



**Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia**

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**VISIONS** is published six times a year by CBF of Georgia

All questions and comments may be directed to Nancy Copeland,

478-742-1191 ext 27 or ncopeland@cbfga.org.

**CBF/GA recognizes Georgia churches with women deacons**

(Continued from June/July 2005 Visions)

**First Baptist Church, Carrollton**, ordained its first woman deacon in July of 1991.

**First Baptist Church, Hartwell**, ordained two women deacons in the late 1980s and early 1990s. They were **Beverly Verdery** and **Wassie Vickery**. Presently, FBC has two women serving, **Emily Gunnells** and **Sara Powell**.

**People and Places**

**NEWLY ENDORSED CBF CHAPLAINS SERVING IN GEORGIA**

**Lyde C. Andrews**, Atlanta, endorsed to the United States Army Reserve

**Rebecca B. Brannon**, Gainesville, endorsed to Northeast Georgia Medical Center

**Ruth Walker Demby**, Gainesville, endorsed to Hospice of NE GA Medical Center

**Robert Allen Elkowitz**, Cumming, endorsed to the United States Army

**Willard L. Hayes**, Athens, endorsed to St. Mary's Health Care System

**James Mark Parnell**, Macon, endorsed to Portsbridge Hospice

**John C. Reeser**, Sautee Nacoochee, endorsed to the Care and Counseling Center of GA

**Michelle Anne Smith**, Columbus, endorsed to St. Francis Hospital

AS THIS ISSUE of *Visions* was released for print, CBF/GA developed the following outline in response to the disaster caused by Katrina. CBF/GA has established a fund to help with the evacuees who come to Georgia. Contact the CBF/GA office for details.

By the time you read this, Georgia will have already taken in an estimated 100,000 people.

Consider assisting in the following ways:

1. Assist Morningstar Treatment Services, Inc. by supporting the relocation of orphans, as well as families with young children. CBF/GA will help cover the utilities, food, etc. for the families they shelter. Contact Barry Kerr at 912-267-7583.
2. Contact Milton Snyder at [mps1@alltel.net](mailto:mps1@alltel.net) if you are a licensed counselor/chaplain and are available to volunteer at one of the shelters.
3. Assist Rev. Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, who is coordinating housing. Her contact information: email [savannahfrc@morningstartreatmentservices.com](mailto:savannahfrc@morningstartreatmentservices.com); cell 912-308-3385; home 912-772-3129; office 912-691-1262; fax 912-691-1264.
4. Contact CBF/National concerning cash contributions, gifts in kind, and volunteer opportunities. Donations are being requested for deposit in CBF Global Missions Hurricane relief account #17004 and can be done online or by mail. ([www.thefellowship.info](http://www.thefellowship.info))

—Frank Broome

**opportunities updates reports**

**Congratulations!**

**Scott Harrell**, former Associate Pastor for Faith Development at FBC Marietta, has been called as pastor of Rocky Creek Church near Forsyth.

**I.W. Bowen**, retired pastor of Rocky Creek, is available for interim and pulpit supply opportunities. Please call 478-994-0887 or email [idub@forsythcable.com](mailto:idub@forsythcable.com).

**Susan Broome** was appointed Associate Director for Technical Services at Tarver Library at Mercer University. She had served as Head of Special Collections for Mercer since 1995.

**Resource Update**

Smyth & Helwys announces 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 will be serving up teachable-moment articles, group communications tools, and Bible study. You can sign-up for a free, private site for your group now! ([www.calebscafe.com](http://www.calebscafe.com))

**Financial Picture**

2005-06 Year-to-Date June 1-Aug. 31, 2005

Budget Requirement .....\$161,250.00  
Undesignated Receipts .....\$146,317.37  
Designated Receipts ..... \$14,146.75

CBF of Georgia...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.

COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP GEORGIA

P.O. Box 4343 Macon GA 31208-4343



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**CBF GA coming up!**

**October 16-21**  
**Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation (sponsored by CBF)**  
**Camp Sumatanga, AL**  
Contact Mary Jayne Allen at [mary\\_jayne@1stbaptistcha.org](mailto:mary_jayne@1stbaptistcha.org) or 423-265-2257 or Rick Bennett at [rbennett@thefellowship.info](mailto:rbennett@thefellowship.info) or 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 17-20**  
**January 23-25, 2006**  
**March 6-8, 2006**  
**May 8-10, 2006**

**Convergence: The Minister as Leader, Calvin Center, Hampton**  
Visit [www.healthychurch.org](http://www.healthychurch.org) for more information or contact Dawn Hall at [dhall@wfbumc.edu](mailto:dhall@wfbumc.edu) or 336-716-9722. Scholarships available through CBF/GA.

**October 28-29, 2005**  
**Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia Fall Retreat**  
**The Calvin Center, Hampton**  
Speaker: Alica Kirkpatrick-Bremer. Topic: Self-care and Ministry. Contact: Darlene Flaming at [flaming\\_dk@mercer.edu](mailto:flaming_dk@mercer.edu) or 478-746-0492

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

**2006**  
**February 4, Saturday**  
**Now Serving: Atlanta 2006**  
9 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. 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. Cost of \$5 includes meals and t-shirt. Contact Ryan Clark at [clark\\_ra@mercer.edu](mailto:clark_ra@mercer.edu) or Devita Parnell at [dparnell@cbfga.org](mailto:dparnell@cbfga.org) for more information.

**February 8-11**  
**Current Retreat**  
**First Baptist Church of Decatur**  
*Current* is a group of young Baptist ministers, leaders, and divinity students who seek to connect young Baptists through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Visit [www.thefellowship.info/current/2006retreat.icm](http://www.thefellowship.info/current/2006retreat.icm) on the web for more information.

**March 3-4**  
**CBF/GA General Assembly**  
**First Baptist Church of Athens**  
Guest preacher: Jim Dant

**March 6-8**  
**True Survivor VI, Charleston, SC**  
A training event for all Christian Educators and age group ministers. Featuring: Ivy Beckwith, *Postmodern Children's Ministry*, and Dave Odom, Center for Congregational Health. Cost is \$50 per person. Contact Toni Draper at [tdraper@thefellowship.info](mailto:tdraper@thefellowship.info) or 770-220-1654.

**March 17-19, FBC Warm Springs**  
**March 24-26, FBC Morrow**  
**March Mission Madness 10th Anniversary**  
Contact: Scott Ford at [robertscottford@mac.com](mailto:robertscottford@mac.com)

**May 4-5**  
**The University Campus: Tomorrow's Moderate Baptists**  
**First Baptist Church of Decatur**  
1:30 p.m. (May 4) – 12 noon (May 5)  
Co-sponsored by the Center for Baptist Studies, CBF National, and CBF/GA. This conference seeks to act as a catalyst for collegiate ministry among moderate Baptists and to encourage concrete actions at the local church level in the area of college missions. Email Devita Parnell at [dparnell@cbfga.org](mailto:dparnell@cbfga.org) or Buddy Shurden at [shurden\\_wb@mercer.edu](mailto:shurden_wb@mercer.edu) for more information.

**VISIONS** Oct / Nov '05

**Vast Change in Baptist Life Evident**

MORE THAN 1,600 DELEGATES from the United States, with about 20 of those from middle Georgia, received a warm welcome from the Baptists of Birmingham, England.

We went there to celebrate the centennial year of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA). It is amazing what can happen in 100 years. In 1905 the congress was in London. British Baptists supplied 2,500 delegates, with only 750 coming from the rest of the world. In 1905 the total number of world Baptists was 7.5 million, of whom 5 million were white and English-speaking. Today the BWA has 34 million members from 140,538 churches. Two-thirds of these Baptists come from Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The face of Christianity in general and Baptist life in particular is changing.

You can see the change by looking at the leadership. For the past five years, Billy Kim has served as the president of

*NOTE: The following photo and article first appeared in the Macon Telegraph on Saturday, July 30, 2005.*

the BWA. For 45 years he served as pastor of the 15,000-member Suwon Central Baptist Church near Seoul, Korea. There is change evident in the music and worship. Everything from traditional hymns to contemporary expressions of dance and drama can be seen and heard. In the words of noted teacher and preacher Tony Compolo, this century will be "a century of revolution." It will be a revolution from the bottom up, not the top down. Imagination and inspiration are breaking out all over, and any group or denomination that tries to impose uniformity from the top down will be out of step with what God is doing.

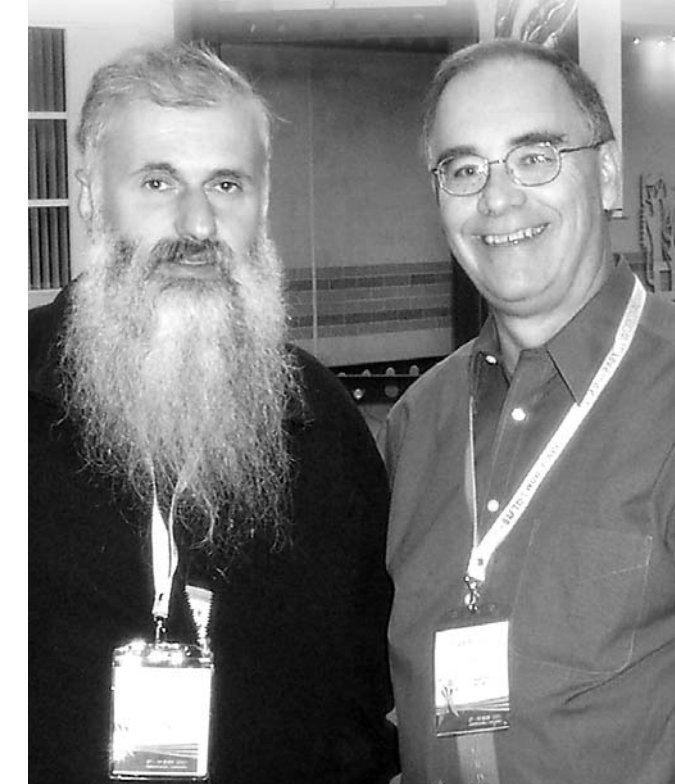
Perhaps the most remarkable change can be seen in the place and role of women in Baptist life. In the words of Ksenija Magda of Croatia, women from around the world should view themselves and Scripture through a new pair of glasses. It is not the message of the Bible that has marginalized women, according to Amparo de Medina of Colombia; rather, it is "the prejudiced reading of its message." Such an understanding has profound implications for Baptist churches in the South. Men and women are created as equals, and they belong together in the work of the kingdom.

Finally, change can be seen in the emphasis on ministry among and with the poor and dispossessed. We are born again not for ourselves but for others. Our hope is not in gaining political power so that we can force faith on others. Our hope is in demonstrating to a broken world what it means to be loved.

The theme of the meeting was "living water." What a fitting theme for Baptists to reclaim. For the future does not rest in rigid creeds or fixed programs but in the one who gives living water to every new generation.

—Frank Broome

Malkhaz Songulashvili (left), president of the Union of Evangelical Baptists of the Republic of Georgia, and Frank Broome, CBF/GA coordinator. CBF/GA and the Union of Evangelical Baptists of the Republic of Georgia are considering establishing a Georgia-to-Georgia partnership.



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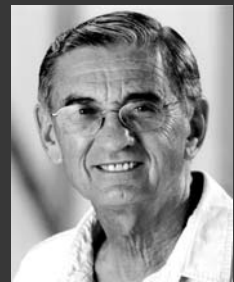
# A WHOLE GOSPEL THEOLOGY

## Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia

### Millard Fuller

## 2005 Fall Convocation

**November 13 – 14 6:00 pm Sunday - 12:00 pm Monday**  
**First Baptist Church, 106 W. Taylor St., Griffin, GA 30224**



**Millard Fuller, Speaker** Millard Fuller founded Habitat for Humanity International in 1976 and was president and CEO until January 2005. In February 2005, the Fullers founded The Fuller Center for Housing. Millard is president of this new organization which is raising funds for the purpose of giving grants and other kinds of support to Habitat affiliates and other not-for-profit, low cost housing organizations.



**Music** Mercer Singers, First Baptist Church of Griffin Choir, and CBF/GA Choir. The Mercer Singers, an auditioned ensemble of 45 voices, is the primary touring choral ensemble of Mercer University. They are directed by Stanley L. Roberts, Director of Choral Activities and Coordinator of Church Music Studies. He also serves as the Minister of Music at the First Baptist Church of Christ of Macon.

THE MERCER SINGERS

**Directions to FBC Griffin** From I-75 (North/South), take the Griffin-Jackson Highway 16 exit (exit # 205) and head west. Griffin will be approximately 10 miles west on Highway 16. As you come into Griffin, you will pass Taylor Street Middle School on your left. First Baptist will be one block on the left past the Middle School.

**FBC Parking** At the intersection of Hill & Taylor streets, turn left and park on the street or travel one more block west to the intersection of 8th and Taylor streets, turn left. Parking will be available in the lots on the left side and the right side of the street.

**Housing** (Ask for the CBF/GA rate.)

Hampton Inn, \$63, 770-229-9900, 2007 N. Expressway  
Holiday Inn Express, \$69, 770-228-9799 (Interior rooms), 1900 N. Expressway  
Howard Johnson, \$59, 770-227-1516, 1690 N. Expressway

### Sunday Evening, Nov. 13

- 6:00 Registration
- 6:40 Pre-service Music - The Mercer Singers
- 7:00 Worship
- 8:30 Reception & Book Signing with Millard Fuller

### Monday, Nov. 14

- 7:30 Baptist Heritage Council of Georgia Breakfast at FBC Griffin (\$8.00/person)  
Email [baptistheritage@charter.net](mailto:baptistheritage@charter.net) or call 706-583-8618
- 9:00 Celebrating World Baptists
- 9:45 Coffee, Confections, & Conversation
- 10:30 Worship
- 12:00 Dismissal of Convocation  
Mercer/McAfee Luncheon at FBC Griffin (\$5.00/person)  
Email Sharon Lim Harle at [lim\\_s@mercer.edu](mailto:lim_s@mercer.edu) or call 800-837-2905.
- 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Network Gatherings (Children, Education, Students, Music & Worship, Chaplains)

**Child Care** To pre-register call Beth Horne at 770-227-5517 or email [bethhorne@fbcgriffin.org](mailto:bethhorne@fbcgriffin.org).

**Information 478-742-1191, ext. 21 or [fbroome@cbfga.org](mailto:fbroome@cbfga.org)**

