

BUILDING THE FUTURE AT THE CBF OF GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MARCH 5-6 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, TIFTON

Greetings from First Baptist Church Tifton—As Chairman of the Board of Deacons of the First Baptist Church of Tifton, it is my privilege and pleasure to extend to you our warm, personal greetings and a heart-felt desire that when you visit us you will find the spirit of Christ expressed through the fellowship and hospitality of our members. Please accept this letter as our welcome to you and all who will be in attendance at the Georgia Cooperative Baptist Fellowship meeting to be held on March 5 and 6 here at the First Baptist Church of Tifton, Georgia.

— Yours in Christ's love, Lynn Kelley

Friday, March 5

- 1:00 P.M. Opening — Speaker: Becky Matheny of First Baptist Church, Athens
- 2:00 Breakout Session I
- 3:00 Break
- 3:30 Breakout Session 2
- 4:30 Area Meetings
- 5:30 Dinner (\$10; call CBF of GA 912-752-5926 by noon 2/26/99)
- 7:00 Worship — Speaker: John Tyler, National Moderator for CBF
- 8:30 Fellowship

Saturday, March 6

- 8:00 A.M. Breakfast
- 8:45 Breakout Session 3
- 9:45 Break
- 10:00 Business
- 10:45 Breakout Session 4
- 11:45 Worship — Speaker: Michael Helms, Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Moultrie.
- 12:30 P.M. Dismissal

Directions to First Baptist Church Tifton

From I-75 take exit 21. Go south on US 41 for 1.5 miles. At fourth traffic light, take a right. You will still be on US 41 south. The church is a quarter of a mile on your right. (FBC Tifton, 404 Love Avenue, 912-382-6063.) Most hotels are on exit 18.

For Child Care

Reserve your child care needs along with dinner reservations by noon, February 26, at 912-752-5926.

For Lodging

CBF of Georgia has blocked rooms until 2/19/99.

- Call Holiday Inn 912-382-6687
- Hampton Inn 912-382-8800
- Courtyard by Marriott 912-388-0803



Becky Matheny



John Tyler



Michael Helms

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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.



SALUTE! SALUTE! SALUTE!

Before you know it, Tifton will be rolling out the red carpet to welcome us to the CBF of Georgia General Assembly. The meeting begins Friday, March 5, and closes on Saturday, March 6.

Time does fly. Wasn't it yesterday when we were in Columbus at our great Fall Convocation at First Baptist? If you enjoy being enlightened, challenged, and led to high moments of worship and were not in Columbus, you missed a great opportunity. Salute Columbus for being a gracious host and Gary Abbott and his committee for planning and executing the meeting.

Don't let the Tifton meeting slip by you. Make your plans to be there March 5 and 6. Again salute Gary and his committee for what they are doing for the March meeting. Alan Culpepper is in charge of all the break-out sessions. Read further to learn about the outstanding facilitators and speakers.

This is the last newsletter before the meeting and the last one in which this moderator can suggest salutes. You need to know how our organization operates and help me salute some of those who work tirelessly. Surelle Pinkston and Frank Broome have edited four good *Visions* during this administration. Salute them.

Sarah Withers deserves a special salute. She records the action of the Coordinating Council, Executive Committee, Convocations Committee, and Nominating Committee. She also serves on our New Horizons Camp Committee. She is constantly calling friends all over this state encouraging their involvement in CBF. If you know Sarah, you know how involved she is. Thank you, Sarah.

Darrell Watson, pastor of Shurlington Baptist Church, serves as our treasurer and is often in our CBF office. He and Sheryl Groover have kept our

books in perfect order. Madison pastor Jim Ross is finance chairman. His committee directs the work related to the budget. We appreciate their contribution and salute them.

Before a new slate of officers is elected, we need to salute all council members. The Council has divided itself into avenues in which different committees work. While one avenue is focusing on missions and evangelism, another is working on educational opportunities, and another is directing its efforts toward fellowship and creating a feeling of belonging. Still another studies how we can partner with other groups in ministry.

One of our committees is focusing on long range plans. During our developing years a standing committee is keeping us in order with policies and updates to the constitution. Charlie Boggan chairs this committee.

Angela Oxford chairs the education avenue. It has planned for our youth to have another March Mission Madness experience. Salute her and read on to find out about this special youth adventure, and also about the New Horizons Camp.

A new communication committee has been formed. Its plans are to get news articles published in newspapers across our state. Wendy Joyner, a busy Americus pastor with no staff, chairs this committee. We salute you, Wendy.

Committees are composed of council members and persons of the whole of the body of CBF. They bring their gifts and blend to make a working whole. Since the terms of committee members cycle, Frank Broome keeps us growing in an orderly fashion. Salute Frank and all committee members.

Thank you for the experience of seeing talent come together to work for furthering God's work.

Carolyn Massey
Moderator, CBF of Georgia



Frankly Speaking

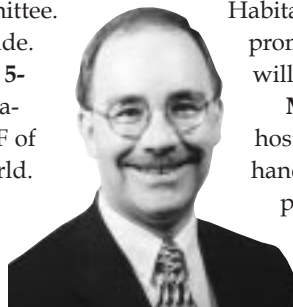
January 12, 1999, was one of those days. We started at nine in the morning and finished at five in the afternoon—first the Convocations Committee, then Nominating, followed by the Coordinating Council, and finally the Missions Committee. I want to share with you some of the decisions we made.

The CBF of Georgia General Assembly is March 5-6, 1999. The focus is "Building the Future." The emphasis is building a Habitat House in Tifton, building CBF of Georgia, and building the kingdom of God in our world.

Habitat House. A Habitat house will be built in partnership with the local Tifton Habitat. Our goal is to raise \$30,000 and supply volunteers on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 4-6, 1999.

The house will be just over 1,000 square feet. We hope that you will purchase at least one square foot for \$30.00. Make your check out to CBF of Georgia with a notation for Habitat House. We have ordered five hundred promotional pins that say, "I'm a square footer." We will give them out as long as they last.

March Mission Madness. First Baptist Decatur hosts this year's major youth event. Bible study, hands-on missions, worship, and recreation are planned. I'm not sure they put a good night's sleep on the schedule!



(continued on page 5)

BUILDING THE FUTURE...

Breakout Sessions

**CBF of Georgia General Assembly
First Baptist Church, Tifton
March 5-6**

Baptist Heritage

Loyd Allen, Associate Dean
and Professor of Church History
and Spiritual Formation
McAfee School of Theology

Creative Approaches to Teaching Children

Susan Allen
Minister to Children
Statesboro First Baptist Church

Baptists Today and Your Church:

A Resource for Missions and Ministry
Robert C. Ballance
Editor, *Baptists Today*

Networking for Young Pastors

Edward R. Bolen
Pastor, Milledge Avenue Baptist Church
Athens

What Is CBF?

Frank Broome
Coordinator, CBF of Georgia

Easter Lessons:

**Theological Perspectives on the
Resurrection of Jesus**
Alan Culpepper
Dean, McAfee School of Theology

Church Resources

Terry Hamrick
CBF Church Resources Coordinator

Evangelism and Missions in a Post-Modern Age:

A Kingdom Church Model
Ron Johnson
Professor of Evangelism and Missions
McAfee School of Theology

Youth Ministry

Angela Oxford
Minister of Youth
Macon First Baptist Church

His Needs, Her Needs:

Enriching Your Marriage
James Ramsey
Pastor, Albany First Baptist Church

Nurturing the Faith Experience of Children

Jim Ross
Pastor, Madison Baptist Church

The Mission of the Baptist Heritage Council

Blair Trehwitt
Baptist Heritage Council

CBF Adopt-a-People

Philip and Shantel Vestal
CBF Adopt-a-People Coordinators



Philip and Shantel Vestal
CBF Adopt-a-People Coordinators



Alan Culpepper
Dean, McAfee School of Theology



Mission News & Opportunities



Habitat House March 4-6, Tifton GA

Be a square footer! Purchase one square foot for \$30.00 to help build a Habitat House. Receive an "I'm a square footer" pin. To volunteer to work, contact Jimmy Lewis at 770-961-9270. To contribute, make your check to CBF of GA with a notation for Habitat House, and mail to CBF of GA, 400 Poplar Street, Suite 230, Macon GA 31201-3336.

BE A SQUARE FOOTER!

Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia Offer Scholarship

Annually, the Baptist Women in Ministry of Georgia award a scholarship to a Baptist woman who has been or is a resident of Georgia, and has completed at least one year of theological education either at the Master's or Doctor's level. Applicants from a Baptist or a non-Baptist School of Theology/Seminary are eligible to apply.

The amount of the scholarship and the selection of the recipient are determined by the Steering Committee of the BWIM/GA. The scholarship is presented to the recipient at the Annual Spring Conference of the BWIM/GA.

Scholarship application forms are available on request from Rev. Ann White Morton, Mercer University, James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology, 3001 Mercer University Drive, Atlanta GA 30341-4415. Completed scholarship applications must be postmarked on/before March 15, 1999.

March Mission Madness

March 19 & 20
First Baptist Church Decatur

In the spring 1998 issue of *Visions* I wrote about March Mission Madness from the perspective of a youth named Steve, who participated in the weekend. The chance to meet youth from other churches convinced Steve to be a part of the madness.

Steve is now sold on the weekend, and sharing the love of Christ to his world. After last spring's March Mission Madness, he began thinking that there was something more to Christianity than just words. The weekend opened his mind to God's love, and a few months later he accepted Christ into his life!

I hope you consider making March Mission Madness '99 a part of your church's spring calendar. The weekend lasts about 24 hours, but it is packed with activities your youth enjoy. The excitement of being with other teenagers and participating in large group games, worship, and mission action make the weekend an exciting option for fostering faith development.

The weekend takes place at the First Baptist Church of Decatur, March 19 & 20. The cost is \$25.00 per person. Call Kurt Varney at 404-373-2442 for more information.

— Kurt Varney, Youth Minister, FBC Decatur

Blitz across Georgia May 2-6

Fifty churches across Georgia will host Cooperative Baptist Fellowship informational meetings during the week of May 2-6. A national speaker and local pastor will direct the meeting, explaining CBF and its mission. Look for meetings in North Georgia on Monday, Atlanta/Athens area on Tuesday, Middle Georgia on Wednesday, and South Georgia on Thursday.

Be sure to attend your area meeting at the General Assembly in Tifton at 4:30 P.M. on Friday, March 5 to learn more about the CBF Blitz across Georgia!



Truett Gannan enjoys another CBF of GA gathering.

Columbus Memories CBF of GA Fall Convocation 1998



The crowd responds to Keith Parks' delightful comments at the closing luncheon.



Columbus First Baptist Church made CBF of GA feel right at home!

(continued from page 2)



Campers pause from play at New Horizons 1998.

New Horizons Camp. Plans for New Horizons Camp 1999 are set for July 27-30. The camp is held at New Ebenezer Retreat Center just outside Savannah for children who have completed grades 3-5. Contact Eileen Campbell-Reed at 770-382-6076 for more information.

Blitz Across Georgia. National CBF has requested that we have a blitz across Georgia the week of May 2-6.

The goal of this event is to inform Baptists of Georgia about our mission work and to inspire them to support our efforts. We will hold about fifty informational meetings

across the state that week. Some of the speakers will include Bill Bruster, Keith Parks, Gary Parker, and Daniel Vestal. If you are interested in helping, let me know as soon as possible.

As you can see, there is much to be done. I especially hope you will attend the March General Assembly in Tifton, contribute to the Habitat house, and help with the Blitz across Georgia.

*Frank Broome
Coordinator, CBF of Georgia*

COMING UP!

1999

March 4-6

Habitat House, Tifton GA. See page 4.

March 5-6

CBF of Georgia General Assembly

First Baptist Church, Tifton GA. See cover and page 3.

March 19-20

March Mission Madness

First Baptist Church, Decatur GA. See page 4.

March 23-24

Barbara Brown Taylor to Deliver Harry Vaughan Smith Lectures

— Barbara Brown Taylor, professor at Piedmont College in Demorest GA, selected as one of the ten most outstanding preachers in America, delivers the Harry Vaughan Smith Lectures at Mercer University, Macon GA. All lectures are in Newton Hall and open to the public. Her topics are:

Tuesday, March 23, 10:50 A.M.

“Origins: The Evolution of Praise”

Tuesday, March 23, 7:30 P.M.

“Community: The Myth of Sovereignty”

Wednesday, March 24, 10:00 A.M.

“Awe: The Limits of Knowledge”

May 2-6

Blitz across Georgia

Fifty churches to host meetings. See page 4.

June 24-26

CBF General Assembly, Birmingham AL

Make your reservations through Connections, official housing service of the 1999 General Assembly, 1-800-262-9974, 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M., Eastern Time.

July 27-30

New Horizons Camp

For children who have completed grades 3-5. The camp is held at the New Ebenezer Retreat Center just outside Savannah GA. Contact Eileen Campbell-Reed at 770-382-6076.

November 14-15

CBF of GA Fall Convocation,
Macon GA

**Check out our new and improved
web site at www.cbfga.org.**





GEORGIA

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\$ OUR FINANCIAL PICTURE \$

1998 Monthly Budget Requirements:	
\$12,868.85	
1998 Budget Receipts:	
October	\$12,590.64
November	\$12,743.50
December	\$18,156.45

Year-end statements have been mailed. If you have not received your statement, or if it is in error, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued support of CBF of Georgia!

1999 Deadlines for Submitting News, Announcements, and Articles to *Visions*

Your news is a welcome addition to *Visions*. By mail, fax, or e-mail, let us hear from you!
Our submission deadlines for 1999 are:
April 5 July 5 September 7
Articles are subject to approval and editing.



Mailing List Matters...

We happily mail newsletters to anyone who wants to receive one. However, some are receiving more than one copy. If you are getting more than one *VISIONS*, please pass it on to a friend, or contact us so that we can correct our mailing list.

- I'm getting more than one copy of *VISIONS* and the attached label is the one I would like discontinued.
- I would like my name deleted from this list.
- Please add the following address to the mailing list.
- Please change the following address on the mailing list.
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