



ReVisions - a monthly e-newsletter from CBF/GA

"What They Didn't Teach Me in Seminary"

A couple of years after finishing seminary, I returned to the hallowed halls of the McAfee School of Theology. I ran into Dr. Larry McSwain, from whom I took a class in church leadership and who had become a good friend. With the characteristic twinkle in his eye, he asked me, "Well, how are things going..."

To read more of Jody Long's latest blog, [click here](#).

Latest *iVisions* Now Available!

The new interactive issue of *iVisions* is now available online at the CBF/GA website at <https://www.cbfga.org/newsletter-archive/> or directly by [clicking here](#). If you currently receive *Visions* in the mail but would prefer to receive it only in the interactive version, please contact Melissa Kremer at mkremer@cbfga.org.

COVID-19 Resources Available on CBF/GA Website

Go to the CBF/GA website, <https://www.cbfga.org/covid19/>, for a list of and links to many wide-ranging resources for you and for your church during this time of crisis. You may also check the CBF/GA Facebook page for information. Pastors, check the CBF/GA Pastors' Page on Facebook to stay up-to-date. Music Ministers, join the new CBF/GA Music Ministers' page on Facebook!

CBF/GA Office Information during the Pandemic Crisis

Because of COVID-19, the CBF/GA staff is currently working from home, and Jody Long, Melissa Kremer, and Rachel Greco are available at these email addresses: jlong@cbfga.org, mkremer@cbfga.org, and rgreco@cbfga.org. You may also reach us through the office phone, 478-742-1191.

In Memoriam

We at CBF/GA join the Spear family in mourning the loss of Randolph Denard Spear, Jr. (Denny), on April 26, 2020. Denny was a long-time North Carolina and Georgia pastor and ecumenical chaplain. Former Pastor and Pastor Emeritus of Dunwoody Baptist Church in Atlanta, Dr. Spear, after leading faithful churches through the civil rights movement, developed groundbreaking chaplaincy work with Days Inns of America, Allied Transportation, and Hartsfield-Jackson Airport. He was also closely involved with the Cecil B. Day Foundation and DDM (Developmental Disabilities Ministries).

Senior Adult Retreat Tentatively Planned for September

We are hoping to move forward with the CBF/GA Senior Adult Retreat which has been tentatively rescheduled for Dalton September 27-29, hosted by FBC Dalton. Katie Faison, Associate Pastor for Children, Women, and Senior Adults at Central Baptist Church, Newnan, will be our retreat leader. More details, including information about hotel rooms, will be announced later this summer. Please be in prayer for our Senior Adult Committee as they seek to make good decisions in these difficult times.



June 25-26 CBF General Assembly Will Be Held Online

Theme: FORMING BOLD FAITH

Join Cooperative Baptists from across the country and around the world for an engaging two-day interactive learning experience with your CBF Family. This

year's General Assembly is all about Forming Bold Faith. Over the course of these two days, you'll worship, participate in timely workshops, chat with your friends, see what's happening with our ministry partners and browse a virtual exhibit hall, all from the comfort of your own home or office. **Registration is free and is required to participate.** Go to www.cbf.net/events to register.



Virtual CBF/GA State Meeting Set for Friday, June 26 at 2:30 pm

CBF has allotted the 2:30 time slot during the Virtual General Assembly on Friday, June 26 for state meetings. In lieu of a meeting, CBF/GA will at that time launch a video featuring highlights of the past year and updates concerning upcoming events and programs. A separate Constant Contact with viewing information will be sent out a week ahead of that date. **You do NOT have to be registered for the Virtual CBF General Assembly to participate in our state meeting by viewing the CBF/GA video.**

CBF Global Offers "Resources for Resuming"

CBF Global has dedicated a website page to "Resources for Resuming," geared to helping churches navigate the complicated process of when and how to reopen church gatherings in a safe and thoughtful manner. Resources will continually be added at www.cbf.net/resuming.

For more information, please visit us at www.cbfga.org!

Save the Date for CBF/GA State Gathering in Rome!

We are planning and hoping that the 2020 CBF/GA State Gathering will take place Sunday - Monday noon, November 8 - 9, hosted by First Baptist Church, Rome. Save the dates and plan to be there! Paul Baxley, Executive Coordinator of CBF Global, will be our featured speaker. A separate Ministers' Conference with Nate Myrick of the Townsend School of Music of Mercer University will take place on Monday afternoon. More information will be made available later in the summer as plans take shape and we know more about the status of COVID-19.



September Marriage Retreat Still Planned

The second CBF/GA Marriage Retreat, set for September 18-20, remains in our plans at The Lodge on Lake Oconee, near Eatonton. Registration will open May 1 and ends July 15. Total cost of the retreat is \$300 per couple, with a deposit of \$150 per couple due at time of registration. **Note: we are aware that the COVID-19 pandemic may alter retreat plans. Deposits will be completely refundable until August 1, and any changes in plans will be announced by that date.**



Melody and Sam Harrell will lead the retreat, which will focus on using the Enneagram to enhance relationships within marriage. [Click here](#) for more information.

GA BWIM Offers Survey

BWIM of Georgia, in an effort to more fully meet the needs of women ministers in our state, is offering a survey for women ministers to complete. [Click here to access the survey.](#) Please contact Katie Faison at kfaison@centralbaptistnewnan.org for more information.



Congregational Ministry Grants Approved

Two CBF/GA churches requested and were granted Congregational Ministry Grants in the amount of \$2,000 each. **Peachtree Baptist Church** in Atlanta will use the matching grant to help create and organize space for a Babies at Work co-working space that helps parents balance working remotely or launching their own entrepreneurial vision. Their goal is to invite neighborhood families to experience God's love and care through this ministry and become more open to participating in the larger church. **First Baptist Church of Tucker** plans to use the grant to partner with the DeKalb Police Department in an ongoing youth ministry project with at-risk youth in the community. The church will offer use of their facility and hope to use a summer Church Ministry Intern to assist with the project.

Student.Go and Student.Church Students Work Virtually this Summer

Twelve students will be working virtually with churches and with field personnel this summer through the Student.Go and Student.Church programs. CBF/GA works in partnership with CBF to offer a supplement for Georgia participants in this program.

One student will be working with Laura and Carson Foushee, CBF Field Personnel assigned to Japan. Others will be serving the following churches:

The Faith Community, Tucker (2 students)

FBC Augusta

FBC Commerce

FBC Decatur

FBC East Point

FBC Roswell

FBC St. Simons Island

FBCX Macon

Smoke Rise Baptist, Stone Mountain (2 students)

Theological Education Scholarships Awarded to Seven Candidates

CBF/GA is pleased to announce that scholarship monies have been awarded to the following seven candidates for the 2020/2021 academic year. These students will receive \$2000 each,

divided between fall and spring semesters. These scholarships are made possible primarily by the earnings of the Frank & Susan Broome Endowment.

2020/2021 Recipients:

John Callaway - DMin student, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (FBC Savannah)
David Hughes - DMin student, McAfee School of Theology (FBC Augusta)
Victoria Lawson - MDiv student, McAfee School of Theology (Wieuca Road Baptist)
Jacob Roberts - MDiv student, Liberty University (FBC Eatonton)
William Scruggs - MDiv student, Harvard Divinity School (FBCX Macon)
Tiffany Stubbs - MDiv student, McAfee School of Theology (Full Gospel Baptist)
Elizabeth Swett - MDiv student, Duke Divinity School (FBC Gainesville)



BWIM Hosts "Office Hours"

Baptist Women in Ministry hosts weekly "Office Hours" for participants to share their anxieties and fears during this difficult season. Email Lynn Brinkley, lynnbrinkley@bwim.info, for details and for the Zoom link.

Quarterly Financial Report

First Quarter 2020: January - March

Operating Budget Revenue: \$146,051.91
Operating Budget Expenses: \$120,008.05
Gain/(loss): \$26,043.86

Designated Fund Revenue: \$69,830.56
(This amount includes the second of three disbursements from CBF of our 25th Anniversary Grant in the amount of \$33,333.00.)

Frank & Susan Broome Endowment

January - March 2020 Gifts: \$1,238.27
Balance as of March 31, 2020: \$932,860.68

Reference and Referral

CBF/GA is happy to post your church's job listings for staff positions on our website. Listed below are the positions currently posted. For full information, go to www.cbfga.org/job-listings.

First Baptist Church, Black Mountain, NC - Pastoral Leader
Johns Creek Baptist, Alpharetta - Executive Director of Operations
Johns Creek Baptist, Alpharetta - Children's Pastor
Johns Creek Baptist, Alpharetta - Mobilization Pastor
Johns Creek Baptist, Alpharetta - Preschool Ministry Associate (part-time paid internship)
Johns Creek Baptist, Alpharetta - Children's Ministry Associate (part-time paid internship)
BWIM (Baptist Women in Ministry), Inc. - Executive Director
Earle Street Baptist Church, Greenville, SC - Minister to Preschoolers and Children
Rocky Creek Baptist, Forsyth, GA - Senior Pastor

First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC - Minister with Youth and College
First Baptist Church, Corbin, KY - Senior Pastor
Baptist Church of the Covenant, Birmingham, AL - Pastor
Pulaski Heights Baptist Church, Little Rock, AR - Senior Pastor
First Baptist Church, Dalton, GA - Minister to Children and Their Families
First Baptist Church, Jasper, GA - Minister of Music (part-time)
First Baptist Church, Greenwood, SC - Associate Pastor and Minister to Students
Central Bearden Baptist Church, Knoxville, TN - Associate Minister of Worship and the Arts
First Baptist Church, Claxton, GA - Minister of Music/Music Director (part-time)

Call Jody Long ([jlong @cbfga.org](mailto:jlong@cbfga.org)) at 478-742-1191 with any questions about reference and referral assistance. To advertise a position on the CBF/GA website, go to www.cbfga.org/church-seeking-minister. Ministers seeking opportunities to move may go to www.cbfga.org/minister-seeking-church.