



Re-Visions

from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia

April 2014

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CBF/GA News

Registration Ends Sunday for Senior Celebration

Registration for Senior Celebration will be open until Sunday, April 27. This year's Monday event will be held on May 5 at Smoke Rise Baptist Church in Stone Mountain. The speaker will be Paul Baxley, moderator of the CBF/GA Coordinating Council and pastor of First Baptist Church of Athens. 8th of January, a bluegrass band, will provide the afternoon entertainment.

The Tuesday event will be held on May 6 at First Baptist Church of Fitzgerald. The speaker will be Jake Hall, pastor of Highland Hills Baptist Church in Macon. Claude Hicks will provide the afternoon entertainment. Both events will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Attendees will be able to register online or by mail. Lunch will be provided at a cost of \$15 per person and reservations are required. Reservations are made by registering and can be paid online using the registration form, by check, or at the door. Click [here](#) for the Senior Celebration webpage.

Volunteer at CBF/National General Assembly

The 2014 CBF/National General Assembly will be held on Monday, June 23, to Friday, June 27, at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta. CBF/GA will meet on Thursday, June 26, at 4:15 p.m in the International Ballroom South room. The discernment task force will bring their report containing recommendations that will guide CBF/GA's work for the next several years. Reports will also be given on CBF/GA events in 2013 and 2014. The Georgia Youth Choir Festival choir will be the pre-worship music for the Thursday night worship service.

Below is information from Randy Shepley about volunteering at the CBF/National General Assembly. Randy is the local arrangements co-chair and pastor of First Baptist Church of Tucker.

You may have noticed from the promotional information that the theme for this year's CBF/National General Assembly Gathering is Woven Together. I love this theme and am looking forward to its underlying rhythm for our worship, workshops, prayer, and connections this summer in Atlanta.

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I want you, however, to think about the idea of Woven Together in another way. In order for a CBF/National General Assembly meeting of 2,500 registered attendees to happen, hundreds of volunteers will weave together behind the scenes. Some will help set up and take down displays and equipment. Others will serve as ushers for business and worship sessions. Registration volunteers will welcome each participant, and hospitality volunteers will help attendees find workshops, check-in, drop-off points for children, and restrooms! Other volunteers will help us share the sacrament of communion together in worship on Friday night. As you can see, it will take many volunteers, woven together, to make the CBF/National General Assembly happen. Since this year's General Assembly is in Atlanta, we have the sacred opportunity to serve our CBF friends and guests from around the world.

Would you invest some of your Assembly experience in serving others? The captains listed below will help you find the best time and place for you to serve. Please contact us to sign up. Thank you for "weaving together" a local arrangements team that will love and serve others.

Click [here](#) for the contact information of the co-chairs and captains.

April/May Visions Available

The April/May 2014 issue is available in print and online. This issue contains the 2013 financial report along with articles about deacon meetings, the CBF/National General Assembly, Now Serving: Atlanta, and the CBF/GA Fall General Assembly. The issue also has columns by Paul Baxley, Frank Broome, Steve Davis, and Martha Kate Hall. Click [here](#) for a PDF copy.

If you would like print copies of the issue or to subscribe to the mailing list, please contact ElizaBeth Ruff at eruff@cbfga.org or 478-742-1191, ext. 4. To read PDF issues of *Visions* and *Re-Visions* online, visit www.cbfga.org/newsletters.

CBF/GA Accepting Scholarship Applications

CBF/GA is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2014-2015 academic year. Students applying for a scholarship must be enrolled in a master's level degree program at an accredited institution (not restricted to Baptist institutions), must demonstrate a connection to Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia, and must show potential for leadership within the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. For a complete list of requirements and application, please click [here](#). Applications are due by Thursday, May 1.

Disaster Response Update from Tommy Deal

CBF Fly-ins

Are you a pilot and/or a plane owner? Curious how you can help in times of disaster? As one who formerly lived in Florida and worked

with Bahamian Baptists to get supplies in after hurricanes, I know the challenges that exist. I have developed relationships in The Bahamas with Cooperative Baptists Fellowship of The Bahamas and Bahamas Habitat. Bahamas Habitat has developed a proven life-line of supplies through the generosity of pilots and plane owners. They have two fly-ins each year to help train pilots in the skills and knowledge needed for international flight, entry and exit, and navigating the islands.

I am currently working on enlisting a group of pilots who are interested in sharing their skills and equipment to aide in disaster response on behalf of CBF disaster response. If we have a group, they will plan a CBF fly-in to match our needs. If we do not have a group, interested pilots can participate in one of their previously scheduled ones. The fly-ins not only provide the necessary training, but after the sessions, the group then flies from Orlando to The Bahamas in good weather taking needed items to our CBF of the Bahamas churches. This experience is good because one does not have to fly in and take supplies under "post-disaster" conditions.

Would you be interested? I would love to talk with you more about this. Email me at tdeal@cbfga.org or call me at 706-313-5066.

NOW Is the Time to Prepare

Don't wait until something happens. Plan now how your church can respond in its neighborhood and beyond to help out. I have ideas how your church can position itself to be Christ's Light during a dark time after a "storm of life." Contact me at tdeal@cbfga.org or 706-313-5066.

Be a CBF/GA Advocate

If you have an interest in being a CBF/GA advocate in your congregation, please let us know by contacting Renée Bennett at rbennett@cbfga.org or 478-742-1191, ext. 3. We will be glad to send you information on becoming an advocate.

From Our Churches

From First Baptist Church of Decatur

Barbara Brown Taylor will discuss her new book *Learning to Walk in the Dark* on Thursday, May 1, at 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Decatur. This event is sponsored by Georgia Center for the Book and hosted by Conversations. No tickets or reservations are required. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. Click [here](#) to learn more.

CBF/National

CBF/National General Assembly

Registration for CBF/National General Assembly is free and online. Participants who preregister will receive information with the latest

event information. Visit [here](#) to sign up.

A prayer retreat will be held on Monday, June 23, and Tuesday, June 24. This retreat will focus on Dawnings, CBF's congregational ministry initiative. The Atlanta Sessions, a two-day event for college students, will also be held on these days. A leadership institute will be held on Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The co-missioning banquet and service for field personnel, church starters, and new endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors will be held Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Make your reservations [here](#).

Suzii Paynter, CBF coordinator, will speak at the Thursday morning business session. Former U.N. ambassador Andrew Young will be Thursday evening's speaker. Bill McConnell, CBF moderator, and Kasey Jones, CBF moderator-elect, will be the speakers for Friday's business session. Chuck Poole, pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi, will be the Friday evening speaker.

For more information about General Assembly, visit [here](#). If you would like to learn more about promoting General Assembly, click [here](#).

CBF Fellows Information

The CBF Fellows program is designed to train congregational ministers during the first two years of their first full-time ministerial position. To learn more about this program, click [here](#). Contact Terry Hamrick, program director, at thamrick@thefellowship.info or 404-428-6171.

Reference and Referral

Church Seeking Minister to Children and Families

First Baptist Church of Griffin, a moderate congregation affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and with historic ties to the Southern Baptist Convention, is seeking a skilled and passionate minister to children and families. This staff minister is responsible for planning, coordinating, and evaluating a comprehensive ministry to children, birth through fifth grade. This can be a part-time or full-time position. Resumes and cover letters should be sent to Children's Minister Search Committee, 106 W. Taylor Street, Griffin, GA 30223 or to searchcommittee@fbcgriffin.org by Thursday, May 15.

Church Seeking Minister to Students

First Baptist Church of Claxton, a loving and eager church family, is seeking a full-time minister to lead in the area of students. The program for teens is growing fast and the potential for success is great. The candidate would oversee the children's programs and would work with the superb lay leadership. The candidate should

have at least a bachelor's degree. Resumes should be mailed to First Baptist Church of Claxton, P.O. Box 607, Claxton, GA 30417 or emailed to tannerq@bellsouth.net.

Church Seeking Pastor

Carlton Baptist Church is a small, caring congregation seeking a bi-vocational pastor with deep faith who will lead the church in spiritual and membership growth. The candidate will perform pastoral care responsibilities and lead worship, proclamation, education, and ministries. The candidate should have minimum of a bachelors degree and five years experience in the ministerial field. Please mail resumes to 1574 Paoli Road, Carlton, GA 30627 or email resumes to annetteblackmon@windstream.net. Emails will be acknowledged by email. If acknowledgement is not received, please call 706-255-0683.

Financial Report

Budget Receipts as of 3/31/2014

Budget Year Begins in January

Year to Date Budget Receipts:	\$112,752.63
Year to Date Budget Requirement:	\$138,019.62
Over/(Under)	(\$25,266.99)
March Budget Receipts:	\$41,122.44
March Budget Requirement:	\$46,006.54
Over/(Under)	(\$4,884.10)

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