



# Re-Visions

from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia  
May 2014

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## CBF/GA News

### Volunteers Needed for CBF/National General Assembly

The 2014 CBF/National General Assembly will be held Monday, June 23, through Friday, June 27, at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta. CBF/GA will meet on Thursday, June 26, at 4:15 p.m in International Ballroom South. 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.

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.

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 check-in, find workshops, 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.

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

## News from Senior Celebration

The Senior Celebration was held on Monday-Tuesday, May 5-6, at Smoke Rise Baptist Church and First Baptist Church of Fitzgerald. Click [here](#) to see a photo gallery from the event.

Smoke Rise Baptist Church in Stone Mountain hosted 127 senior adults on Monday. Paul Baxley was the keynote speaker for the morning worship service. 8th of January provided the after lunch entertainment with selections of bluegrass music.

First Baptist Church of Fitzgerald hosted 94 senior adults on Tuesday. Jake Hall was the keynote speaker for the morning worship service. Claude Hicks provided the after lunch entertainment by playing country, Broadway, and American sacred and secular music.

## 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](mailto:eruff@cbfga.org) or 478-742-1191, ext. 4. To read PDF issues of *Visions* and *Re-Visions* online, visit [www.cbfga.org/newsletters](http://www.cbfga.org/newsletters).

## Disaster Response Update from Tommy Deal

### CBF Fly-ins (Tentative dates: Thursday-Sunday, September 11-14)

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, these pilots will plan a CBF fly-in to match our needs. If we do not have a group, interested pilots can participate in one of the previously scheduled fly-ins. 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](mailto: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](mailto:tdeal@cbfga.org) or 706-313-5066.

### **Be a CBF/GA Ambassador**

Based upon action by the Coordinating Council which met Tuesday, May 20, 2014, CBF/GA Advocates will now be called Ambassadors. CBF/National has a new emphasis on Advocacy; therefore, CBF/GA does not want to cause any confusion with our use of the name Advocates for those we consider our Ambassadors in local churches. Thus, the name change from Advocate to Ambassador. You will see more information about this in a future article by Frank Broome, Executive Coordinator, CBF/GA.

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

## **From Our Churches**

### **Church Seeking Van**

This request is from Alton Taylor, pastor, in regards to a need at his church.

In the past, New Life Christian Ministries relied heavily upon our church bus ministry for several important functions. We serve a working class community in which transportation, especially on Sundays, can be an issue. Our bus ministry helped get children and adults to Sunday School, Bible Study, and to our Sunday worship services. We transported members to special events and engagements, such as out of town services or fellowship activities. We transported children to and from Vacation Bible School. In the community in which we serve, we would frequently provide transportation for children to Sunday School or Vacation Bible school, and found that the parents would eventually come. So the bus ministry was an important part of our evangelism effort. Since our bus is no longer operational (the cost of repairs would be more than the bus is worth), we have felt a void in these areas and know that a working bus or van would greatly enhance our ministry. One of

the issues with our previous bus was the size and the difficulty of having a qualified driver that was willing to handle a twenty-one passenger vehicle. Therefore, a passenger van that can transport twelve to eighteen would be more appropriate for our needs. It would be nice if we could have a van donated. Our church has limited resources. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Please give me a call if you need any additional information. My cell number is 404-451-6962.

### **From First Baptist Church of Decatur**

Estelle Ford-Williamson and Majok Marier will discuss their new book *Seed of South Sudan: Memoir of a "Lost Boy" Refugee*, at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, at First Baptist Church Decatur (308 Clairemont Avenue, Decatur, Georgia 30030). This event is sponsored by Georgia Center for the Book and hosted by Conversations. No tickets or reservations are required. 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 the latest event information. Click [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 commissioning banquet and service for field personnel, church starters, and newly endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors will be held Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Click [here](#) to make your reservations.

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 Friday evening's speaker.

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

### **CBF/GA Featured in *Fellowship* Magazine**

CBF/National's April/May issue of *Fellowship* contains an article about

CBF/GA's work in the area of leadership development. The article focuses on CBF/GA's ministries to middle and high school and college students.

The issue also contains an article discussing how churches are addressing ministries to the homeless. First Baptist Church of Athens is a Georgia churches featured in the article.

Click [here](#) to read the online issue.

## Reference and Referral

### Church Seeking Minister to Students

Wieuca Road Baptist Church is looking for a Director of Children's Ministries who will work in cooperation with the Minister of Congregational Life to oversee and direct the church's ministry to infants, preschoolers, and elementary school students and their families. The director is expected to be pursuing a post-graduate ministry degree and to have the necessary temperament and talents to work effectively with children. In addition, the director should be able to articulate a God-given call to local church ministry and a desire to minister to children and their families. Formal experience in children's ministry is a plus. Click [here](#) to read a full description of this position.

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 will oversee the children's programs and will 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](mailto:tannerq@bellsouth.net).

## Financial Report

### Budget Receipts as of 4/30/2014

Budget Year Begins in January

Year to Date Budget Receipts:	\$165,731.70
Year to Date Budget Requirement:	\$184,026.16
Over/(Under)	(\$18,294.46)
April Budget Receipts:	\$52,979.07
April Budget Requirement:	\$46,006.54
Over/(Under)	\$6,972.53

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