

## Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia

# FALL CONVOCATION

November 12-13, 2000

Savannah First Baptist Church

223 Bull Street • 912-234-2671

## A Living Faith in Community

### Sunday, November 12

#### 7:00 PM Worship

##### SPEAKERS

- Robert Parham** Founder/Executive Director, Baptist Center for Ethics  
**Karen Massey** Assistant Professor of Christian Education and Faith Development, McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, Atlanta

#### Fellowship Following Worship

### Monday, November 13

#### 9:00 AM Opening Session

##### A BAPTIST/JEWISH CONVERSATION

- Rabbi Arnold Mark Belzer**, Congregation Mickve Israel, Savannah  
**Robert Parham**, **Glenn Hinson**, and **John Finley**, Pastor, Savannah FBC

#### 11:00 AM Worship

##### SPEAKER

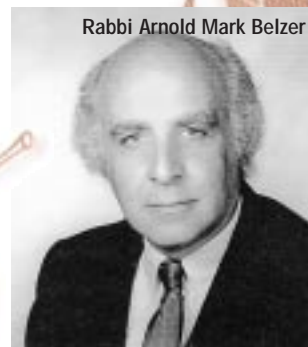
- Glenn Hinson** Visiting Professor, Baptist Studies Program, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta

#### 12:00 PM Dismissal

### Hotels

- BEST WESTERN HISTORIC DISTRICT**, 412 West Bay Street, 912-233-1011  
**DAYS INN**, 201 West Bay Street, 912-236-4440  
**DeSOTO HILTON**, 15 E Liberty Street, 912-232-9000  
**CLUBHOUSE INN**, 6800 Abercorn Street, 912-356-1234  
**COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT**, 6703 Abercorn Street, 912-354-7878  
**HAMPTON INN**, 201 East Bay Street, 912-231-9700  
**LA QUINTA INN MIDTOWN**, 6805 Abercorn Street, 912-355-3004  
**MULBERRY INN**, 601 East Bay Street, 912-238-1200

CHILDCARE PROVIDED DURING CONVOCATION



Rabbi Arnold Mark Belzer



Karen Massey



Robert Parham



Glenn Hinson

COOPERATIVE  
BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

GEORGIA

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National CBF "At Large"

Becky Matheny, Athens

Stacey Simpson, Edison

## CBF GA coming up!

### 2000

#### October 13-14

Regional Sunday School Training

The Center for Christian Education

Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta

Contact Bo Prosser 704-364-2089 or bozo64@charlotte.infi.net.

#### October 23-26

Harbor 2000

Passport Fall Conference for Youth Ministers

Simpsonwood Retreat Center

\$260.00 includes program, room and board. Contact Passport 1-800-769-0201 or

admin@passportcamps.org.

#### November 12-13

CBF of Georgia Fall Convocation

First Baptist Church, Savannah GA

See page 5 for a complete listing of events, speakers, and hotels.

#### November 14

First Annual Baptist Heritage Council Breakfast

7:45 a.m. Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church

429 Abercorn Street, Savannah GA

Rob Nash, speaker. \$7 by November 6, call 706-583-8618.

2000-2001 Visions Deadlines...November 6 • January 2 • March 5 • April 30

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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# VISIONS



Sept/Oct '00

## Educating for the 21st Century

### McAfee and Candler insure bright future for Georgia Baptists

**B** Bold, new, cutting edge—these are the realities of theological education today. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship partners with 11 seminaries, theology schools, and Baptist houses of study, preparing the next generation of leadership for God's service.

It's inspiring to know that nine of the 11 CBF partner schools were founded in the 1990s. Over 1,350 students are now enrolled in these frontier programs, bringing a fresh face to the future of our churches and mission fields.

CBF of Georgia has a special relationship with the Baptist Studies Program in the Candler School of Theology at Emory University and the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University, both located in Atlanta.

The partnerships are nurtured through:

- Providing scholarship money to Georgia students attending those schools,

- Hosting an orientation meal to incoming students at which the coordinator, moderator, and avenue chairs inform students of the purpose and mission of CBF of Georgia,

- Acting as a liaison between students and churches for part-time and full-time positions as pastor or staff,

- Helping spouses find employment,

- Providing *Visions* newsletters to each student,

- Providing information on CBF of Georgia churches,

- Employing students in CBF of Georgia programs such as March Mission Madness and New Horizons Camp, and

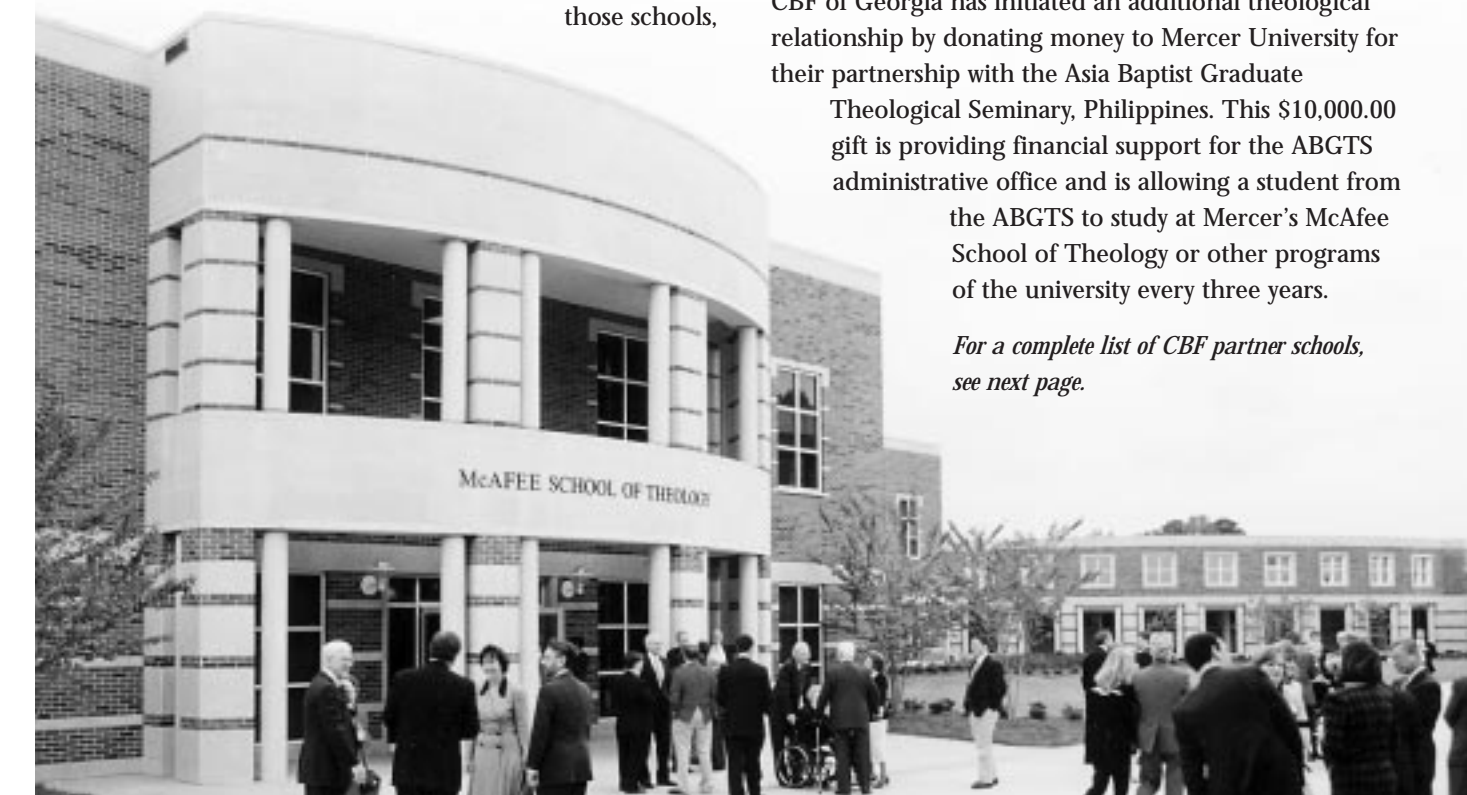
- Providing scholarships for students to attend the National General Assembly, CBF of Georgia General Assembly and Fall Convocation, and educational conferences in Georgia.

CBF of Georgia has initiated an additional theological relationship by donating money to Mercer University for their partnership with the Asia Baptist Graduate

Theological Seminary, Philippines. This \$10,000.00 gift is providing financial support for the ABGTS administrative office and is allowing a student from

the ABGTS to study at Mercer's McAfee School of Theology or other programs of the university every three years.

For a complete list of CBF partner schools, see next page.



## Resources/Reports

### Vestal Video Available

“The Future of the Fellowship,” remarks by CBF Coordinator Daniel Vestal at the 2000 General Assembly, is available in videotape. To order a packet, which also includes an analysis of the new Baptist Faith and Message statement, and a copy of the CBF Strategic Plan, call 1-888-801-4223. The packet is free, plus a shipping/handling fee.

### Baptist History Promoted

**From the Southern Baptist Historical Society**, a series of ten pamphlets entitled *Foundations of Baptist Heritage*. These may be ordered in quantities by calling 800-966-2278. Visit [www.baptisthistory.com](http://www.baptisthistory.com) for a preview.

### From the Baptist Center for Ethics

a series of 13 lessons entitled, *Real Baptists: Spotlighting Changes in “The Baptist Faith and Message,”* available at [www.baptists4ethics.com](http://www.baptists4ethics.com).

### Positions Available at Morningstar

Morningstar Baptist Treatment Services, Inc., is seeking Master’s level Therapists and Bachelor’s level Parent Educators to provide in-home family preservation services to families and children throughout the state of Georgia. Morningstar’s Family Resource Centers are located in Savannah, Brunswick, LaGrange, Cartersville, and Cumming. Interested candidates may contact Rachel Lackey at 770-607-0611 or fax resumes to 770-607-1902.

### Financial Picture

2000-2001 monthly budget requirement	\$23,539.58
July receipts	\$24,863.65
August receipts	\$24,409.40

costs were donated, every penny spent to purchase the CD will go straight to Morningstar and its ministries to children and families,” said Dr. Dant.

*A Morningstar Christmas* is a CD that will be enjoyed by all music lovers. Mixed and engineered by Skip Slaughter at Phoenix Sound Recording Studio, it boasts a variety of Georgia artists and musical styles. The CD includes choral, instrumental, classic, pop, blues, and country music. There are songs you know by heart, songs which are vaguely familiar, and three original tracks written by Dant and Browne.

The CD sells for \$10.00. You may purchase copies from representatives at FBC Rome, FBC Newnan, FBC Hartwell, FBC Baxley, and Mt. Zion Baptist or Highland Hills Baptist in Macon. CDs may also be purchased at the CBF of Georgia Fall Convocation in Savannah. To order copies direct, call Jim Dant at 478-746-4846 or 478-477-8918. Shipping and handling charges are added for direct orders.



Jim Dant and Jeff Browne collaborate on the CD, *A Morningstar Christmas*, now available.

## Music With a Mission

Jim Dant enjoys being behind his Fender American Deluxe Fat Strat almost as much as he enjoys being behind a pulpit. Jeff Browne enjoys sitting at a sound board almost as much as he enjoys sitting at the drawing board. Dr. Jim Dant serves as pastor of Highland Hills Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia, and Jeff Browne, fellow parishioner, is a partner in the engineering firm of Hodges Harbin Newberry & Tribble.

Together, Jim and Jeff have co-produced a CD entitled *A Morningstar Christmas*. All proceeds from the sale of the CD benefit Morningstar Baptist Treatment Services, Inc.

“The CD is actually a mission project of our Sunday School class,” said Browne. “Class members have been involved in fund raising, scheduling recording artists, preparing CD liner notes and artwork, providing food for artists during studio sessions, and much more. It has been an exciting process. We all like music. We all want to be involved in missions. And we all are aware of the excellent work Morningstar Baptist Treatment Services is doing with Georgia’s ‘at risk’ children. The production of a benefit CD brought these three interests together—music, missions, and Morningstar.”

Morningstar Baptist Treatment Services provides a wide range of preventive and therapeutic services for children and their families in the state of Georgia. With residential treatment centers in Brunswick and Rincon, as well as a network of Family Resource Centers throughout the state, Morningstar is touching the lives of children who typically fall through the cracks. Only in existence since 1996, Morningstar has become one of Georgia’s premier family service agencies. “Since all production

## Frankly speaking



and history.

State CBF offices do not appoint anyone. We simply help people get together. The real work falls on the search committee and the candidate. They must carefully and prayerfully build trust with each other. Out of that trust comes the possibility of a lasting relationship that is good for both pastor and people.

Most, if not all, the resumes I receive are from self described “moderate” individuals. Requests come from churches that may or may not define themselves as “moderate” yet seek moderate-styled leadership.

Many churches are still unsure about the word “moderate,” while most of the pastors I hear from are very clear. They want to be in a moderate church. I long for the day when that incongruity is less apparent. That will happen when both clergy and laity decide to make it so.

—Frank Broome  
CBF Georgia Coordinator

## Search Committees and CBF...

To be honest, I have been surprised how much of my time is devoted to working with search committees from local churches, especially those looking for a pastor. About twelve churches are searching for a pastor at any given moment. Another dozen or so are looking for staff. We have about fifty active resumes on file at the moment. Most of them are from pastors.

Helping a church find a pastor is an interesting process. It usually begins with a phone call, e-mail, or letter to my office. That leads to a general discussion with the chair of the search committee. In many cases I am invited to lead a training session with the entire committee present. These can last from one to two hours depending on the needs and interests of the committee. Following the training session I send a number of resumes to the committee based on what they have told me about their church.

I continue to stay in contact with the church if it so chooses. Additional resumes are sent as they become available. Often a church needs help determining compensation and benefits. I do my best to provide appropriate information based on similar churches in their area of the state. While this is unfolding I am often contacted by some of the individual ministers. They, of course, want to know about the church, its size, general characteristics,

## from the Moderator



to be hated by certain factions of the religious right and some groups of “Christians.” Have we always been right in our dealings with this segment of the population?

Many minority groups suffer from the prejudices of the majority. We must be different. We must stand up for the minority. We must be Christ in our world. We must not let the majority rule when prejudice is prevalent and people are mistreated.

November 12 and 13, we have a unique opportunity to take part in our annual CBF Fall Convocation at the First Baptist Church of Savannah. An important part of the program is a Jewish-Christian conversation with Rabbi Arnold Mark Belzer of Mickve Israel Congregation in Savannah. We are people who want to live in community. We want to love, not hate, and we want to open our arms to the minority.

I hope CBF of Georgia is known for doing things differently. I believe that is what Jesus came to teach. Maybe we are beginning to get the message.

—Becky Matheny  
CBF Georgia Moderator

## Prejudice and the Majority...

Prejudice has been alive since the beginning of time. Horrible atrocities are committed against people throughout the world because they do not look, think, or believe like the majority. Such atrocities beg the question, is the majority always right. Certainly not, but it is the majority, and majority rules.

Reading the Scriptures I discover people who “bucked the system.” People who saw things another way are the heroes of our faith. What the majority did or espoused was not necessarily right. It would do us well to follow the heroes of the Scriptures. Moses did not follow the rules of his society. Esther saw injustice and decided to go against the rule of the majority.

Jesus did not follow the rules of society or the rule of the majority. Jesus put people over the rules of society. As Christians, we must follow the example set by Jesus and put people over rules and traditions. When the majority of the population demoralizes people and ousts them from society, we should not be part of it.

It has been estimated that by the year 2001, one-third of the citizens of the United States will be people of color. We are the majority, but history has proven that we are not always right. Jews continue

## CBF Partner Schools

### Freestanding Seminaries

#### Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond

Enrollment: 250  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity  
Master of Divinity/Master of Arts in Christian Education  
Master of Divinity/Master of Social Work  
Doctor of Ministry  
Address: 3400 Brook Road, Richmond VA 23227  
Phone: 888-345-2877 admissions  
888-339-2877 distance education  
Email: [btsr@mindspring.com](mailto:btsr@mindspring.com)  
Web site: [www.btsr.edu](http://www.btsr.edu)

#### Central Baptist Theological Seminary

Enrollment: 151  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity  
Master of Arts in Religious Studies  
Diploma in Theological Studies  
Address: 741 N 31st Street, Kansas City KS 66102-3964  
Phone: 800-677-2287  
Email: [central@cbts.edu](mailto:central@cbts.edu)  
Web site: [www.cbts.edu](http://www.cbts.edu)

### Baptist Houses of Study

#### Baptist Studies Program Brite Divinity School Texas Christian University

Enrollment: 36  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity  
Master of Theological Studies  
Doctor of Ministry  
Address: TCU Box 298130, Fort Worth TX 76129  
Phone: 817-257-7575 admissions  
Email: [Brite@tcu.edu](mailto:Brite@tcu.edu)  
Web site: [www.brite.tcu.edu/brite](http://www.brite.tcu.edu/brite)

#### Baptist Studies Program Candler School of Theology Emory University

Enrollment: 62  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity  
Master of Theological Studies  
Master of Theology  
Doctor of Theology in Pastoral Counseling  
Address: Emory University, Atlanta GA 30322  
Phone: 404-727-6350  
Email: [candler@emory.edu](mailto:candler@emory.edu)  
Web site: [www.emory.edu/candler](http://www.emory.edu/candler)

#### Baptist House of Studies The Divinity School at Duke University

Enrollment: 70  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity  
Master in Church Ministries  
Master of Theological Studies  
Master of Theology  
Address: Duke University, Durham NC 27708-0966  
Phone: 919-660-3400  
Email: [thewitt@mail.duke.edu](mailto:thewitt@mail.duke.edu)  
Web site: [www.divinity.duke.edu](http://www.divinity.duke.edu)

### Theology Schools Related to Universities

#### Campbell University Divinity School

Enrollment: 150  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity  
Master in Arts with a variety of concentrations  
Address: PO Drawer 4050, Buies Creek NC 27506  
Phone: 800-760-9827  
Email: [harmonk@mailcenter.campbell.edu](mailto:harmonk@mailcenter.campbell.edu)  
Web site: [www.campbell.edu](http://www.campbell.edu)

#### M. Christopher White School of Divinity Gardner-Webb University

Enrollment: 147  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity in Christian Education  
Master of Divinity in Church Music  
Master of Divinity in Pastoral Care and Counseling  
Doctor of Ministry  
Master of Divinity/Master of Business Administration  
Address: POB 997, Boiling Springs NC 28017  
Phone: 800-619-3761  
Email: [divinity@gardner-webb.edu](mailto:divinity@gardner-webb.edu)  
Web site: [www.gardner-webb.edu](http://www.gardner-webb.edu)

#### Graduate Theological Education Logsdon School of Theology Hardin-Simmons University

Enrollment: 76  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity  
Master of Arts in Religion  
Master of Arts in Family Ministry  
Address: Box 16235, Abilene TX 79698-6235  
Phone: 800-996-6348  
Email: [vdavis@hsutx.edu](mailto:vdavis@hsutx.edu)  
Web site: [www.hsutx.edu/theo/logsdon.htm](http://www.hsutx.edu/theo/logsdon.htm)

#### McAfee School of Theology Mercer University

Enrollment: 135  
Degree:  
Master of Divinity  
Address: 3001 Mercer University Drive, Atlanta GA 30341-4415  
Phone: 888-471-9922  
Email: [Theology@mercer.edu](mailto:Theology@mercer.edu)  
Web site: [www.theology.mercer.edu](http://www.theology.mercer.edu)

#### George W. Truett Theological Seminary Baylor University

Enrollment: 257  
Degrees:  
Master of Divinity with concentration in Christian Religious Education, Global Missions, Gerontology, Counseling, or Theology  
Master of Divinity/Master of Music  
Master of Divinity/Master of Social Work  
Doctor of Ministry  
Address: POB 97126, Waco TX 76798-7126  
Phone: 800-229-5678 select option 5  
Email: [Truett\\_information@baylor.edu](mailto:Truett_information@baylor.edu)  
Web site: [www.baylor.edu/~seminary/](http://www.baylor.edu/~seminary/)

#### The Divinity School Wake Forest University

Enrollment: 50  
Degree:  
Master of Divinity  
Address: POB 7719, Reynolda Station, Winston-Salem NC 27109-7719  
Phone: 800-393-4244  
Email: [divinity@wfu.edu](mailto:divinity@wfu.edu)  
Web site: [www.wfu.edu/divinity](http://www.wfu.edu/divinity)

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