

VISIONS



Sept/Oct '02

New Horizons Camp: Color Your World

Color Your World was the theme at New Horizons Camp 2002. Over 100 third through fifth graders from all over Georgia attended camp and learned how to make a difference by sharing God's love.

Through Bible stories written by Kim Hardegree of National Heights Baptist Church, children learned about people who made their world a brighter place through God's love. Noah, the Good Samaritan, and the Parable of the Sower painted fresh pictures in the minds of the children.

"In worship each night, by teaching Bible stories of children who made a difference, we helped them understand that children have a special calling to color their world. Stories of Samuel, Jeremiah, David, and the boy who shared his lunch demonstrated that they do not have to grow up to make an impact in the lives of others, explained Jana Kinnersley, New Horizons Camp director.

"Camp pastors Doug Ivey of Carlton Baptist Church and Wendy Joyner of Fellowship Baptist Church in Americus shared their messages to the children with great energy and creativity. There was even a rap song about David defeating Goliath and a Mad Lib about Samuel's calling!"

CBF curriculum was utilized to teach children about missions on local, state and global levels. Sonya Milam of FBC Macon facilitated an aging process simulation in which children learned what it must be like to live with arthritis and visual and hearing impairments. The children discussed ways they could minister to people they know who are dealing with such ailments.

The camp theme was also promoted in arts and crafts led by Marie May, a student at the University of Georgia, and Mary Matheny, a high school student from Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta. To color their world, each child made a brightly

colored bird feeder as a gift for someone in his or her community. The children also made their missions offering by creating and painting home decor items that will fill "Welcome Home" baskets given to families on the day they move into their new home built by Habitat for Humanity.

Drama was used to reinforce the concept of coloring your world by sharing God's love with others. The Bible stories became skits and even liturgical dance by Lanee Buchanon, a high school student from Duluth, and Doug Grogan of FBC Macon. The skits were presented by the children each night in worship, only one of many ways the children led in worship.

Jana concludes, "The camp staff knew we were making a difference in our world when Wendy Joyner asked on the last night, 'Who is a minister?' A little girl on the back row stood up and pointed to herself! What an answer!"

"If we could raise up a generation of children who live every day as ministers of the Gospel, called to share God's love with others, what a colorful world it would be!"



Campers learn team building skills as they navigate "spider webs."



Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia

P.O. Box 4343, Macon GA 31208-4343
phone (478)301-5926 fax (478)301-5927
website www.cbfga.org
mission website www.cbfgaissions.org

CBF of Georgia Staff
Coordinator

E. Frank Broome
broome_ef@mercer.edu

Missions Coordinator
Jimmy B. Lewis

jblewis@mindspring.com

Assistant to the Coordinator
Stacy G. Cox
cox_sg@mercer.edu

Assistant for Communication and Resources
Surelle K. Pinkston
pinkston_sk@mercer.edu

Financial Secretary
Sharon E. Green
sgreen81055@aol.com

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VISIONS is published eight times a year
by CBF of Georgia

All questions and comments
may be directed to the editor, Surelle Pinkston,
at (478)301-5928 or pinkston_sk@mercer.edu

Frankly speaking



On August 14, 2002, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia purchased a 4,700 square foot office building at 2465 Hillcrest Avenue in Macon. The building was constructed in the early 1960s by the Boy Scouts of America and was used by them until recently. The purchase price was \$110,000, and it will take approximately \$45,000 to make the necessary improvements. We hope to move before January 1, 2003.

For the past five years we have been guests of Mercer University at the 400 Poplar Street building. Thanks to the leadership of Janie Peacock, Jon Appleton, Carolyn Massey, and the generosity of Mercer University, especially Kirby Godsey and Emily Myers, we have been able to use this excellent facility. Our staff has grown from one full-time and two part-time to three full time coordinators, two full-time assistants, and two part-time assistants. Thus the need for more space.

Yes, this will mean additional costs in utilities, security, and maintenance. In the long run it will enable us to better serve our churches and expand the influence of our fellowship in Georgia. Many of you have inquired about making a donation to replace the funds we borrowed from our savings account. The cost of the project including improvements will average \$40.00 per square foot. Let me encourage you to purchase a square foot in honor or memory of someone. We have started a list of such gifts. Help us make it a long one.

—Frank Broome, CBF of Georgia Coordinator

memos from the missions coordinator



The Fall Convocation at Marietta First Baptist Church has the potential to be life changing. Not only do we have the opportunity to hear from Tony Campolo, we will also hear what the past has been and what the future holds for missions through CBF of Georgia.

You can actually participate in the future of the sharing of the Gospel in Bosnia. Your missions coordinator had an opportunity to visit the Baptist church in Sarajevo. The progress the church and people have made in the last few years is phenomenal. They have come to a time when God is calling out an indigenous ministry to share the Gospel all through Bosnia-Herzegovina. The need for training is critical.

The church in Sarajevo has started a Baptist Institute to train new pastors. There is a program for residential students and another for non-residential. I had an opportunity to meet some of the students who are living at the school. Their commit-

ment to their calling is amazing.

One of the non-residential students is a lady from Tuzla, a 12 hour drive from Sarajevo. She drives on a regular basis to attend school. Her husband was killed in the war and she is alone to care for her family. She has also committed to take care of a newly developing family of God. She needs training!

We have no idea the needs and opportunities which exist as pastors are called to minister to people affected by the terrible war of the past. They need training to deal with post traumatic stress syndrome and how to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Most of the students speak English. You can help by providing books needed in the library at the Baptist Institute. There will be a place at the Fall Convocation for you to contribute your old or new theology books

(continued to page 4)

CBFGA 1992-2002: Activities for Children & Youth

—The following article is the sixth in a series recounting the first ten years of CBF of Georgia. Written by Robert G. Gardner, Senior Researcher in Baptist History at the Jack Tarver Library of Mercer University, the articles are condensed excerpts from *A Decade of Freedom and Faithfulness: The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia, 1992-2002*, authored by Dr. Gardner and published in February 2002. Copies are available at no cost from CBF of Georgia, 478-301-5928, or pinkston_sk@mercer.edu.

Tons of play” was what the teenagers were promised — but the number of tons was never specified. The amount must have been sufficient, however, for children and youth have been attending CBF activities in great and growing numbers.

New Horizons Camps. New Horizons children’s camps for those who have completed grades 3-5 have been held since 1994. Initially a successful ministry under Rachel Lackey and Eileen Campbell-Reed at Heritage Baptist Church, Cartersville, it received limited funds from National CBF during its first two years. Since then the Georgia CBF has provided financial support.

At first the camp moved from place to place: Rockridge Baptist Assembly, near Franklin, in 1994; Burnt Mountain Baptist Assembly, near Jasper, in 1995 and 1997; and Shorter College, Rome, in 1996.

Since 1998 the camp has regularly used the facilities of the New Ebenezer Retreat Center, Rincon, near Savannah. Usually one four-day experience has been offered, although several times a second session has been scheduled. About 35 children came to the first camp, and 86 to the second. One hundred sixty children and staffers were present in 2001.

Activities include Bible study, crafts, drama, worship, and recreation. Wacky Water Games and Show Off Crazy Talent Night produce sometimes unexpected results. The children learn about Global Missions in daily classes and have at times participated in hands-on missions activities in the vicinity of the camp. In 1998 Wendy Joyner and Sarah Withers were the camp pastors, providing a unique experience for most of the campers. Significant leadership has been provided by Lackey, Campbell-Reed, Jennifer Britt, Connie Campbell, and Jana Kinnersley. Over the years the CBF of Georgia has spent almost \$33,000 of its budget for this activity, recently including a modest stipend for the increasingly busy part-time director.

What could be more appropriate than introducing future CBF leaders to New Horizons that eventually include a Madness for Missions?



New Horizon campers color their world with mosaic bird feeders.

March Mission Madness Weekends. Finding that their youth were responding negatively to conventional activities, several ministers of youth sparked by Angela Oxford, then of Macon, decided to create their own events. For two or three days in March, since 1997 a program for teenagers has been scheduled in Griffin, Milledgeville, Decatur, Atlanta, Morningstar Treatment Services, and Rome.

Working on Habitat for Humanity projects, with councils for the aging, with social service agencies such as the Salvation Army, Loaves and Fishes, St. Vincent DePaul Clothes Line, and Atlanta Community Food Bank, and with the Morningstar organization, participants have contributed as many as 2,088 hours of service in a single weekend.

Attendance has grown dramatically from 70 youth and adults in 1997, to 260 in 1999, to a high of 380 youth and staff in 2000. Twenty-five to thirty churches are now consigning their young members to this form of Madness that has been led by Oxford, Kurt Varney, Carmen Homola-Brock and Ben Homola, and Scott Ford. Almost \$54,000 of the CBFG budget has gone for this and other youth activities, including in recent years a sum for the coordinator(s).

What could be more appropriate than introducing future CBF leaders to New Horizons that eventually include a Madness for Missions?

—Robert G. Gardner, author *A Decade of Freedom and Faithfulness: The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia, 1992-2002*

Memos *(continued from page 2)*

to the school. We can make a major impact on their library.

We will provide help to unload the books if you have a collection you want to contribute. We need books of all kinds. If you have questions about the Books for Bosnia project, visit www.cbfgamissions.org/books or call me toll free 866-245-5240.

In May 2003, we will be taking a group of pastors to visit the churches in Bosnia. Pray about God's call for you to be a part of this event.

See you in Marietta at the Fall Convocation. Bring your Books for Bosnia.

—Jimmy Lewis, Missions Coordinator

Images from Bosnia



...downtown Sarajevo



...Kosovo father and daughter refugees



...families fear a return to Kosovo

In the News

Ruth DuCharme was ordained to the gospel ministry by Highland Hills Baptist Church in Macon, August 18, 2002.

Tina Bailey was ordained to the gospel ministry by Memorial Baptist Church in Savannah, September 1, 2002.

Sue Moore Laird was honored upon her retirement after 30 years of service as Children's Minister and Kindergarten Director at Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain.

Smoke Rise Baptist Church invites friends and former members to celebrate the heritage and future of Smoke Rise at a church reunion on Sunday, September 29. Dress is casual for food, music, "According to John" youth rally, games and activities. Cost for BBQ lunch is \$6.00, maximum \$25.00 per family.

Parnell Named to Staff

Devita Bussell Parnell has been named Associate Coordinator for Congregational Life for CBF of Georgia.

A native of Sandersville, Parnell is a graduate of The University of Georgia and McAfee School of Theology. She is presently serving as Director of Development for McAfee.

As Associate Coordinator for Congregational Life, Parnell will provide resources and assistance to partnering churches and individuals. She will provide leadership in the areas of education and student ministries such as Sunday School, Christian education, leadership development, staff resumes, student ministry, and CBF of Georgia events such as March Mission Madness and New Horizons Camps.

Parnell will provide support for other church ministry needs such as staff development, church music, senior adult and family ministry, missions education, and congregational health. She will work in conjunction with CBF of Georgia partnering groups.

opportunities & reports



Devita Bussell Parnell
Associate Coordinator for Congregational Life for CBF of Georgia

Parnell served two years as a Journeyman missionary to Russia and has been on mission teams to Liberia, West Africa and South Korea. She was a Baptist Student Union campus ministry intern at Kennesaw State and Southern Polytechnic State University and served as campus minister at the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing and Wesleyan College.

Devita and her husband Mark Parnell are members of Highland Hills Baptist Church in Macon. Mark is currently employed as a chaplain with Hospice of Houston County. They are expecting a son in October. Devita will begin her duties with CBF of Georgia in January 2003.

Financial Picture

<i>2002-2003 monthly budget requirement</i>	
.....	\$46,745.50
July receipts.....	\$40,602.58
August receipts.....	\$37,160.31

IT'S
TIME....



**FALL CONVOCATION of
The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia
November 10 - 11, 2002**

Marietta First Baptist Church, 148 Church Street NE

It's Time...to Celebrate

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

7:00 p.m. Worship - Tony Campolo

8:30 p.m. Fellowship

It's Time...to Serve

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Worship - Tony Campolo

11:30 a.m. Dismissal



Tony Campolo, Keynote Speaker

HOTELS

Sixty Polk Street B&B..... 1-800-845-7266

Marietta Conference Center..... 1-888-685-2500

Hampton Inn..... 1-800-HAMPTON

Wyndham Garden Hotel..... 1-800-800-5798

Wingate Inn..... 1-800-228-1000

For information, contact CBF of Georgia 478-301-5926, email broome_ef@mercuer.edu.
For directions, www.mariettafbc.org.

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!

2002

October 3,10,17,24,31

2002 Preaching Workshop
McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta, Day Hall
1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Fred Craddock, speaker
Cost \$125. Contact Diane Frazier, 678-547-6470, 888-471-9922.

October 10-13

CBF OF GEORGIA SENIOR ADULT GATHERING
Myrtle Beach SC
Cost \$350 per person; price does not include transportation. For information contact
Phill Nall at 770-939-8238 or phillnall@thenautilusgroup.net.

October 18

A Preaching Workshop for Baptist Women (and Men) in Ministry
Religious Life Building, Mercer University, Macon
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Fred Craddock and Mary Wrye, leaders. Cost: \$50, registration
and refund deadline October 4. To register contact Greg Thompson, 478-301-5467 or
thompson_mg@mercer.edu.

October 18-19

Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia Fall Retreat
Religious Life Building, Mercer University, Macon
To register contact Devita Parnell, 478-301-5648, parnell_kd@mercer.edu.

October 28-29

McAfee Bible Study Preview Conference
October 28/Atlanta campus; October 29/Macon campus

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Study 1 and 2 Samuel; Tony Cartledge, presenter. Contact Diane Frazier for reservations, 678-547-6470, 888-471-9922.

November 10-11

CBF OF GEORGIA FALL CONVOCATION
Marietta First Baptist Church
Tony Campolo, speaker

2003

February 1

A New Model for Children's Sunday School
Athens First Baptist Church

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Sponsored by Athens area churches; cost \$25 per person for four workshops. Contact Frank Granger, 706-548-1359.

February 17-19

William L. Self Preaching Lectures
McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta, Day Hall
Walter Brueggeman, speaker

February 21-22

Global Women Freedom Conference
Macon

March 7-8

CBF OF GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Gainesville First Baptist Church
Maurice Boyd, speaker

events, dates, times & places