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VISIONS



Offering for Global Missions

Rob Nash, CBF/National Global Missions Coordinator

Like the commission that Jesus gives to his disciples in John’s gospel. It is clear, precise, and to the point. “As the Father has sent me,” he says, “so send I you.” In difficult places, day in and day out, CBF field personnel work in powerful and effective ways, ministering to AIDS patients, digging wells, building homes, feeding the hungry, and sharing the love of Christ with people who desperately need that love.

Many of you know this already. You work with these field personnel in some very challenging places in the United States and around the world through your church. You’ve been called by God to the same contexts as these field personnel as you work with them in Kenya and Thailand, South Dakota and Alabama. You’ve prayed for this work, contributed to it, and participated in it. In fact, your participation with our field personnel in many different places is the most exciting development in global mission since the eighteenth century.

I grew up in the Philippines where my parents worked as church planters in a predominately Muslim area. I remember the “Slide Show” that my parents took to churches in the U.S. when we were on furlough. Mom would dress up in one of those Imelda Marcos butterfly sleeve dresses, Dad would wear a Barong Tagalog shirt, and my brother and I would man the craft table. This was the primary way in which the church joined in global mission in the last half of the twentieth century—through giving and prayer after hearing about the work.

The days of the slide show and craft table are long gone. Local congregations are becoming the center of global mission in the twenty-first century. You engage the world by joining together in experiential engagement with a variety of hands-on mission opportunities. This is how it should be. I have listened time and again as CBF field personnel describe the ways in which local congregations are joining them in meeting the spiritual, physical, emotional, and social needs of people all over the world. This local church participation in global mission is leading to the revitalization of the American church



while at the same time offering new models for Christian engagement with the world.

But I would also remind you that nothing is more important to effective global mission than a corporate and cooperative engagement with the world. Our cooperation together as Fellowship Baptists enables our field personnel to remain in their places of ministry for decades at a time, developing the relationships and connections that are essential to effective mission and ministry. This cooperation also allows for congregations to participate in a national global mission endeavor that is directed toward a single purpose under the Lordship of Christ. We are able to do together far more than we would ever be able to do separately.

The Offering for Global Missions is essential to this corporate and cooperative engagement with the world. Our offering goal this year is \$6.3 million. The funds that your church contributes to the OGM go directly to supporting the mission and ministries of our field personnel. Our field personnel, in turn, develop projects and partnerships that enable local congregations to participate alongside them in meeting human need and in reaching the least evangelized people of the world. It is truly a partnership in the gospel that results in a meaningful engagement of the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We are in this grand calling to global mission together as individual Christians, as churches, and as the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Our common venture is a true partnership in the gospel that is grounded in the work of field personnel and congregations committed to a place and its people, supported by the prayers, funding and mission teams of God’s people, and directed by the power of God’s Spirit at work in the world. CBF/GA





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Oasis of Hope

Darrell Watson, Pastor of First Baptist Church of Forsyth and CBF/GA Moderator-Elect

With a population greater than 1.1 billion, India is the second most populated country, nearly 4 times more populated than the United States. India is home to more than 800,000,000 Hindus, which is 2.5 times the number of people in the United States. Only 25% of the population lives within the context of the city, while the other 75% struggle in the under-developed rural areas. Forty percent live in poverty on 3000 rupees or around \$80 per month. Not only is India second in population, India is also second only to Africa in those being HIV positive. In 2005 more than 5 million cases were reported with a life expectancy of less than one year for those infected. Physicians refuse to treat patients who are HIV positive, so the country has a new form of leper being ostracized, stigmatized, and shunned. And then there are the thousands of fishermen lining the coast of the Indian Sea whose homes and lives have forever been changed by the harrows of a tsunami. Yet, along with these sobering facts and statistics, I bring you the good news of the gospel that from the seeds of sorrow our CBF missionaries in partnership with other great commission Christians are finding opportunities for grace. In the midst of these seeds of sorrow our missionaries are creating places of refuge, oases of hope.

“The love of God is broader than earth’s vast expanse...”

The CBF mission enterprise in India began ten years ago with a visit by Pat Anderson and T. Thomas. On that visit, they realized that Hyderabad is the epicenter of life for more than 6 million Banjara Gypsies. With this knowledge, Robbie and James Francovich were sent out to minister to the Banjara Gypsies living in and around Hyderabad. In February of 2006, I had the great honor of traveling to India and meeting Robbie and James, experiencing first hand their ministry of love to the Banjara Gypsies. A second blessing came this September when James and Robbie came and spoke at First Baptist Church of Forsyth. A number of churches related to the CBF from the central Georgia area gathered

together for a time of fellowship, worship, and testimony. All in attendance were inspired by James and Robbie as they shared a story about their first few weeks in India, “We did not know what we were doing or where we were headed when we first arrived in India, so we decided that we would begin by visiting some of the gypsy villages. As we walked around the village, children came up to us, so we reached out to them and touched them and hugged them in the name of Jesus. After two weeks of visiting, the head of the village came up to us and said, ‘No one has ever come to us and loved us in this way before. We know that this love must be from your God, so we want your God to be our God.’ The entire village was converted and become followers of Christ.” The hymn writer is correct in saying, “The love of God is broader than earth’s vast expanse, tis’ deeper and wider than the sea, Love reaches out to all to bring abundant life, for God so loved the world his only son he gave. Share his love, by telling what the Lord has done for you, share his love by sharing of your faith, And show the world that Jesus Christ is real to you, every moment, every day.”



Robbie and James Francovich, CBF missionaries to India

Robbie and James Francovich have convinced me that in the hands of Jesus, seeds of sorrow can become opportunities for grace. Our CBF missionaries in partnership with other great commission Christians are, by way of God’s Holy Spirit, being made sensitive to these seeds of sorrow. And in the midst of these seeds of sorrow, with our prayers and financial support, missionaries like James and Robbie Francovich are creating places of refuge, Oases of Hope. Let us pray diligently and give sacrificially to support the mission endeavors of both the CBF/GA and CBF/National.

CBF/GA





“Warmly *welcome* Our Distinguished Guests of CBF”

Renée Bennett, Moderator CBF/GA

These were the words of a huge red banner with golden Chinese characters and English words which greeted us across the street as we arrived in Pengzhou, China. Pengzhou is a city of about 50,000 people, a small town in Chinese circles. There were seven of us crowded in a small van as we traveled from Chengdu, Sichuan Province. Clearly, my visit to Chengdu and Pengzhou were the highlights of my trip to China, September 3-15, 2006. Along with fifteen other women in CBF leadership, we visited Shanghai and Beijing. We divided into four groups and each smaller group visited another site in China where CBF representatives live and work.



Let me take a brief detour from Pengzhou and tell you that looking out from the tallest radio tower in South Asia while in Shanghai was thrilling as we scanned the horizon filled with one high rise apartment building after another, built to accommodate the population of 18.7 million. In Beijing, we visited the amazing Forbidden City and Tian'anmen Square where I tried to imagine the thousands of people congregated there during the protests of 1989. It wasn't that hard to imagine because anywhere you are in China there are many, many people. I was told there is no sense of "personal space" in China; I understand, there is no personal space about which to have such a sense! To stand on the Great Wall of China at Badaling was certainly the thrill of a lifetime, and I have pictures to prove it!

However, the most important and meaningful event of my trip occurred in Pengzhou. As we arrived at the gate of the wall surrounding the Pengzhou Christian Church, the church members lined the short driveway and the robed choir stood at the entrance to the church. They were singing and smiling and hugging and shaking hands, welcoming us to their church. I have never felt so warmly welcomed and so at home among Christian brothers and sisters. It was an incredibly moving experience. Yes, I cried! I felt God's spirit move among us as we gathered in their sanctuary with one side open to the courtyard where poinsettias bloomed brightly in the sunshine. Three of

the four women in my group preached that morning, at the invitation of this church and the Sichuan Christian Council. Our CBF representatives, Bill and Michelle Cayard, were instrumental in our having this opportunity. Richard Cai was our interpreter and it seemed that our message of "Grace: A Gift Too Good to Keep" was well received. We sang in Chinese from a Chinese hymnal which gives the word for each Chinese character; we knew the tunes and listened to our neighbors for correct pronunciation of the words. The 200-250 people present clapped and laughed and said Chinese Amens. God's Holy Spirit was present in every moment. We were told that some people attended church for the first time because we had come to visit and preach. The Cayards said it was "monumental" for us to be there, monumental for the church and for the Cayards' work in China. It was an unforgettable experience for me. After lunch in a small restaurant in Pengzhou we traveled outside of town into the country. We visited in a house church meeting in the courtyard of a believer's

home. A group of 40-50 had gathered, and once again we were welcomed by lovely Christian sisters and brothers.

Tall towers, historical sites, and amazing structures cannot compare to the experiences with Chinese Christians during our visit. Someone asked me what one thing I took with me from China. It is this: God is at work in China and has been for years and years. Westerners nor Baptists nor any other group took God to China... but, we can join God there, for God is doing a mighty work among the Chinese people. Churches are growing and thriving, young people are being trained in Chinese seminaries, and Chinese Christians have tender hearts for God and each other.



There is so much more I would love to share, but time and space do not permit. Invite me to your church or group and I will be happy to share my *China Reflections*.

I am grateful to CBF/GA and Frank Broome for the opportunity to make this life changing visit to China. CBF/GA



EVERY PERSON ENGAGED...

The "weekend egg project"

Patrick Anderson,
CBF Missions Advocate

At a gathering of Baptist leaders from Europe and the Middle East recently, Oti Bunaciu of Romania told a remarkable story. During the Great Depression of the 1920s, Baptist women in Texas received a request from Romania for help in building a theological training center for Romanian Baptist women and men. The women were inspired. Despite the hardships of the Depression, and the poor condition of the churches in Texas, the women from rural and small towns started a "weekend egg project." They devoted the income from the eggs their families' chickens produced during the weekends for the Romanian facility. The money was collected and sent, prayers were offered, sacrifices made, and the training center was built.

Today, 80 years later, that building stands tall in Bucharest as a dramatic reminder of the sacrificial gifts of those Texas Baptist women. The Romanian Baptists have done their part as well, being faithful recipients of the gift. They have maintained the building during times of war, Communism, economic hardship, and other challenges. Untold numbers of church leaders have been prepared for ministry because the ladies, with not much money available, gave their eggs for God's glory.

I can only imagine the feelings and prayers of those ladies each Saturday and Sunday as they went to their hens' nests, feeling for the fresh eggs, placing them with care in a special basket, and giving them for God's glory. Such small things, eggs. But when placed together with

many others, they are able to accomplish great things.

Our world is different. Not many of us have chickens. Not many of us remember the Great Depression. But today, in 2006, it is time for all of us to contribute from our resources to help missions. Every person should give money to support and advance the CBF missionary work. Our vehicle is the Offering for Global Missions. Today, who among us cannot find money at our disposal to give for missions? I have been inspired by children who have saved pennies and earned money for CBF missions. I am aware of sacrificial gifts by adults. In each case the giver is blessed. He or she has a wonderful feeling of participating in a Global Mission of Christ, just like the Texas ladies in the 1920s. When our

gifts are put together, large and small, God blesses and uses those gifts. Indeed, if each person made a contribution, CBF field personnel around the world would be supported, encouraged, and enabled. Few people realize that the budget for missions personnel and programs is directly dependent on the Offering for Global Missions.

CBF's budget is heavily tilted toward missions. Indeed, some of us believe everything CBF does in one way or another supports the overall mission of CBF, which is itself, missions. But through the Offering for Global Missions, we all can join together in a special effort.

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"...we all can join together in a special effort."



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ONE YEAR AFTER

KATRINA

By Steve Street,
Coordinator, CBF of MS

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina slammed into the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The western eye of Katrina wiped out the city of Pearlington—located on the banks of the Pearl River separating Mississippi and Louisiana. Waveland and Bay St. Louis to the east of Pearlington were also in the eye of the storm. To the west of Pearlington is New Orleans. In the commotion of the aftermath, volunteers rushed to the east and to the west, but Pearlington was lost in the middle. The Clarion Ledger called Pearlington “The Forgotten City.”



CBF of MS decided to focus our recovery efforts on this small but forgotten community. Dr. Charles Holmes has been on the scene in Pearlington for twelve months. For the first six months, he served in a volunteer capacity alongside our first Disaster Recovery Director, Greg Wolfe. When Wolfe accepted a pastorate in March 2006, Dr. Holmes was called to succeed Greg in that position. We have been blessed with capable, servant leaders.

After twelve months, our tiny efforts—five loaves and two fish—have been multiplied by our Lord in loving His people in Pearlington. From September to August 2006, recovery efforts have included:

- 63 Homes Muddled Out
- 53 Homes Guttled Out
- 127 Water Well Pumps
- 191 FEMA Trailer Starter Kits
- 6 New Homes at \$89,000 Total
- 85 Mission Teams
- 15,000 Volunteer Hours

Many of those 85 mission teams and 15,000 volunteer hours included volunteers from CBF/GA churches. The people serving on those teams have been the presence of Christ to us. With 50,000 people still living in FEMA trailers, there is still much work to be done. If you are interested in opportunities to serve in Pearlington, MS, please contact Dr. Charles Holmes at cholmes@cbfms.org or 601-519-2785, or you may contact me at sstreet@cbfms.org or 601-605-0806. **CBF/GA**

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Morningstar's Village of Hope Continues to Provide Hope

Barry Kerr, President & CEO, Morningstar Treatment Services, Inc.

Shortly after hurricane Katrina brought destruction and devastation to the gulf coast area, Morningstar leased a former assisted living facility in Brunswick and named it the Morningstar Village of Hope. Joining Morningstar staff was an army of more than 300 volunteers who provided resources and hope for the 97 individuals who would pass through our doors. Of the 97 receiving assistance, 39 individuals lived for an extended period of time at the Village of Hope. By January of '06 all of the residents had been transitioned from the Village of Hope into fully furnished apartments in the community. After officially closing the Village of Hope in January, the mission of the project continued through support in the community. Our “displaced neighbors” needed assistance

with job applications, transportation, navigating the public school system, and medical assistance. Both paid and volunteer staff continued daily support through mid August. Our last family, the Williams, a mother and six special needs children, moved back to New Orleans in time for the new school year. They are living in temporary housing awaiting the completed renovation of their home in the Lake Front area of New Orleans. Currently, only one person continues to receive support. He is age 78 and works on the maintenance team at Morningstar Youth Estate Center.

Out of this ministry effort, a circle of friends and memories will continue to impact our lives. It is safe to say, no one involved in the Village of Hope Ministry will ever be the same. I give thanks each day for the many volunteers and staff who became God's hands and feet in serving our “displaced neighbors.” **CBF/GA**

Enough of Everything, Except Volunteers

Reid Doster, CBF Louisiana Disaster Response Coordinator

CBF is issuing an urgent call for small teams of modestly-skilled volunteers to spend a few days in New Orleans lending a hand to Christians needing some encouragement right now.

African-American churches and their pastors in New Orleans are still trying to get back on their feet a year after wind and flood brought them to their knees. CBF and Baptist Builders International have partnered to assist them.

Everything is in place—appropriate worksites, meals provided by the host church three times a day, free sleeping quarters with hot showers, all the tools and materials our volunteers might need. In fact, there is enough of everything, except enough volunteers.

Reid Doster, Disaster Response Coordinator for Louisiana, explains: “Our mission statement is ‘to reach across racial, religious and cultural boundaries, with the unconditional love of Jesus Christ, helping the most needy, neglected and forgotten, without any expectation of return.’ One year after the

disaster, perhaps we should capitalize the word ‘FORGOTTEN.’

“While some of us might be tired of hearing about disaster response, these congregations are living with it each day, trying to minister to neighbors in their own backyards for whom it’s a struggle just getting through



the day.

“The strength of CBF is in our values and our volunteers who model those values. Disaster response might be the best opportunity CBF has in America right now to show people who we really are. This could become our ‘finest hour.’



Pastor Mayfield and Reid Doster

“Someone has said: ‘Character is what you do when no one is looking.’ Katrina and her victims are now off the radar. Media coverage has waned. In a sense, no one is looking. That’s why this is precisely the best time to put boots to the ground, get over here and help these good people.

“Give up a football weekend. Sacrifice those two or three days at the deer camp. Put off that shopping jaunt. Tell your relatives you’ll come visit a little later. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer put it: ‘The church does not exist, unless it exists for others.’”

One church and pastor being helped by CBF is New St. Mark Baptist Church, led by Reverend Ike Mayfield. Ike lives in a FEMA trailer behind the church building. A few weeks ago, the newly renovated facility was re-dedicated to the Lord’s work.

CBF’s efforts are now being multiplied by New St. Mark’s opening its church home to three other churches that have exhausted their resources and also need help completing the job.

Reverend Mayfield’s residence took on six feet of dirty water that stood for days. CBF volunteers are replacing insulation, sheetrock, and paint for the downstairs, using materials bought with a generous financial gift from Canadian Baptists. Ike’s wife and children are dispersed to other areas. Thanks to CBF volunteers, this family will soon be reunited in their freshly painted home.

Please call or email Timothy Wood, CBF Coordinator of Volunteers at 800-782-2451 or volunteer@thefellowship.info. Reid Doster may be contacted at reid_doster@hotmail.com or 985-222-6900. **CBF/GA**

In the Wake of the Storm

Steven Meriwether, Pastor, St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are. I am not sure of the source of this advice. My guess is Teddy Roosevelt. It sounds like him. Commonsensical it is. Yet there is a spiritual dimension to these words. It is easy to imagine Jesus saying something along these lines to his followers.

The advice is too wordy to serve as a

theme or title. But it has been in the back of my mind this past year. St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church was given a ministry of recovery in the wake of the storm. Our lives underwent a “narrative wreckage” of the worst sort. As the church reopened its doors for business on October 3, 2005, no one could foresee what the next three months or year would bring. We did what we could, with what we had, right where we were.

I thought it altogether fitting to put on record some of what ministry has entailed. On Saturday, September 23, thirteen from the church gathered to dedicate Estelle Smith’s renovated house. After three hours of laying sod,

planting, and a bit of last-minute touch-up on the interior, we paused to give thanks. Before Lou Irwin asked the blessing, Miss Estelle expressed her gratitude. “Without St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church, I don’t know what I would have done.” From a woman of few words, it was evident that it was heartfelt.

Since last October, over eighty thousand dollars had been received for the Katrina Relief fund. Individuals, former members, and Baptist churches have been the donors. Ms. Barbara Paul of the FBC of Yarmouth, Maine, wrote me last spring. “Ours is a small and old congregation. We cannot do the physical labor, but we intend to collect an offering.” As she

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promised, a check arrived in early June for a significant sum. From the Katrina Relief fund more than fifty-five thousand dollars has been distributed to individuals or to purchase needed materials.

Since November of last year, over three hundred men/women/youth have participated with us in our ministry recovery. This number represents fourteen Baptist congregations from all over the United States and Canada. Katrina created what our best efforts at denominational relations could not: relationships with other Baptist churches. Many of these groups were our guests at dinner on Wednesday evenings. The fellowship fed all at the table. Our church is intimately known by other Baptists in a way that only recovery work could foster.

Finally, the work accomplished is noteworthy. Twenty-eight homes were gutted or cleaned out. Some of this work was done during a very hot summer. Injuries were few and minor. Along with tearing down, we built up. Estelle Smith's home, along with the home of our custodian, Carolyn Wright, was rebuilt. I will be long in forgetting these living pictures of hope. Time and time again, I witnessed a defeated individual revived. One of our very own told a group from the FBC of Lebanon, Maine, "You have given me reason to hope."

I have unofficially named our ministry: Do what you can, with what you have, where you are...in the name of Jesus. I think folks have a sense of what they can do and where they are.

Perhaps it is discerning what we have that lies before us. CBF/GA



Together CBF and Volunteers of America Make a Difference in Bayou La Batre, Alabama

Henry Creel, Disaster Relief Coordinator, Bayou La Batre Field Office, Volunteers of America Southeast

Another Thanksgiving is fast approaching. Last Thanksgiving, the folks in south Alabama paused to offer thanksgiving to God for a real miracle—the fact that not one human life in Alabama was lost during Hurricane Katrina, the worst natural disaster that this country has experienced. This Thanksgiving, the folks in south Alabama will pause to offer thanksgiving for another miracle—the unparalleled response by the faith based organizations of this country to Katrina's devastation.

The initial response came in the form of food, water, clothing, and other basic necessities of life. The goods came by every conceivable means; from packages in the mail, to pickup trucks, to transfer trailer rigs, the supplies poured into south Alabama by the tons. Along with the supplies came the people. From every walk of life they came to help clear trees and debris, to muck out houses, to repair roofs, and to encourage.

Then came the transition from digging out and cleaning up, to mucking out and rebuilding. And still the people of faith streamed into south Alabama with their tools and building supplies. They jump-started the rebuilding process and put us light years ahead of neighboring Mississippi and Louisiana in this area.

In the first weeks following Katrina, Cooperative Baptist churches across the country formed a partnership with

Volunteers of America Southeast, headquartered in Mobile, Alabama. The tons of supplies in those first weeks were able to be distributed immediately and efficiently through the network of faith based organizations joined together by Volunteers of America Southeast's Faith Links network. Likewise, the volunteers streaming into the Gulf Coast (over 10,000 and counting!) were/are able to be housed and directed to worksites matched to their skill levels.

From the very beginning, CBF/GA has been in the forefront of the Katrina recovery effort. Pastor Bill Ross of FBC Athens sent an initial team to recommend areas of focus for their relief efforts. They selected the coastal fishing community of Bayou La Batre, Alabama, as their focus area and Volunteers of America Southeast as their partner in the recovery effort. The generous folk of FBC Athens opened their hearts and their checkbooks to send invaluable dollars, supplies, and mission teams to Bayou La Batre.

Likewise, pastor Ron McClung and Haddock Baptist Church responded with gifts and mission teams. They came not once, but twice, three times and counting. CBF/GA understands the meaning of "Long Term Recovery."

Across the state of Georgia—from FBC Fort Oglethorpe, to FBC St. Simons; from Heritage Baptist Church in Cartersville to Central Baptist Church in Newnan—CBF/GA responded in Christian love to the

victims of Katrina by sending much needed supplies, dollars, and mission teams.

Much has happened from last Thanksgiving to this Thanksgiving. Volunteers of America Southeast, in partnership with CBF and other faith based organizations, has mucked out, repaired, re-roofed, rebuilt, or otherwise worked on over 500 homes for Katrina victims. We currently have 147 homes under various stages of construction in the south Mobile County area and are receiving an average of seven new construction cases each week. Hundreds of homes still await repair in south Mobile County alone.

As we rebuild, we are bringing the homes up to current building codes. We are elevating the homes in the flood plane to prevent



repetitive losses from future storms. This is a win-win for all. Home owners have improved homes, and FEMA tax dollars will be saved when future storms come.

Volunteers of America Southeast is thankful for the partnership with CBF/GA. We recognize the trust placed in us by CBF/GA. We take our fiduciary responsibility very seriously. We thank God for CBF/GA and look forward to a long term partnership.

CBF/GA

Opportunities/Reports/Updates

FRANKLY SPEAKING

Frank Broome, CBF/GA Coordinator

The search committee for the associate coordinator of missions has begun the process of finding a candidate.

Committee Chair Al Shauf has led the members to update the job description and create a general profile. Both of those documents can be accessed on our web page at www.cbfga.org. The committee will take resumes until the end of January 2007. This will give ample time for individuals to determine if they want to apply. Notice of this opportunity will appear in several publications, including *Baptists Today*, *Fellowship News*, *Visions*, and *Re-Visions*.

The committee members are **Henry Tyson** (Fellowship Baptist Church, Fitzgerald), **Julie Long** (First Baptist Church of Christ, Macon), **Renée Bennett** (Highland Hills Baptist Church, Macon), **Al Shauf** (First Baptist Church of Cordele), **Gwen Colwell** (First Baptist Church of Marietta), **Drayton Sanders** (First Baptist Church of Dalton), and **Jimmy Gentry** (Tabernacle Baptist Church, Carrollton). These are very gifted individuals. The search process is in good hands.

The search committee, in consultation with the executive committee and the coordinating council, made some slight adjustments in the job description. They updated the nomenclature we use when talking about missions. For example, we no longer talk about a missions development council; we call it the missions committee. They also affirmed the three major responsibilities of the missions coordinator: resourcing congregations, cooperating with national CBF in global missions, and assisting congregations with new church starts.

From my vantage point, I think the process is going along well. The committee has received more than a dozen resumes, with others on the way.

If I have one concern, it relates to finances. The first four months of our fiscal year find us \$50,000 under budget. Being behind is not that unusual for this time of the year; however, we are further behind this year than in previous years. In the past we have done some catching up in November, December, and January. May such be so this time as well.



The CBF of Georgia is accepting resumes for the position of **ASSOCIATE COORDINATOR FOR MISSIONS**. Qualified candidates must have an abiding commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to sharing the gospel with all people; a commitment to Baptist principles as embraced and practiced by CBF/GA; and excellent skills in communication, leadership, administration, and team-building. Applicants must possess a Master of Divinity (or equivalent), two years or more experience in a related field, and a willingness to relocate to the Macon area.

Visit www.cbfga.org to download the job profile and the job description. Resumes will be accepted until January 31, 2007.

Send resumes via email attachments to ershauf@bellsouth.net AND to spowell@cbfga.org or mail to Search Committee, CBF/GA, P.O. Box 4343, Macon, GA 31208.

CBF/GA OFFICE OF REFERENCE AND REFERRAL

Alan Mitchell, Assistant to the Coordinator for Reference and Referral



MINISTERS ON THE MOVE

JONATHAN BLOSE is Associate Pastor of Northeast Baptist Church of Ardmore, OK.

JIM BRITT is Interim Pastor of Ocilla Baptist Church, GA.

RANDY BRITAIN is Minister of Music at FBC Athens, GA.

LOUISE BYRD is Administrative Assistant at Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church in Duluth, GA.

BILL DAVIES retired as Minister of Education and Administration of FBC Rome, GA.

MICHELE DERISO is Church Administrator at Johns Creek Baptist Church in Alpharetta, GA.

DWIGHT DUHON is Pastor of Carlton Baptist Church in Carlton, GA.

JIMMY DALE PATTERSON is Pastor of FBC Newnan, GA.

DANIEL GLAZE is Pastor of FBC Ahoskie, NC.

NEWT HENDRIX is Minister of Music at FBC Thomson, GA.

MATT KING is Youth Minister at Parkway Baptist Church in Duluth, GA.

HUGH PEACOCK retired as Associate Pastor of FBC Rome, GA.

PAUL RAYBON is Minister of Administration & Outreach at Hominy Baptist Church, Candler, NC.

DAN WHITAKER is Interim Pastor of FBC Ringgold, GA.

FINANCIAL PICTURE

2006-2007 Year-to-Date
June 01-October 31, 2006

Budget Requirement\$291,011.67
Undesignated Receipts\$224,876.08
Over/<Under>\$<66,135.59>
Designated Receipts\$22,579.02

CBF/GA...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.

Opportunities Along the Gulf Coast

The Gulf Coast still needs volunteers to continue Hurricane Katrina restoration efforts.

- To volunteer in New Orleans, La., contact Reid Doster at 985-222-6900 or reid_doster@hotmail.com.
- To volunteer in Bayou La Batre, Ala., contact Henry "Digger" Creel at hcreel@voase.org for more information.
- To volunteer in Pearllington, Miss., contact Charles Holmes, CBF of Mississippi's disaster response coordinator, at cholmes162@netzero.com or 601-736-7844 for more information.
- To volunteer in Baton Rouge, La., contact Elmo Winters at ewinters@cox.net or 225-775-2053.

Opportunities Provided by CBF/National

*Atlanta Intercultural Ministries, Inc.,
Project 3 – Georgia*

- Individuals and teams to work in the food pantry, health services, Doraville Pregnancy Resource Center, outreach, after school tutoring, help with school and tutor store supplies, school uniforms, ESL, summer day camps, spring and winter break teams, Thanksgiving food bags, Christmas Angels & Adopt-a-Family, Christmas shoe boxes, Bible clubs, and office work.
WHEN: Ongoing; LENGTH: 1-2 weeks

Sowing Seeds of Hope: Variety of Social Ministries, Project 4 – Alabama

- Teams and families are needed to help in the areas of: housing rehabilitation; literacy; community development projects; health care; sports/drama camps for youth and children; partnerships with local organizations and churches; and other special projects in keeping with specific skills/interests of the volunteer group. These projects are designed in partnership with the local community to make the best use of the abilities/skills/talents of the groups or individuals who partner with us.
WHEN: Open; LENGTH: Ongoing

*Inner City Education and Ministry,
Project 6 – Georgia*

- The Andrew P. Stewart Center runs a Day Camp for children in Atlanta. Teams will help with Bible studies, field trips, and recreational activities. Volunteers will be able to love children that sometimes seem unlovable. Summer teams can make an amazing difference for these children.
WHEN: June - July 2007; LENGTH: One to two weeks

*Children, Family, and Construction Ministry,
Project 10 – Texas*

- Teams and individuals are needed to work with Buckner Children and Family Services in a variety of ministries in the Rio Grande area of Texas. Types of ministry opportunities include but are not limited to preparing food baskets for the holidays, distribution of clothing and school supplies, home and church repairs, sports camps, Vacation Bible Schools, summer enrichment programs, and construction projects.
WHEN: All year; LENGTH: Flexible

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Katrina Relief, Project 88 – Katrina Relief

- Hurricane Katrina Relief work in Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama. Teams are needed for drywall removal, drywall installation, removal and installation of flooring, roofing, painting, and general clean-up. Teams will have basic conditions; sleeping bag or cot space, shower trailer, and possible use of a church kitchen. Teams are responsible for their own meals and should bring a general helper to run errands and coordinate meals.
WHEN: Ongoing; LENGTH: Flexible

*Urban Summer Camp and Homeless Ministry,
Project 108 – Touching Miami with Love*

- Teams will coordinate a summer camp for children (K-5), lead worship services to include preaching, assist with a clothing closet, fellowship with the homeless, and prepare meals. Afternoons and evenings will include working in a local gardening project, BBQ cookout, movie night, and a tour of the historic Overtown and downtown Miami districts. Teams need to have 25 people to staff all projects and events during the week. Cost is \$240 per person for room and board, field trip, and administrative fees. Cost does not include transportation to and from Miami.
WHEN: July 2007; LENGTH: One week

*Summer Camp Workers,
Project 118 – Homestead, Florida*

- Summer camp workers needed to assist Open House Ministries summer camp, for approximately 70 children, from 8:30am to 2:30pm, Monday - Friday. The children will have four sessions each day (Bible study, music, crafts, and recreation). Volunteers should come prepared to assist in one specific area, based on their talents and gifts. Housing is available at a local rooming house for \$12 per night, possible use of church fellowship hall, or local motels.
WHEN: June 2007; LENGTH: Six Days

To learn more about a volunteer opportunity, call Timothy Wood at 800-782-2451 or e-mail at twood@thefellowship.info.

2006 CBF/GA FALL CONVOCATION IN PICTURES




1. Convocation attendees enjoy time for fellowship. 2. Frank Broome, coordinator, asks Malkhaz Songulashvili, to share his experiences as President of the Union of Evangelical Baptists of the Republic of Georgia. 3. Scholarship recipients and their families gather before worship. 4. The first laity network, attended by over forty people, learns about CBF/GA areas. 5. Rob Nash, (right) one of the keynote speakers visits with attendees before worship. 6. Bill Underwood, keynote speaker, addresses attendees in Sunday evening worship. 7. Michael Goodman thanks CBF/GA for seminary scholarship through testimony. 8. The Mercer University Women's Chamber Choir 9. Attendees in worship. 10. Chaplains Network 11. Renée Bennett, moderator, introduces Bill Underwood.



2007 CBF/GA General Assembly
March 9-10, 2007
Smoke Rise Baptist Church
Stone Mountain, GA

Keynote Speaker: ANNA CARTER FLORENCE,
Assistant Professor of Preaching
and Worship at Columbia Theological
Seminary





Offering for Global Missions Gift Catalog

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship sends Global Missions field personnel into a world without borders to minister and witness among the world's most neglected people. Purchasing from the Global Missions Projects gift catalog is one way you can support and participate in their ministry all year long. Your gift can be in memory or honor of someone, for a birthday or anniversary or for any of the holidays during the calendar year.

CBF will gladly send a special card to your family member or friend indicating the gift you have made for their special occasion or holiday or in honor of or memorial.

To view the Gift Catalog visit <http://www.thefellowship.info/globalmissions/giftcatalog>

Thank you for your support of CBF Global Missions!

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NOW SERVING ATLANTA

& McAfee School of Theology

February 2-3, 2007

Friday: Registration & Worship
Saturday: Gathering, Mission Sites, and Closing Worship

Music with Anna Hutto
Speaker Phil Smith

Now Serving Atlanta is 24 hours of college students on mission sponsored by McAfee School of Theology and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of GA.

The cost is \$15 (includes meals and t-shirt)

Register by January 15, 2007, by contacting Devita Parnell at 478-742-1191, ext. 28, or dparnell@cbfga.org.

www.now-serving.org

Coming Up!

■ Dec. 29, 2006-Jan. 02, 2007

ANTIPHONY

Hyatt Regency, Atlanta

Conference created for graduate and undergraduate students with a focus this year on "Call and Response." To register visit www.antiphonyonline.org from Aug. 15 until Nov. 15.

■ Jan. 8-10

SPIRITUAL FORMATION REGIONAL PASTORS' RETREAT

Ignatius House Retreat Center, Atlanta

To register, <http://www.thefellowship.info/CL/FF/TrainingEvents/Registration.icm>. For information, email rbennett@thefellowship.info or call 770-220-1605.

■ Feb. 2-3

NOW SERVING 2007

McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, Atlanta

A collegiate missions event cosponsored by McAfee School of Theology and CBF/GA. Contact Devita Parnell at dparnell@cbfga.org.

■ Feb. 7-10

CURRENT RETREAT "LET JUSTICE ROLL"

First Baptist Church of Austin, TX

Registration cost is \$110 for ministers and lay leaders, \$55 for seminary students. For more information, visit <https://www.thefellowship.info/current/current.icm>.

■ Feb. 19-20

WILLIAM L. SELF PREACHING LECTURES

McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta

Speaker: Tom Long. For more information, email frazier_d@mercer.edu.

■ March 9-10

CBF/GA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain

Speaker: Anna Carter Florence, Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship, Columbia Theological Seminary

■ March 16-18

MARCH MISSION MADNESS 2007

FBC Eatonton

A missions weekend for youth. Participants will stay at Rock Eagle Retreat Center. Contact Scott Ford at robertscottford@mac.com.

■ March 19-20

URBAN MISSION WORKSHOP

McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta

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

■ March 23-25

MARCH MISSION MADNESS 2007

FBC Columbus

A missions weekend for youth. Contact Scott Ford at robertscottford@mac.com.

■ 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, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, CBF Foundation, and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia

■ June 27-29

CBF NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Washington, D.C.

■ Nov. 4-5

CBF/GA FALL CONVOCATION

FBC Savannah

Check www.cbfga.org for more info!

CBF/GA...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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