When all types of income are counted, our total receipts this past year were \$815,721.00. We are indeed grateful for the support we have received.

Churches and individuals were busy giving to National CBF, as well. Last year churches in Georgia gave \$4,288,352.63 to the National CBF budget. In addition to that, \$622,500.00 was given to Global Missions and \$384,000.00 was given to the Tsunami relief effort.

Such generosity makes one proud to be associated with CBF contributors in Georgia.

—Frank Broome, Coordinator

## CBF/GA Financial Growth



## THANKS, CBF GEORGIA

“The churches and individuals in Georgia who contributed to CBF Global Missions this year have enabled significant Gospel work to be accomplished. Not only have our partners in Georgia increased giving to the Offering for Global Missions (\$622,500.00 total to date), but you have also responded generously to the unforeseen disasters caused by the Tsunami in South Asia (\$384,000.00).

“Recently I walked through a village on the Southern Thailand coast which had been completely wiped out by the tsunami waves. A few men were working alongside CBF volunteers to make bricks to rebuild their homes. The equipment and supplies were

provided through your gifts. Elderly women and children were still hiding in the hill regions for fear of a repeated tsunami, and more importantly, from fear of the spirits of the thousands of dead villagers whose bodies were still not recovered. Unrecovered bodies which had been swept away by the tidal wave are believed to roam the area, unsettled because of the lack of proper burial or cremation. Fear and superstition are constant companions to hunger and thirst and lack of shelter and an uncertain future.

“Your gifts to the CBF budget and to the Offering for Global Missions enabled us to have people in the region who had long-term relationships with government officials and village leaders. They speak the language, understand

the cultures, and share the pain and suffering of the local people. Then, when you gave to the Tsunami Relief, the funds were channeled in effective, efficient ways through field personnel. Other relief organizations turned to CBF for help in distributing relief supplies.

“Now our presence in the region has taken on new purpose. We are helping rebuild lives, habitats, and livelihoods. The help you have funded is making lasting, meaningful differences in the people.

“Thank you for your generosity and for your partnership in the Gospel. Together, we are CBF.”

—Patrick Anderson,  
Missions Advocate  
CBF National

# CBF Georgia Contributing Churches

(Contributions include budget and designated.)

Albany-First Baptist Church	3,434.75	Harlem Baptist Church	500.00	Oakhurst Baptist Church-Decatur	600.00
Americus-First Baptist Church	1,132.50	Hartwell-First Baptist Church	6,044.96	Ocilla Baptist Church	235.00
Athens-First Baptist Church	24,642.00	Haven Fellowship Church-Conyers	3,665.00	Parkway Baptist Church-Duluth	3,176.81
Augusta-First Baptist Church	48,573.59	Hawkinsville-First Baptist Church	2,744.90	Peachtree Baptist Church-Atlanta	1,365.00
Bainbridge-First Baptist Church	800.00	Hephzibah Baptist Church	80.00	Pine Grove Baptist Church-Thomson	45.00
Bannister Creek Church, Inc	30.00	Heritage Baptist Church-Cartersville	2,020.00	Rainbow Park Baptist Church-Decatur	732.73
Black Springs BC-Milledgeville	308.72	Heritage Baptist Fellowship-Canton	3,300.00	Rehoboth Baptist Church - Cave Spring	1,517.74
Bogart-First Baptist Church	440.20	Highland Hills Baptist Church-Macon	10,493.18	Ringgold- First Baptist Church	833.45
Briarcliff Baptist Church-Atlanta	1,920.00	Highland Hills BC WMU	292.01	Riverdale-First Baptist Church	683.50
Buckhead Baptist Church-Atlanta	792.00	Horizon Baptist Fellowship-Summerville	1,400.00	Rocky Creek Baptist Church-Forsyth	1,900.00
Carlton Baptist Church	1,780.00	House of Prayer for All Nations	100.00	Rome-First Baptist Church	22,522.54
Carlton Baptist Church-Women on Missions	40.00	Ila Baptist Church	997.66	Rossville-First Baptist Church	831.34
Carrollton-First Baptist Church	620.00	Isle of Hope Baptist Church-Savannah	444.46	Roswell- First Baptist Church	14,201.02
Cave Spring-First Baptist Church	381.01	Jasper-First Baptist Church	5,276.29	Royston Baptist Church	1,028.00
Cedartown-First Baptist Church	990.00	Jefferson-First Baptist Church	9,650.00	Sandy Plains Baptist Church-Marietta	650.00
Central Baptist Church-Gray	3,375.00	Johns Creek Baptist Church-Alpharetta	15,000.00	Sardis Baptist Church-Hartwell	1,740.00
Central Baptist Church-Newnan	8,125.00	LaFayette-First Baptist Church	6,869.00	Savannah-First Baptist Church	837.42
Claxton-First Baptist Church	5,068.38	Lake Oconee Community Church-Greensboro	1,000.00	Scott Boulevard Baptist Church-Decatur	1,016.43
Columbus-First Baptist Church	16,482.15	Lakeview First Baptist Church-Rossville	550.00	Second-Ponce de Leon BC-Atlanta	5,493.32
Commerce-First Baptist Church	4,670.91	Lakeview Hills Baptist Church-Gainesville	2,750.00	Second Avenue Baptist Church-Rome	4,791.21
Community Baptist Church-Milledgeville	3,403.66	Lavonia-First Baptist Church	17,018.82	Shekinah Baptist Assembly-Louisville	600.00
Cordele-First Baptist Church	6,609.50	Lawrenceville-First Baptist Church	6,582.11	Shurlington Baptist Church-Macon	5,110.24
Cornelia-First Baptist Church	50.00	Lumpkin-First Baptist Church	3,000.00	Smoke Rise Baptist Church-Stone Mtn.	12,123.43
Covenant Baptist Church-Cleveland	900.00	Macon-First Baptist Church of Christ	26,619.95	South Cherokee Baptist Church-Woodstock	200.00
Covington-First Baptist Church	625.00	Madison Baptist Church	16,403.75	Swainsboro-First Baptist Church	1,000.00
Crievewood Baptist Church	209.66	Manchester-First Baptist Church	1,125.00	Tabernacle Baptist Church-Carrollton	18,958.05
Dahlonga Baptist Church	4,274.00	Maranatha Baptist Church-Plains	3,425.07	The Oaks Traditional Baptist Church-Lyons	1,015.00
Dalton-First Baptist Church	51,126.32	Marietta-First Baptist Church	23,537.95	Thomaston-First Baptist Church	2,624.11
Darien Baptist Church	1,225.00	Memorial Baptist Church-Savannah	1,922.15	Tifton-First Baptist Church	4,218.22
Decatur-First Baptist Church	1,500.00	Milledge Avenue Baptist Church-Athens	5,372.67	Toccoa-First Baptist Church	2,905.00
Druid Hills Baptist Church-Atlanta	2,076.30	Milledgeville-First Baptist Church	5,452.20	Trinity Baptist Church-Conyers	3,975.20
Dunwoody Baptist Church-Atlanta	1,695.00	Montezuma-First Baptist Church	4,032.50	Trinity Baptist Church-Madison	1,430.00
Eatonton-First Baptist Church	6,900.00	Montgomery Heights BC-Commerce	1,024.71	Trinity Baptist Church-Moultrie	10,247.07
Ebenezer Baptist Church-Washington	789.69	Monticello Baptist Church	5,350.00	Tucker-First Baptist Church	2,266.66
Embry Hills United Methodist Church	780.00	Morrow -First Baptist Church	13,535.32	Twin City-First Baptist Church	100.00
Evans-First Baptist Church	125.04	Mount Calvary Baptist Church - Cochran	527.25	Union Point-First Baptist Church	336.41
Evergreen Baptist Church-Milledgeville	2,485.00	Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church	217.75	University Baptist Church-Alabama	270.00
Fellowship Baptist Church-Americus	2,956.25	Mt. Zion Baptist Church-Macon	11,078.40	Valdosta-First Baptist Church	823.38
Fellowship Baptist Church-Fitzgerald	2,443.05	N L C Ministries, Inc.	875.00	Valley Brook Baptist Church-Decatur	423.83
Fitzgerald-First Baptist Church	3,114.47	National Heights BC-Fayetteville	1,225.43	Warm Springs-First Baptist Church	665.00
Forsyth-First Baptist Church	11,228.46	New Community Church-Buena Vista	1,258.50	Washington-First Baptist Church	1,740.00
Gainesville-First Baptist Church	11,202.30	New Heights Baptist Church-Macon	737.13	West Point-First Baptist Church	3,933.70
Garden Lakes Baptist Church-Rome	2,801.89	New Horizons Fellowship-Fayetteville	2,221.32	Wieuca Road Baptist Church-Atlanta	30,994.12
Glenwood Hills Baptist Church-Macon	840.00	Newnan-First Baptist Church	710.00		
Griffin-First Baptist Church	24,731.58	North Broad Baptist Church-Rome	3,420.79		
Haddock Baptist Church	3,362.01	North River Baptist Church-Roswell	2,783.28		
Harbor Ministries-McCaysville	1,360.00	Northeast Baptist Church-Atlanta	3,953.26		
Hardwick Baptist Church	50.00	Northside Drive Baptist Church-Atlanta	1,500.00		
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$680,718.09</b>

**TOTAL \$680,718.09**

## THANK YOU

Such generosity makes one proud to be associated with CBF contributors in Georgia.

—Frank Broome

## From our associate coordinator for congregational life



**J**esus once said: “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:21). Someone else said it another way—a quick look at one’s checkbook reveals a great deal about what an individual values. Both statements of truth give us great insight regarding priorities. If you were to take a glance, not only at the CBF of Georgia checkbook, but also the calendar, you would see that we take seriously the individual. This means we listen to YOU and your needs over the phone, through email, or in person over a cup of coffee or a meal. We listen to your needs for more training and equipping, more opportunities for connectedness with one another and our world, and more quality resources.

In response to these requests for MORE and with the help of some key individuals, we have seen multiple professional networks take shape around the state. In January, children’s ministers and music/worship leaders gathered separately in the Atlanta area. They also met together in March at the General Assembly in Rome as did pastors, chaplains, student ministers, ministerial spouses, and education leaders. At the beginning of June, chaplains from around the state met at the CBF of Georgia office and heard from Ron King, executive director of the Pastoral Institute in Columbus. As I write, education leaders and children’s ministers are planning network gatherings for later in August (see insert for details). Last week I heard from a pastor in the middle Georgia area who desires more fellowship and opportunities for professional development. Together we are working to form a support group for like-minded ministers.

I envision both clergy and laity involved in these networks, with a common goal—to strengthen the congregation’s

ministry. In coming together for support, the exchange of ideas, and continuing education, those charged with the task of directing the ministries of our congregations will be better equipped to lead. I am excited about this development within CBF of Georgia and the opportunity to invest in the future.

—Devita Parnell, Associate Coordinator  
for Congregational Life

### Children’s Ministry Network Gathering

August 23, FBC Griffin  
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (lunch provided)  
Room 106, Cheatam Building

What books on children’s ministry are you reading? What creative activities did your church offer for children this summer? What opportunities are you planning for the fall? What challenges and joys do you experience as a minister? Join with others from around the state to share the latest happenings from your church’s ministry to children. Come to be inspired, encouraged, and supported in ministry.

Contact Devita Parnell [dparnell@cbfga.org](mailto:dparnell@cbfga.org) or Brenda Dedmon [Brenda@rfbc.org](mailto:Brenda@rfbc.org) to register.

### Christian Educator’s Network Gathering

August 30, FBC Griffin  
12 noon – 3:00 p.m. (lunch provided)

Join with other Christian Educators across Georgia for professional development, encouragement, and renewal. Rick Bennett, Associate Coordinator for Faith Formation (CBF National), will lead participants in a discussion entitled: “Somewhere Between Christian Education and Spiritual Formation.”

To register email Devita Parnell at [dparnell@cbfga.org](mailto:dparnell@cbfga.org).

## From our moderator

**W**hy should you and I contribute at least 10% of our gross income to God’s work? Most of you would probably respond in similar but different ways. Some possibilities that work for me: God’s Word tells us to, and I want to be obedient to Him; He gave me all I am and have, and what I return to Him is really only token recognition of what He did and does for us; it gives me joy, and we all know God loves a cheerful giver (the Bible says so); and finally, a lifetime of experience has taught me that when I give freely, generously, and joyously, I reap blessings that far exceed my meager gifts.

But, you say, there are lots of ways to contribute to Kingdom work. Why should you give to the CBF of Georgia? Some answers that work for me: I like being part of a fellowship that serves Christians and churches as they



“discover and fulfill their God-given mission” (our purpose). I like being part of a fellowship that shares a “passion for the Great Commission and a commitment to Baptist principles of faith and practice” (our mission). And, I like being part of a fellowship whose vision is “being the presence of Christ in the world.” Beyond that, I’ve studied our budgets and actual expenditures, and I like what I see. I truly believe that the CBF of Georgia exercises good stewardship of the money you and God entrust to us.

So, as you read this budget-oriented issue of *Visions*, please consider whether you should give to the CBF of Georgia more of what God has given you!

—Al Shauf, Moderator

# CBF of Georgia Financial Growth



I have seen continuous financial growth in my first year with CBF of Georgia. As you know, when you grow, changes occur. To adjust for that growth, we are continuously developing policies and procedures to assure our contributors that we are handling funds correctly. To that end, we have established a set of procedures for processing contributions and paying bills. A summary of our procedures is as follows:

- Nancy Copeland, Assistant for Communication and Resources, gathers the mail and delivers it to the coordinator.
- The coordinator opens and separates the mail. He then reviews the contributions, bank statements, and bills. After his review, he gives them to me.
- I process the contributions, noting any special requests regarding designated funds. In the event that the instructions on the envelope are unclear, I will place a phone call or email the donor and request clarification.

- Appropriate thank you notes are written.
- Requests for payment must come from a committee chair or appropriate staff member. Bills are paid weekly. All checks require two signatures.
- Regular financial reports are given to the Coordinator, Treasurer, Finance Committee, and Coordinating Council.
- All contributors receive a year-end financial statement.

- An annual audit is done by a licensed Certified Public Accountant.

Thank you for your continued support of CBF of Georgia. If you ever have a question regarding a CBF/GA financial matter please contact our office.

—Suzanne Powell, Senior Assistant for Administration and Finance

## How you and your church can contribute

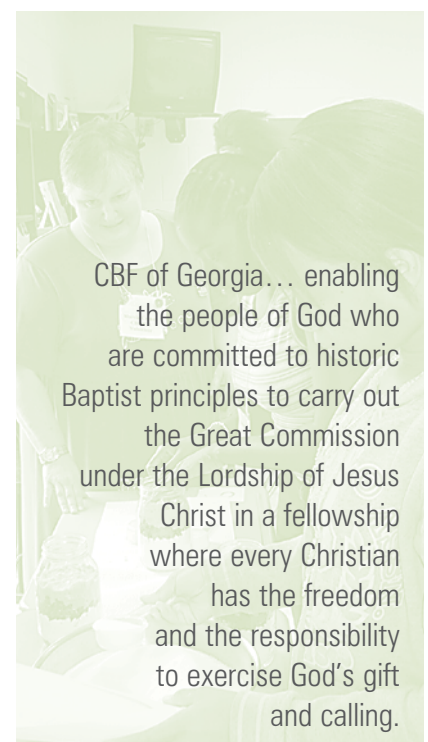
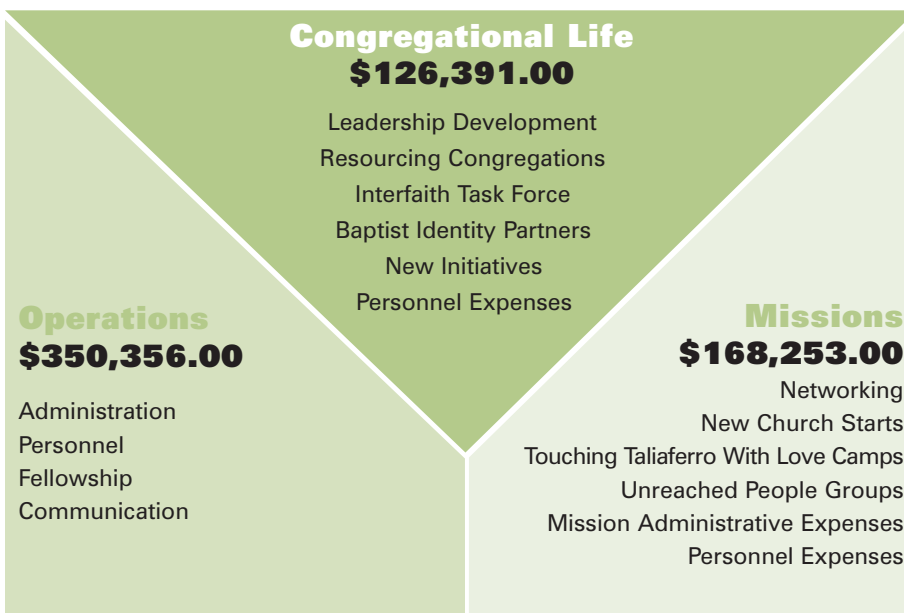
### You can give to CBF of Georgia through your church:

- Your church may send a check to National CBF with a note requesting that a certain amount or percentage be forwarded to CBF of Georgia.
- Your church may send a check to CBF of Georgia with a note requesting that a certain amount or percentage be forwarded to National CBF.
- Your church may send separate checks to National CBF and CBF of Georgia.

### You can give to CBF of Georgia directly:

- You may send your personal check directly to CBF of Georgia by using the enclosed envelope. Contact the CBF of Georgia office to request additional envelopes.
- You may use the CBF of Georgia Mission Offering envelope for year-round giving to missions or for a mission-offering emphasis in your church. Contact the office for envelopes.

## CBF of Georgia 2005-2006 Budget \$645,000.00



CBF of Georgia... enabling the people of God who are committed to historic Baptist principles to carry out the Great Commission under the Lordship of Jesus Christ in a fellowship where every Christian has the freedom and the responsibility to exercise God's gift and calling.

# Missions Update

## Scholarship Awarded

Janika Montgomery was awarded the four-year Touching Taliaferro With Love Scholarship on June 6, 2005. She will be attending Shorter College in Rome and plans to major in Physical Therapy.

## Global Missions e-update now available!

Providing:

- up-to-date Offering information
- stories about CBF Global Missions field personnel and partners
- innovative ideas and links to resources to help you promote the Offering
- information about CBF volunteer missions
- links to prayer calendars

This e-update is a free service of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

To subscribe send your name, address, and email address to [contact@thefellowship.info](mailto:contact@thefellowship.info). Please indicate in the email that you wish to subscribe to the OGM e-update.

## Missions Opportunity

If you or your church can help with this project, please contact the Taiwan Seminary as noted at the end of the letter.

"Greetings in the Majestic Name of our Lord and King!

"I am writing this letter to request your assistance in improving our library resources. As of now, we have about 40,000 volumes, and we are aiming for a total of 100,000 volumes to comply with government requirements for the library holdings of a religious institution. Since we are a non-profit, Christian institution that is heavily dependent on voluntary offerings and donations, we do not have adequate funds to purchase all the needed volumes (especially books in

the English language) within a short period of time. Hence, I am appealing to your kindness to help us in any of the following ways:

"1) You may send us duplicate copies of books that you do not need in any of the following areas: Bible, Theology, Religion, Missions, Church Ministry, Philosophy, Education, Psychology, Counseling, Music, Church History, World History, and other related fields.

2) You may inform your friends and churchmates that they may send us their personal collection of books in the above mentioned fields.

3) You may send us a list of persons, seminaries, colleges, organizations, and institutions with their email and postal addresses which may be interested in donating books to our library.

"It will be greatly appreciated if you can extend a helping hand in any way. It goes without saying that we will be shouldering the freight or mailing expenses of the books that will be sent to us. Our complete information is as follows:

"TAIWAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

No. 1 Lane 394 Wu Hsing Street,  
11085 Taipei, Taiwan

Tel: +886-2-27203140; +886-2-27238197; +886-2-27239500

Fax: +886-2-27224646

email: [tbts1952@ms78.hinet.net](mailto:tbts1952@ms78.hinet.net)

"Hope to hear from you soon. May God bless you and your ministries!"

*Rei-Yi Tsai, TBTS President*

## Morningstar

*(continued from page 1)*

have worked on the Retreat Center (photo page 1), to be dedicated later this year. The Retreat Center will serve several purposes including lodging for those who volunteer on the campus. First Baptist Church of St. Simons Island has contributed to the landscaping of the recently donated swimming pool. FBC and Garden Lakes Baptist Church of Rome have each made more than twenty trips to the campus. Garden Lakes has adopted the beautiful chapel (photo page 1) built in Spanish Mission style. First Baptist Church of Rome has worked on the Activity Center and other projects. First Baptist Church of Jasper has built pavilions at each cottage, and along with others, worked on the annex building behind the Activity Center (photo page 1) which provides much needed office, therapy, and group room space. March Mission Madness came to the campus in 2001 and put a fresh coat of paint on many buildings. The Morningstar Board of Directors consists of many CBF of Georgia members. We truly feel supported by CBF of Georgia and appreciate the CBF partnership we have experienced.

Morningstar Family Based Services is granted office space in the CBF of Georgia Macon office. Renée Bennett works in the Macon office, along with Linda Finley, LPC, who is the Director of Quality Assurance and Training for the entire agency. We are grateful, not only for the office space, but for the opportunity to share work space with the wonderful CBF/GA staff.



*Renée Bennett, LMFT, is Sr. Vice President for Family Based Services of Morningstar Treatment Services, Inc.*

# CBF/GA Recognizes Georgia Churches with Women Deacons

(Continued from June/July 2005 Visions)

**Community Baptist Church of Milledgeville** elected their first women deacons in 1997. They were Betty Jo Carnish and Melba Burrell. Melba has also served a term as deacon chair.

**First Baptist Church of Augusta** first elected women deacons in 1981. They were Anna Bannister and Margaret Parker. FBC Augusta has had fifteen women deacons.

**First Baptist Church of Decatur's** first women deacons began serving in 1973. They were Florene Dunstan, Tissy Sanders, Eleanor Verdery, and Hettie Johnson. Over the years FBC has had numerous women elected as deacons, and Hettie Johnson served as chair in 1978 and 1984. Lou Ann

Brown also served as chair in 2003.

**First Baptist Church of Evans** elected Virginia Adams and Kathy Williams as their first women deacons. They were elected in 1977. FBC has ordained thirteen women deacons. They have had three women to serve as deacon chair: Kathy Williams, Petra Tucker, and Lola Parham. Five women are currently serving as deacons.

**First Baptist Church of Morrow** elected its first woman deacon chair, Sarah Withers, in 2004.

**Horizon Baptist Fellowship of Summerville** ordained Maxine Palmour and Wylene Selman as their first female deacons in 1995. Since

that time, Mary Parker and Cathi Denson have been elected and ordained. All of these have served two or more three-year terms.

**Madison Baptist Church** elected Joan Carter as their first woman deacon in 2004.

**North Broad Baptist Church of Rome** ordained their first women deacons in 1990. They were Loraine Momon and June Selman. Eleven women have been elected since 1990 with four women currently serving as deacons.

**Union Baptist Church of Warthen** elected Grace Womble in 1998 as their first woman deacon.

## When You Contribute *(continued from page 3)*

and gives me a new perspective on my own work as a director. We have a wealth of talent in our state and there is tremendous potential for this group both musically and, more importantly, as a ministry/outreach arm of CBF/GA.



"Another benefit that is just as important is the chance to get to know like-minded musicians (both laity and clergy) from all over our state. As we sing together, we laugh and learn and share each other's burdens. Some very special friendships are created. There's always room for one more! Watch for information about our next rehearsal and join us."

**Kadar Jones**, Minister of Music, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Macon

**YOU CONTRIBUTE TOWARD PAYING staff salaries, providing staff development and continuing education, providing payment for utilities, computer equipment and maintenance, and all the day-to-day office operations of the CBF/GA office.**

"Because of the enormous generosity of churches and individuals to CBF of Georgia, I was able to take advantage of a wonderful opportunity for personal and professional development. This past year, I participated in the Center for Congregational Health's Young Leaders' Program, which required four different trips to Thomasville, North Carolina. The program allowed me the time and space to evaluate my ministry through CBF of Georgia and to grow in self-awareness as a leader. Furthermore, it gave me an insider's look at a program which will be replicated in Georgia this fall—Convergence (see page 10 for details). I am thrilled that others in our state will have a similar opportunity closer to 'home.'"

**Devita Parnell**, CBF/GA Associate Coordinator for Congregational Life

*(continues to page 11)*

## Book Review

### *Text and Context*

*By Carolyn Jones*

*Text and Context* is a handbook for quick reference in personal Bible Study. A short summary of each book of the Bible presents a continuous story of Biblical people and events from Adam to the Revelation. Contents include time lines, genealogies, lists of dynasties (Jewish and neighboring empires), maps, and a Jewish calendar. Also a series of short essays addresses certain concepts important in the Biblical world but not readily understood today. The book emphasizes Biblical chronology and the place of Biblical history and literature in contemporary world events.



\$19.00 plus \$2.00 shipping

Order from Carolyn Jones, 2451 Kingsley Drive, Macon, GA 31204

carolynejones@juno.com  
478-746-6592

## Job Opportunity

*Position:* Part-time Youth Minister

*Hours:* 20 per week

*Send resume to:*

Shurlington Baptist Church  
2270 Shurling Dr., Macon, GA 31211  
478-742-1488; 478-742-1481 Fax  
email: [shurlington@bellsouth.net](mailto:shurlington@bellsouth.net)

## Reminder

CBF/GA now has a toll free phone number and Fax!

1-877-336-6426 TOLL FREE

1-877-336-6425 FAX

## People and Places

**Dr. William E. "Butch" Knight, Jr.**, has accepted the position as pastor for First Baptist Church of Albany. He and

his wife, Ginny, had their first Sunday at FBC on July 10th.

### Tim and Sally DeBorde

have moved from North Carolina to Eatonton. Tim has been called to First Baptist Church of Eatonton as the Minister of Music. Their ministry began Sunday, June 5th.

**Stephen and Amy Cook**, formerly of FBC Morrow, are moving to Fort Worth, Texas. Stephen plans to enroll in the Master of Theology program at Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University.

**Frank Broome**, CBF/GA Coordinator, was named to the Search Committee for the CBF—National's next Global Missions Coordinator. The chair of the committee is Tim Brendle, a retired

pastor living in Richmond, Virginia. Other committee members are: Jana Benjamin, Tullahoma, Tennessee; Rusty Brock, Ardmore, Oklahoma; Beth Fogg, Richmond, Virginia; Harriet Herral, Fort Worth, Texas; and Earl Martin, Jefferson City, Tennessee. For additional information, visit the CBF website at [www.thefellowship.info](http://www.thefellowship.info).

## Financial Picture

*2005-2006 Year-to-Date*

*June 1-June 30, 2005*

Budget Requirement ..... \$53,750.00

Undesignated Receipts .... \$45,914.67

Designated Receipts ..... \$9,507.60



# CONVERGENCE

THE MINISTER AS LEADER

Convergence is a journey of self-discovery, professional development, and missional leadership to prepare today's clergy for the emerging church. Sponsored by CBF National, Convergence is modeled on the Center for Congregational Health's Young Leaders' Program and is open to leaders in their twenties and thirties who have ministry experience, but who have not yet reached mid-life and mid-career. Convergence will focus on the personal and professional development of leadership in congregations and related organizations. This process of growth and discovery is highly interactive and includes four retreats during the year.

### Dates for Convergence:

Level 1 - October 17-20, 2005  
"The Leader's Self-Awareness"

Level 2 - January 23-25, 2006  
"Leadership Settings"

Level 3 - March 6-8, 2006  
"Leadercraft Skills"

Level 4 - May 8-10, 2006  
"Leadership Synthesis"

**Location:** The Calvin Center, Hampton, GA

**Cost:** \$1,175 includes housing, meals, and tuition

Scholarship assistance available for Georgia participants through CBF of Georgia.

Email Devita Parnell at [dparnell@cbfga.org](mailto:dparnell@cbfga.org) or call 478-742-1191 ext. 28.

Visit [www.healthychurch.org](http://www.healthychurch.org) for more information and to download an application or email Dawn Hall at [dmhall@wfubmc.edu](mailto:dmhall@wfubmc.edu) or call 336-716-9722.

Application deadline is September 15, 2005.

## When You Contribute

(continued from page 9)

### YOU PROVIDE FUNDS for two weekends of March Mission Madness and three weeks of Touching Taliaferro with Love Summer Day Camp.



Jared Middleton, youth minister at The Oaks—A Traditional Baptist Church, in Lyons, not only brought a group to participate in Kingdom Builders' second week in Taliaferro County, but he also helped to paint one of the houses.



Marcia Caskey, a TTWL Day Camp volunteer and a member of FBC Athens, and two TTWL day camp participants make "cookies in a jar."

### YOU ENABLE CBF of Georgia to keep telling the story of free and faithful Baptists and provide much needed assistance to some of the poorest communities in the world.

"Although it may be difficult to grasp from halfway around the world, the contributions CBF of Georgia makes toward the Offering for Global Missions is having a redeeming and life-changing effect. Your giving has made possible so many projects and initiatives it is difficult to give a brief account.

"One of the many projects your generous giving has helped make possible is a mobile medical clinic that serves some of the poorest and sickest communities I have ever seen. The clinic not only brings the hope of a better, healthier future, but it also gives us the opportunity to demonstrate the abiding love of Jesus Christ to communities that otherwise have very little reason for hope. Your contributions have brought medical care, clean water, and agricultural training to thousands. Recently, a young girl was provided with the resources to have a life-saving heart operation. We are continuing to look for ways we can more effectively assist the people of our area address the root-causes of poverty and illness in these communities.

"It also cannot be stressed enough how important your contributions to the Tsunami Response efforts have been. Many of the tsunami affected areas were brought to their

knees. Hundreds of thousands were killed, and hundreds of square miles of homes, businesses, and infrastructure were destroyed. Your giving toward this tremendous need has had a very tangible impact. Emergency medical clinics were conducted. Thousands of people without access to clean water now have potable water to drink. People have a sanitary place to use the bathroom. Tons of rubble have been cleared from home sites in preparation for rebuilding homes. Wells and cisterns have been cleaned. Roads and other infrastructure have been repaired. Important components of the local economy have been helped back on its feet. School children, most of whom lost homes and family members to the tsunami, were provided with school uniforms. Your giving is also making a long-term commitment possible to this area. This is especially exciting because until December 26th, it would have been impossible for us to work in this area.

"We have been given the wonderful blessing of seeing the appreciation in the eyes of a great many people thanks to the generosity of CBF of Georgia. We thank you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ."

**CBF field personnel** in Southeast Asia

### YOU SUPPORT TRAINING through co-sponsorship with other churches and organizations to promote education, leadership, and church development.

"This year, the CBF of Georgia gave \$3,500.00 to Igor Coada, his wife Galina, and their daughter Gabriela. Igor is a Moldovan minister starting a mission in Conyers with that language group. The money given was part of a \$75,000.00 cooperative effort with several churches and organizations, including First Baptist Church of Lithonia, First Baptist Church of Covington, and Trinity Baptist Church of Conyers. The purpose of the effort was to allow Igor to both study at McAfee School of Theology and be a volunteer pastor for his mission. The money given by the CBF went to purchase their airfare, and will help with Igor's living expenses while here in Georgia."

**Sonny Gallman**, Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Conyers

### OTHER AREAS YOU SUPPORT with your contributions:

**YOU PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR CBF OF GEORGIA PARTNERS IN MINISTRY:** Associated Baptist Press, Baptist Center for Ethics, *Baptists Today*, Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia, and the Baptist History and Heritage Society.

**YOU PROVIDE THE VISIONS newsletter to over 7,300 households.**

**YOU PROVIDE FUNDS FOR OUR STATE FUNCTIONS—General Assembly in March, state meeting at the National General Assembly, and the Fall Convocation. ■**



Photographs from CBF Global Missions field personnel working in India, Thailand, and other parts of Southeast Asia.

CBF of Georgia...enabling the people of God who are committed to historic Baptist principles to carry out the Great Commission under the Lordship of Jesus Christ in a fellowship where every Christian has the freedom and the responsibility to exercise God's gift and calling.

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## CBF GA coming up!

### August 16

10:00 a.m. CBF of Georgia Coordinating Council, Macon

### August 23

Children's Ministry Network Gathering, FBC Griffin

11:30-2:30pm (lunch provided). Contact Brenda Dedmon at [brenda@rfbc.org](mailto:brenda@rfbc.org) or 770-587-6980 for more information.

### August 30

Christian Educator's Network Gathering, FBC Griffin

12 noon – 3:00 p.m. (lunch provided)  
For more information email Devita Parnell at [dparnell@cbfga.org](mailto:dparnell@cbfga.org).

### September 18-20

Mercer Preaching Consultation

King and Prince Resort, St. Simons Island

Speakers: Dr. Gardner Taylor and Dr. John Claypool.  
For more information, call Truett Gannon at 678-547-6457.

### October 16-21

Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation (sponsored by CBF)  
Camp Sumatanga, Alabama

Contact Mary Jayne Allen at [mary\\_jayne@1stbaptistcha.org](mailto:mary_jayne@1stbaptistcha.org) or 423-265-2257 or Rick Bennett at [rbennett@thefellowship.info](mailto:rbennett@thefellowship.info) or 770-220-1605.

### October 24-25

Like a Mustard Seed: Supporting and Celebrating Small Church Leadership, Samford University, Birmingham, AL

For more information visit [www.samford.edu/groups/rcpe](http://www.samford.edu/groups/rcpe).

### October 17-20

January 23-25, 2006

March 6-8, 2006

May 8-10, 2006

**Convergence: The Minister as Leader, Calvin Center, Hampton, GA**

Visit [www.healthychurch.org](http://www.healthychurch.org) for more information or contact

Dawn Hall at [dhall@wfubmc.edu](mailto:dhall@wfubmc.edu) or 336-716-9722.

Scholarships available through CBF/GA.

### October 28-29, 2005

Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia Fall Retreat  
The Calvin Center, Hampton

Speaker: Alica Kirkpatrick-Bremer

### Nov. 13-14

CBF of Georgia Fall Convocation

First Baptist Church of Griffin

Speaker: Millard Fuller

## 2006

### February 4, Saturday

Now Serving: Atlanta 2006

9 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. McAfee School of Theology and CBF of Georgia team up to sponsor this one-day collegiate mission event in Atlanta. Students will experience a variety of mission sites around the city. The day concludes with dinner and worship. Cost is \$5 includes meals and t-shirt. Contact Ryan Clark at [clark\\_ra@mercer.edu](mailto:clark_ra@mercer.edu) or Devita Parnell at [dparnell@cbfga.org](mailto:dparnell@cbfga.org) for more information.

### March 6-8

True Survivor VI, Charleston, SC

A training event for all Christian Educators and age group ministers. Featuring: Ivy Beckwith, *Postmodern Children's Ministry*, and Dave Odom, Center for Congregational Health. Cost is \$50 per person. Contact Toni Draper at [tdraper@thefellowship.info](mailto:tdraper@thefellowship.info) or 770-220-1654.

### March 17-19, FBC Warm Springs

March 24-26, FBC Morrow

March Mission Madness 10th Anniversary

The host churches: First Baptist Church of Warm Springs and First Baptist Church of Morrow.

### May 4-5

The University Campus: Tomorrow's Moderate Baptists  
First Baptist Church, Decatur

1:30 p.m. (May 4) – 12 noon (May 5)

Co-sponsored by the Center for Baptist Studies, CBF National, and CBF Georgia. This conference seeks to act as a catalyst for collegiate ministry among moderate Baptists and to encourage concrete actions at the local church level in the area of college missions. Email Devita Parnell at [dparnell@cbfga.org](mailto:dparnell@cbfga.org) or Buddy Shurden at [shurden\\_wb@mercer.edu](mailto:shurden_wb@mercer.edu) for more information.