



## Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia

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## CBFGA State Missions Envelopes and Brochures Available

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Email [Nancy Copeland](mailto:Nancy.Copeland@cbfga.org) or call 478-742-1191 Ext. 27 to request your free supply of envelopes and brochures!

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## Upcoming Opportunities

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### CBF church restart conference to address needs of declining churches

By Carla Wynn  
CBF Communications

ATLANTA – The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship will host a church restart conference featuring consultant Bill Easum 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 21 at the Pass-a-Grille Yacht Club in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Easum is the president of Easum, Bandy & Associates Inc. consulting firm and a noted author on church starts and restarts.

“They have specialized in those two areas – helping declining churches and churches on plateaus grow again and then restarting churches that are terminally ill or have died,” said Phil Hester, the Fellowship’s associate coordinator for new church starts.

The conference is a result of last year’s Church Starts meeting, where participants expressed interest in addressing the needs of declining churches and the option of church restarts, Hester said. “There is enough interest that the state and mission coordinators must feel that there is a significant number of our churches in a plateau situation,” he said. “There is not an insignificant number that could be described as declining.”

If you would like to  
unsubscribe to *Re-Visions*,  
or if you have comments  
and questions please email:  
[visions@cbfga.org](mailto:visions@cbfga.org)

CBF Church Starts is paying conference fees, but participants are financially responsible for accommodations, meals outside the conference, and transportation to the conference.

For more information or to make event and hotel reservations, email [Jeremy Lewis](mailto:Jeremy.Lewis@cbfga.org) or call 770- 220-1651.

**Reservation deadline is Oct. 1.**

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## Sermon of the Year Award

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### Call for Entries

THE DAY 1 RADIO PROGRAM (formerly "The Protestant Hour") is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2005. As part of our year-long celebration, we are launching an annual awards program to recognize outstanding sermons delivered by ordained clergy in the Atlanta metro area who are associated with one of the six denominational judicatories participating with the DAY 1 ministry.\*

*The six judicatories are:*

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Atlanta regional pastors  
Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Presbytery of Greater Atlanta  
Southeastern Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in  
America  
Southeast Conference, United Church of Christ  
North Georgia Conference, United Methodist Church

**Submission deadline is August 31, 2005.**

For submission requirements and procedures, please visit  
[the DAY1 website](http://www.day1.org) or call 1-888-411-DAY1.

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## Resource Update

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### Innovative new resource helps churches cultivate vibrant young adult groups

By Smyth & Helwys Communications

MACON, Ga. – Smyth & Helwys has released a new resource designed to help churches minister with young adults. The resource is Web-based and is called Caleb's Cafe.

Caleb's Cafe is currently being tested with 25 groups and is expected to be widely available in fall 2005.

Caleb's Cafe creates a private, customized Web space for each group so that young adults can feel comfortable sharing and communicating. The service also provides Bible study content that draws from news and media, connecting readers with faith issues.

"Caleb's Cafe is a new tool that responds to the number one question churches ask us: 'How do we create and keep connections with young adults?'" said David Cassady, executive vice president and publisher of Smyth & Helwys. "Today's young adult groups often have erratic attendance, making it difficult to create a strong group bond. Caleb's Café helps groups stay connected and grow spiritually."

Caleb's Cafe provides a private web space where a group can easily share prayer requests, announcements, and general conversations. The resource also provides an innovative approach to Bible study. Cassady said: "Young adults demand choice and relevance in their Bible study, and traditional curriculum materials can't provide these. Caleb's Cafe takes a fresh approach to Bible study that grows out of ancient Hebrew models of education—namely the 'teachable moment.'"

Each weekday, Caleb's Cafe groups are provided a brief "blog-style" article that explores a current event issue from a faith perspective. Each article includes a Bible reference and discussion questions, thereby providing groups with five Bible study options for each week. A fully developed weekly Bible study is also provided, complete with teaching ideas.

"We chose the name Caleb's Cafe for two reasons," Cassady said. "We wanted to help groups feel free to move beyond the schooling model that has dominated Christian education for decades, and a Cafe motif helps us do that. After all, what happens when a group gathers around a table at a coffee house? They discuss news, movies, music, sports, and matters of the heart. We simply help adults explore the faith issues that the stuff of life raises. The name 'Caleb' seemed perfect, since the biblical personality Caleb was such an optimistic voice about God's presence as the Hebrews looked toward their future. Many churches look at a rapidly changing world and are worried. If we are like Caleb, we realize that God is at work in the world ahead, and that's very good news indeed."

Pricing for Caleb's Cafe subscriptions has not been set. Smyth & Helwys will offer free trials to help groups explore the new service. For additional information, visit [www.calebscafe.com](http://www.calebscafe.com), or send email to [questions@calebscafe.com](mailto:questions@calebscafe.com).

Smyth & Helwys has experience in the online world, having provided innovative services such as [NextSunday.com](http://NextSunday.com) for more than seven years. The organization is best known for its line of Sunday school materials, books, and the Smyth & Helwys Commentary series.

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## IN the NEWS

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[First Baptist Columbus team ministers to children of CBF Global Missions field personnel](#)

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## Congratulations!!

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*Excerpt from:*

### **CBF endorses 32 to bring total to 484 chaplains and pastoral counselors**

By Carla Wynn  
CBF Communications

ATLANTA – The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship recently endorsed 32 chaplains and pastoral counselors at the Council on Endorsement meeting in Grapevine, Texas. The Fellowship now has a total of 484 endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors.

The following individuals were endorsed at the June meeting:

#### **Business/Industrial/University**

*Larry Hardin*, chaplain, Brewster Place Retirement Community, Topeka, Kan.

#### **Corrections**

*Bernard Morris*, chaplain, Powhatan Correctional Center, State Farm, Va.

#### **Hospice**

*Ruth Demby*, chaplain, Hospice of Northeast Georgia Medical Center, Gainesville, Ga.

*Bill Hayes*, chaplain, St. Mary's Health Care System, Athens, Ga.

*Cherry Moore*, chaplain, Hospice Brazos Valley, Bryan, Texas

*Mickie Norman*, chaplain, Lower Cape Fear Hospice and Life Care Center, Wilmington, N.C.

*Mark Parnell*, chaplain, Portsbridge Hospice, Macon, Ga.

*Mark Westebbe*, chaplain, AMC Hospice of the Shenandoah, Fishersville, Va.

### **Hospital**

*Vitaliy Bak*, clinical pastoral education (CPE) resident, Pastoral Care Services at Moses Cone Health System, Greensboro, N.C.

*Biju Chacko*, supervisory resident CPE, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C.

*Barbara Dail*, volunteer chaplain, CPE intern, Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Greenville, N.C.

*Joseph Gross*, chaplain, Department of Veterans Affairs, Dallas, Texas

*Darryl Jefferson*, CPE resident, Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, Richmond, Va.

*Bill Harrill*, chaplain, Conway Medical Center, Conway, S.C.  
*Mary Lewis*, CPE resident, Audie Murphy Veterans Memorial Hospital, San Antonio, Texas

*Stephen Murphy*, chaplain, Pacific Health Ministry, Honolulu, Hawaii

*Andy Overmon*, director of spiritual care/chaplain, Valir Health, Oklahoma City, Okla.

*John Reeser*, CPE resident, Care and Counseling Center of Georgia, Decatur, Ga.

*Michelle Smith*, CPE resident, St. Francis Hospital, Columbus, Ga.

*Lina Sohn*, SIT chaplain, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md.

*Todd Walter*, director, department of pastoral care, clinical pastoral education, Spartanburg Regional Medical Center, Spartanburg, S.C.

### **Military**

*Lyde Andrews*, reserve chaplain, U.S. Army Reserve, Forest Park, Ga.

*Gregg Drew*, active duty chaplain, U.S. Army, Himbach, Germany

*Robert Elkowitz*, chaplain candidate, U.S. Army, Cumming, Ga.

*Winston Shearin*, active duty chaplain, U.S. Navy, Washington, D.C.

### **Pastoral Counselors**

*Ted Dougherty*, executive director, pastoral therapist, Missionary Family Counseling & Pastoral Counselor, Winston-Salem, N.C.

*Steven Harris*, pastoral counselor, Pastoral Counseling Center of Roanoke Valley, Roanoke, Va.

### **Professional Organization**

*Laura Johnson*, pastoral counselor, College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy, Clayton, N.C.

*Cindy Goza*, board certified chaplain, Association of Professional Chaplains, Houston, Texas

For more information about CBF chaplaincy and pastoral counseling, email [Pickle](mailto:Pickle) or call 770-220-1617. Information is also available at <http://www.thefellowship.info/Church>

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## Reminders

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- **August 23**  
**Children's Ministry Network Gathering, FBC Griffin**  
11:30 am – 2:30 pm (lunch provided)  
Room 106, Cheatam Building  
What books on children's ministry are you reading?  
What creative activities did your church offer for children this summer? What opportunities are you planning for the fall? What challenges and joys do you experience as a minister? Join with others from around the state to share the latest happenings from your church's ministry to children. Come to be inspired, encouraged, and supported in ministry.  
Email [Brenda Dedmon](#) or [Devita Parnell](#). You may also call Brenda at 770-587-6980.
- **August 30**  
**Christian Educator's Network Gathering**  
12 noon – 3:00 pm (lunch provided)  
FBC Griffin  
Join with other Christian Educators across Georgia for professional development, encouragement, and renewal. Rick Bennett, Associate Coordinator for Faith Formation (CBF National), will lead participants in a discussion entitled: "Somewhere Between Christian Education and Spiritual Formation." For more information contact [Devita Parnell](#).
- **September 15**  
**Convergence Application deadline**  
Location: The Calvin Center, Hampton, GA  
Cost: \$1,175 (includes housing, meals, and tuition)  
Scholarship assistance available for Georgia participants through CBF of Georgia. Email [Devita Parnell](#) or call 478-742-1191 ext. 28.

Visit [Convergence](#) for more information and to receive registration information or email [Dawn Hall](#) or call 336-716-9722.

**Dates for Convergence:**

Level 1 - October 17-20, 2005  
"The Leader's Self-Awareness"

Level 2 - January 23-25, 2006  
"Leadership Settings"

Level 3 - March 6-8, 2006  
"Leadercraft Skills"

Level 4 - May 8-10, 2006  
"Leadership Synthesis"

- **September 18-20**  
**Mercer Preaching Consultation**  
King and Prince Resort, St. Simons Island  
Speakers: Dr. Gardner Taylor and Dr. John Claypool.  
For more information, call Truett Gannon at 678-547-6457.

- **October 1**  
**Application Deadline [STUDENT.GO](http://STUDENT.GO)**  
SPECIAL PROJECT:  
*Gypsy Travelers: From the Nile to the Ganges.*  
Interviews held in October  
Orientation Nov. 11-13, 2005  
Application Download: [www.destinationmissions.net](http://www.destinationmissions.net)  
**WHERE:** Romania, Egypt, and India among Gypsies  
**WHEN:** December 16, 2005, thru January 2, 2006  
FOR MORE INFO: Contact [Robbi Francovich](mailto:Robbi.Francovich) or visit [www.banjara.gypsyministries.com](http://www.banjara.gypsyministries.com)

- **Saturday, October 1, 10 - 2 pm**  
**CBF of Georgia Choir Rehearsal**  
**Briarcliff Baptist Church, Atlanta**  
For more information email [Carey Huddlestun](mailto:Carey.Huddlestun) or call 404-633-6103.

*Join the statewide choir to sing during the CBF of Georgia Fall Convocation! For any interested clergy or lay person.*

- **October 11**  
**The Fall Workshop for the McAfee Institute for Healthy Congregations**  
McAfee School of Theology campus in Atlanta  
"Understanding Congregations: Traditional, Contemporary, Emergent." Featured speaker will be Chris Seay, pastor of the emergent Ekklesia congregation in Houston, Texas.

Registration cost is \$39 for registrations by October 1.  
Contact [Larry McSwain](mailto:Larry.McSwain) or call 678-547-6442.

- **October 16-21**  
**Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation (sponsored by CBF)**  
Camp Sumatanga, Alabama  
Contact [Mary Jayne Allen](mailto:MaryJayne.Allen) or phone 423-265-2257 or  
Contact [Rick Bennett](mailto:Rick.Bennett) or phone 770-220-1605.

- **October 24-25**  
**Like a Mustard Seed: Supporting and Celebrating Small Church**  
Leadership, Samford University, Birmingham, AL  
For more information visit [www.samford.edu/groups/rcpe](http://www.samford.edu/groups/rcpe).

- **October 28-29, 2005**  
**Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia Fall Retreat**  
The Calvin Center, Hampton  
Speaker: Alica Kirkpatrick-Bremer

- **Nov. 13-14**  
**CBF of Georgia Fall Convocation**  
First Baptist Church of Griffin  
Speaker: Millard Fuller

## **2006**

- **February 4, 2006**  
Now Serving: Atlanta 2006  
9:00 am – 7:30 pm  
Mercer University, Atlanta

McAfee School of Theology and CBF of Georgia team up to sponsor this one-day **collegiate mission event** in Atlanta. Students will experience a variety of mission sites around the city. The day concludes with dinner and worship. The band, *Timber*, and Amy Shorner, preacher, will lead in worship. Cost of \$5 includes meals and t-shirt.

Contact [Ryan Clark](#) or [Devita Parnell](#) for more information.

- **February 8-11, 2006**  
**Current Retreat**  
FBC Decatur, Georgia

*Current* is a group of young Baptist ministers, leaders, and divinity students who seek to connect young Baptists through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. *Current* hosts an annual retreat, a simultaneous missions project, and annual gatherings at the CBF General Assembly. For more information, visit [Current](#) on the web.

- **March 17-19, 2006**  
**March Mission Madness**  
First Baptist Church of Warm Springs

**March 24-26, 2006**  
**March Mission Madness**  
First Baptist Church of Morrow

MMM is an Annual Weekend Missions Retreat sponsored by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia and attended by church youth groups and their adult chaperones. Email [Scott Ford](#) or call 678-386-5449 for additional information.