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Year-end Report

Frank Broome, CBF/GA Coordinator, fbroome@cbfga.org



By the time you get this newsletter, I will be finishing up my sabbatical. Thanks to your kindness I was able to attend the wedding of Baptist Archbishop Malkhaz and Ala in the Republic of Georgia. The ceremony was conducted by the Bishop of Wakefield. Several of our American Baptist friends were present, along with a dozen or more representatives of various Baptist bodies, including the new

executive director of the Baptist World Alliance, Neville Callum. My two sons accompanied me and got a real taste (literally, at times) of Georgian culture. The weather was beautiful, the food wonderful, and the people hospitable. It was a joyous experience.

I requested and received a year-end report from Suzanne regarding our finances. The news this year is somewhat better than last. We had a four percent increase in budget receipts and a three percent increase in designated gifts. We are still below where we were three years ago, but we can rejoice that we are beginning to catch up. *Continues to page 5.*

Our Financial Health

Suzanne Powell, CBF/GA Senior Assistant for Finance and Administration, spowell@cbfga.org



This issue of *Visions* reports the overall picture of our financial health and shows the new budget for 2008-2009. CBF/GA's contributions increased four percent over last year. Even with the increased giving total of \$591,849 we fell short of the budget by \$73,351. The leadership of CBF/GA did a great job keeping the expenses down to about \$585,000. Designated giving was up almost three percent. We currently have 131 churches relating to us either by giving directly to the budget or participating in Mission and Congregational Life projects.

This year we are projecting a tad over a four percent increase in giving with a budget goal of \$617,600. Hopefully, the budget will be more in line with actual contributions. The charts below show our giving trends for the past five years in both budget and designated giving. CBF/GA

CBF/GA 5 Year BUDGET Giving Trend 2004-2008

2007-2008	\$	591,848.60 (up 4%)
2006-2007	\$	567,500.38 (down 10%)
2005-2006	\$	631,827.45 (little change)
2004-2005	\$	631,943.63 (up 22%)
2003-2004	\$	517,128.31

CBF/GA 5 Year DESIGNATED Giving Trend 2004-2008

2007-2008	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	161,915.20
2006-2007	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	157,813.08
2005-2006	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	154,937.74
2004-2005	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	184,605.29
2003-2004	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	339,828.53

Georgia Contributing Churches 06/01/2007 — 05/31/2008

	CBF/GA Budget	State Missions	Pass Thru to CBF/National	TOTAL
Beulah Baptist Church-Sparta.....	0.00	224.00	0.00	224.00
Black Springs Baptist Church-Milledgeville.....	0.00	36.00	0.00	36.00
Briarcliff Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
Buckhead Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	792.00	0.00	0.00	792.00
Carlton Baptist Church.....	687.50	170.00	0.00	857.50
Central Baptist Church-Gray.....	475.00	0.00	0.00	475.00
Central Baptist Church-Newnan.....	9,175.00	850.00	0.00	10,025.00
Clarksville Baptist Church.....	606.00	367.00	0.00	973.00
Community Baptist Church-Milledgeville.....	4,677.25	1,944.00	0.00	6,621.25
Covenant Baptist Church-Cleveland.....	444.33	160.00	0.00	604.33
Dahlonega Baptist Church.....	3,938.00	503.00	9,188.65	13,629.65
Darien Baptist Church-Sparta.....	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	1,100.00
Druid Hills Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	1,000.65	0.00	0.00	1,000.65
Dunwoody Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	8,500.00	0.00	0.00	8,500.00
Evergreen Baptist Church-Milledgeville.....	1,250.00	0.00	0.00	1,250.00
Fellowship Baptist Church-Americus.....	2,525.00	0.00	0.00	2,525.00
Fellowship Baptist Church-Fitzgerald.....	2,515.34	150.00	0.00	2,665.34
First Baptist Church-Albany.....	1,461.00	0.00	0.00	1,461.00
First Baptist Church-Americus.....	390.00	0.00	0.00	390.00
First Baptist Church-Athens.....	7,845.00	0.00	0.00	7,845.00
First Baptist Church-Augusta.....	16,374.58	0.00	36,963.62	53,338.20
First Baptist Church-Bainbridge.....	545.00	0.00	0.00	545.00
First Baptist Church-Bogart.....	906.96	106.21	0.00	1,013.17
First Baptist Church-Cave Spring.....	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
First Baptist Church-Cedartown.....	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
First Baptist Church-Claxton.....	8,312.00	0.00	0.00	8,312.00
First Baptist Church-Columbus.....	9,909.86	7,315.00	0.00	17,224.86
First Baptist Church-Commerce.....	13,075.14	0.00	0.00	13,075.14
First Baptist Church-Cordele.....	3,250.69	0.00	0.00	3,250.69
First Baptist Church-Covington.....	1,025.00	0.00	0.00	1,025.00
First Baptist Church-Dalton.....	25,197.61	0.00	0.00	25,197.61
First Baptist Church-Decatur.....	3,531.70	0.00	0.00	3,531.70
First Baptist Church-Eatonton.....	6,900.00	0.00	0.00	6,900.00
First Baptist Church-Evans.....	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
First Baptist Church-Fitzgerald.....	0.00	1,490.77	0.00	1,490.77
First Baptist Church-Forsyth.....	2,298.45	0.00	0.00	2,298.45
First Baptist Church-Fort Oglethorpe.....	3,144.00	0.00	0.00	3,144.00
First Baptist Church-Gainesville.....	14,584.94	0.00	0.00	14,584.94
First Baptist Church-Griffin.....	25,763.26	100.00	0.00	25,863.26
First Baptist Church-Hartwell.....	3,240.00	5,755.00	0.00	8,995.00
First Baptist Church-Hawkinsville.....	3,783.35	0.00	0.00	3,783.35
First Baptist Church-Jasper.....	4,499.29	0.00	0.00	4,499.29
First Baptist Church-Jefferson.....	12,429.11	0.00	0.00	12,429.11
First Baptist Church-La Fayette.....	8,778.75	0.00	0.00	8,778.75
First Baptist Church-Lavonia.....	15,404.83	0.00	0.00	15,404.83
First Baptist Church-Lithonia.....	1,796.76	0.00	0.00	1,796.76
First Baptist Church-Lumpkin.....	6,636.32	0.00	0.00	6,636.32
First Baptist Church of Christ-Macon.....	26,111.75	0.00	0.00	26,111.75

	CBF/GA Budget	State Missions	Pass Thru to CBF/National	TOTAL
First Baptist Church-Manchester	981.16	0.00	0.00	981.16
First Baptist Church-Marietta.....	2,961.16	0.00	0.00	2,961.16
First Baptist Church-Marshallville	1,524.37	1,541.01	0.00	3,065.38
First Baptist Church-Milledgeville	6,506.53	0.00	0.00	6,506.53
First Baptist Church-Montezuma.....	3,021.47	0.00	0.00	3,021.47
First Baptist Church-Morrow.....	12,246.54	0.00	0.00	12,246.54
First Baptist Church-Ringgold.....	996.00	0.00	0.00	996.00
First Baptist Church-Riverdale.....	623.00	0.00	0.00	623.00
First Baptist Church-Rockmart.....	1,847.41	0.00	0.00	1,847.41
First Baptist Church-Rome.....	24,188.00	0.00	0.00	24,188.00
First Baptist Church-Roswell.....	8,510.19	0.00	0.00	8,510.19
First Baptist Church-Saint Simons.....	1,135.00	0.00	0.00	1,135.00
First Baptist Church-Savannah.....	9,636.89	0.00	0.00	9,636.89
First Baptist Church-Swainsboro	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
First Baptist Church-Thomaston.....	1,714.33	0.00	0.00	1,714.33
First Baptist Church-Tifton.....	10,207.67	1,820.00	0.00	12,027.67
First Baptist Church-Toccoa	794.00	0.00	0.00	794.00
First Baptist Church-Union Point.....	185.01	0.00	0.00	185.01
First Baptist Church-Valdosta	1,096.94	881.30	0.00	1,978.24
First Baptist Church-Washington	1,690.00	0.00	0.00	1,690.00
First Baptist Church-West Point.....	1,846.57	0.00	0.00	1,846.57
First Baptist Church of Lakeview-Rossville.....	556.22	0.00	0.00	556.22
Glenwood Hills Baptist Church-Macon.....	810.00	0.00	0.00	810.00
Greenwood Baptist Church-Gray.....	10,723.74	0.00	0.00	10,723.74
Haddock Baptist Church.....	4,883.00	0.00	0.00	4,883.00
Harbor Ministries-McCaysville.....	1,200.00	231.05	0.00	1,431.05
Hardwick Baptist Church.....	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Harlem Baptist Church	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Haven Fellowship Church-Conyers.....	1,125.00	0.00	0.00	1,125.00
Heritage Baptist Church-Cartersville.....	2,585.00	0.00	0.00	2,585.00
Heritage Baptist Fellowship-Canton.....	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
Highland Hills Baptist Church-Macon.....	8,033.38	250.00	0.00	8,283.38
Horizon Baptist Fellowship-Summerville.....	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
Iglesia Bautista El Buen Pastor-Newnan.....	100.00	25.00	0.00	125.00
Ila Baptist Church.....	1,495.72	1,826.26	0.00	3,321.98
Isle of Hope Baptist Church-Savannah.....	384.09	39.29	0.00	423.38
Johns Creek Baptist Church-Alpharetta.....	11,707.67	0.00	0.00	11,707.67
Lakeview Hills Baptist Church-Gainesville.....	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
Madison Baptist Church.....	11,943.02	0.00	0.00	11,943.02
Maranatha Baptist Church-Plains.....	1,358.15	0.00	0.00	1,358.15
Milledge Avenue Baptist Church-Athens.....	2,812.50	3,171.00	0.00	5,983.50
Montgomery Heights Baptist Church-Commerce.....	379.15	0.00	0.00	379.15
Monticello Baptist Church.....	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
Mount Zion Baptist Church-Macon.....	12,861.13	62.50	0.00	12,923.63
National Heights Baptist Church-Fayetteville.....	900.00	815.00	0.00	1,715.00
Nehemiah Vietnamese Community Baptist Church-Chamblee.....	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
New Community Church-Buena Vista.....	0.00	908.10	1,349.40	2,257.50
New Day Fellowship-Savannah.....	1,044.06	0.00	0.00	1,044.06
New Heights Baptist Church-Macon.....	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
New Life Christian Ministries-Marietta.....	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
North Broad Baptist Church-Rome.....	4,903.18	0.00	0.00	4,903.18
North River Baptist Church-Roswell.....	1,226.23	0.00	0.00	1,226.23

	CBF/GA Budget	State Missions	Pass Thru to CBF/National	TOTAL
Northeast Baptist Church-Atlanta	2,932.70	0.00	0.00	2,932.70
Northside Drive Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	2,500.00	0.00	500.00	3,000.00
Ocilla Baptist Church.....	125.00	0.00	0.00	125.00
Park Avenue Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	655.00	0.00	0.00	655.00
Parkway Baptist Church-Duluth.....	7,458.59	0.00	0.00	7,458.59
Peachtree Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	1,600.00	0.00	0.00	1,600.00
Rainbow Park Baptist Church-Decatur.....	638.31	0.00	0.00	638.31
Rehoboth Baptist Church-Cave Spring.....	3,732.29	0.00	0.00	3,732.29
Rocky Creek Baptist Church-Forsyth	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
Royston Baptist Church.....	5,749.94	0.00	5,950.06	11,700.00
Sardis Baptist Church-Hartwell	182.30	90.00	0.00	272.30
Scott Boulevard Baptist Church-Decatur.....	555.00	0.00	0.00	555.00
Second Avenue Baptist Church-Rome.....	5,623.13	0.00	4,440.00	10,063.13
Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	3,829.91	0.00	0.00	3,829.91
Sharpsburg Baptist Church	0.00	742.00	0.00	742.00
Shekinah Baptist Assembly-Louisville.....	600.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
Smoke Rise Baptist Church-Stone Mountain.....	8,610.30	0.00	0.00	8,610.30
Tabernacle Baptist Church-Carrollton.....	22,521.63	0.00	0.00	22,521.63
The Fellowship Group Baptist Church-East Point.....	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
The Hill Baptist Church-Augusta.....	340.00	0.00	145.00	485.00
The Oaks Baptist Church-Lyons.....	600.00	55.00	0.00	655.00
Trinity Baptist Church-Conyers.....	177.00	0.00	0.00	177.00
Trinity Baptist Church-Moultrie.....	7,345.36	0.00	0.00	7,345.36
Un Nuevo Amanecer First Baptist Church-Morrow	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
Union Baptist Church-Warthen	499.92	0.00	0.00	499.92
Valley Brook Baptist Church-Decatur.....	550.00	0.00	0.00	550.00
Wieuca Road Baptist Church-Atlanta.....	10,509.17	10,130.17	0.00	20,639.34
Total Georgia Church Contributions	539,585.45	42,958.66	58,636.73	641,180.84
Total Individual Contributions.....	52,263.15	4,036.00	2,400.00	58,699.15
Total Organization/Partner Contributions.....	0.00	916.50	0.00	916.50
Total giving June 1,2007 - May 31, 2008	591,848.60	47,911.16	61,036.73	700,796.49

BUDGET — includes Missions, Congregational Life, Administration, Personnel, Communications, and Fellowship.

STATE MISSIONS — includes projects such as Benevolence, Disaster Relief, Health Care, Hispanic Outreach, Hunger Relief . . . etc.

PASS THRU CBF NATIONAL — includes National Budget, Offering for Global Missions (OGM), and other designated projects.

*All receipts were received during the period of June 1, 2007 and May 31, 2008

*All receipts are un-audited

*Audit results should be available September 2008

WE WANT TO GIVE as complete and accurate accounting of contributions as possible. We do have a number of individuals and organizations who give directly to us. Such contributions are not included under their church's name. They are, however, listed by totals under individual/organization giving at the bottom of the contributing church listing. The above list is not intended to be a CBF/GA church directory. It is simply a report of those churches that have participated with us in the previous year. All contributions listed came directly to us from the church or they came by way of National CBF. It is

important to remember that CBF does not have a set formula for giving. In order to give to both CBF/GA and National CBF, the church must either write two separate checks or the church must request that one entity pass a certain amount along to the other. In Georgia, funds are not automatically forwarded from state to national or national to state without a specific request being made by the giver. If for any reason you think the data is incorrect or incomplete, please let us know.

Budget Highs and Lows

Nikki Hardeman, CBF/GA Associate Coordinator for Congregational Life, nhardeman@cbfga.org

I'll be honest. When people start talking about budget stuff, I have a tendency to get distracted. It's not that I think a budget is unimportant or not needed. I happen to think exactly the opposite, and I take pride in sticking to the budget I have. However, I just do not like listening to people talk about it. I guess I just find the topic a bit boring. So, needless to say, when I was told this entire *Visions* was devoted to budget issues, I was not exactly thrilled. I had no idea what to write. Then, I started thinking about the kinds of things our budget supports: missional opportunities, disaster relief, scholarships, leadership development, ministerial peer groups, youth choir festival, Cooperative Student Fellowship, and so much more. The truth is that our budget is supported by so many of you who give faithfully, and without your faithfulness, many of these wonderful things, quite literally, would not be possible.



world. Our collective support of them will enable them to be future leaders and ministers in the work of CBF and in God's work around the world.

Also, last January, nearly one hundred people participated in the Georgia Youth Choir Festival that is co-sponsored by the CBF/GA and the Townsend School of Music at Mercer University. The students who participated in this weekend got to experience something that they would not have experienced otherwise. They not only learned some really great music, but their own faith journeys were impacted by the things they learned and the people with whom they interacted.

In February, almost one hundred students participated in Now Serving ATL, a collegiate mission experience co-sponsored by CBF/GA and the McAfee School of Theology. These students were able to participate in a variety of missional opportunities around the city of Atlanta and were able to engage in thoughts about where God might be calling them. Some of the students expressed a desire to participate in additional missional opportunities, and some began to think about vocational ministry.

Last year, because of your gifts, we were able to support five of our

The truth is that our budget is supported by so many of you who give faithfully, and without your faithfulness, many of these wonderful things, quite literally, would not be possible.

Baptist partners. These partners are the Associated Baptist Press, the Baptist Center for Ethics, the Baptist History & Heritage Society, *Baptists Today*, and the Georgia Baptist Women in Ministry. By supporting these organizations in a financial way, we help them to do the work of preserving the moderate Baptist witness. It is important for us to remember what kind of Baptists we are and to continue the work of teaching others what it truly means to be Baptist.

These are just a few of the things we do with our budget money, *and* we could do none of them without your faithful help. We are grateful for the ways we get to partner with all of you as we strive to be a part of the good work God is doing in this world. Additionally, it is our sincere hope that as you partner with us, you gain a sense of being a part of something bigger, of something that stretches beyond where you can reach on your own. When we all work together as the body of Christ, we are truly able to be the presence of Christ to the world. CBF/GA

Last year, because of your giving, twelve students received scholarships to attend seminary or to help them finish their undergraduate degree. These individuals are already making a positive impact in the ways they are cooperating with God's work in the

Year-end Report *(Continues from page 1.)*

You will find a detailed report of giving in this issue. I encourage you to read it carefully. If you have any questions regarding your congregation's contribution, let me know. We do our best to keep accurate records and will be glad to answer any questions you have. If you would like someone from our office to come and talk with your group about our work, do not hesitate to ask. We are making progress in many areas of our work and will be glad to share what is happening with you.

As always, we are grateful for your support. CBF/GA

Your donations to CBF/GA reach out through missions such as Taliaferro Summer Camps. See article next page.



Sponsored by Churches and Individuals Like You

Scott Ford, CBF/GA Associate Coordinator for Missions, sford@cbfga.org

Taliaferro Summer Camp

Like all other ministries of CBF/GA, *Taliaferro Summer Camp* happens because of the generosity of individuals and churches who give graciously. I was reminded of this as a camp leader asked me on the first Friday of camp, “Who pays for all of the camp expenses?” And though I am accustomed to saying “this” or “that” is “sponsored by” or “supported by” CBF/GA, a different answer suddenly arrived: “You! You and churches like yours who are a part of CBF/GA, you are the ones who make things like this wonderful ministry continue on.” So I think that from this day forward, my intentional response to questions about support will be “...sponsored by the churches and individuals of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia.”

Summer Camp Leaders

Serving from two hours to the entire two weeks, summer camp leaders came from:*

- Crawfordville Baptist Church
- Crown of Life Baptist Church, Powder Springs
- First Baptist Church, Carrollton
- First Baptist Church, Griffin
- First Christian Church, Watkinsville
- Free Chapel Church, Oakwood
- Greenwood Baptist Church, Norwood
- Haven Fellowship Church, Conyers
- Highland Hills Baptist Church, Macon
- House of God House of Prayer for All Nations, Thomson
- Milledge Avenue Baptist Church, Athens
- Northside Drive Baptist Church, Atlanta
- Powelton Baptist Church, Sparta
- Rayle Outreach Deliverance Temple, Rayle
- Springfield Baptist Church, Warrenton
- Trinity Baptist Church, Conyers

*Please pardon any inadvertent omissions.

From kindergarten through twelfth grade, 106 children and youth participated in the 2008 two-week day camp and almost eighty youth and adults served as camp leaders. Camp leaders served from two hours to two weeks.

I know “CBF/GA” might mean the same thing, but maybe a little more intentionality will help spread the word about the nature of our fellowship. We are all in this together. CBF/GA is not separate or detached from individuals and churches. CBF/GA “is” a group of individuals and churches!

So what happens at camp? Taliaferro County School buses, full of enthusiastic young people, arrive each morning at the school parking lot at 8 a.m. Children and youth eat breakfast and begin their day with separate assemblies, one for campers in grades K-5 and one for campers in grades 6-12. Closely resembling Vacation Bible School, the children’s day is full: breakfast, five morning rotations, an assembly, lunch, five afternoon rotations, and an afternoon assembly. Camp ends at 2:30 p.m., and campers load the buses.

The youth campers’ day is also full but follows a much different schedule. After breakfast, youth campers gather in the school gymnasium for a morning devotion and singing, then there are three morning rotations before lunch. The youth study *Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey throughout both weeks of camp, while in other morning seminars, youth campers learn about being an artist, building blocks for life, financial planning, making good decisions, team building, and vocational planning. Afternoon seminars for youth are even more diverse. Seminar topics include art, business management, choir practice, compressor maintenance, creative recreation, crocheting, drama,

financial planning, Girl Scouts, photography, presentation skills, puppetry, and work skills.

The above descriptions apply to the first eight days of camp, but days nine and ten are quite different. On the Thursday of the second week of camp, children load buses for a trip to *American Adventures*, while youth travel to *Six Flags*. These two field trips act as incentives for children and youth to behave and participate in camp activities for the first eight days of camp. Only campers who earn enough points with adequate attendance are allowed to go on the field trips. Finally, on the last day of camp, all camp leaders and



campers enjoy a Field Day outside before a hotdog cookout and closing ceremonies. Parents and guardians are also invited to the grand finale. Each year, during the final meeting at camp, kindergarteners are awarded a children's Bible and rising sixth graders are awarded a youth Bible.

This year, *Taliaferro Summer Camp 2008* was an amazing flurry of activity, service, fun, and building relationships. Whether by leading seminars for two hours on a single



If someone were to ask me what does Touching Taliaferro with Love's Summer Day Camp mean to me, I would probably go into a deep conversation about all the things that it has done and is doing for me and all the others who attend the camp.

One thing that the camp provides that means a lot to me is a better understanding of the Bible. Sometimes to me, and probably others, it may be hard to understand the Bible. At Summer Day Camp, we learn or talk about parts of the Bible that may seem confusing. By doing this, we understand what some things mean or what God expects of us. This also helps little kids, too. Some little kids aren't able to sit there in church and understand what the preacher is talking about. Having this camp helps them learn about God in a way that helps them understand things better.

Even though the camp helps us better understand the Bible, it also provides us with things that our school doesn't offer us. Since our school isn't that big, we never get to learn things you would find at a bigger school. At camp, however, we are provided with things that we aren't accustomed to. One thing that we have been learning is art. At first, others and I thought all we were going to do was draw and play. Soon after we got started, we found out it's more than just that. You have to not only paint, but color coordinate, think outside the box, and learn how to make things out of what seems to be junk. Believe me, learning about it has changed my opinions about what all an artist really does. We also learn how to improve our speaking skills, which is actually fun. We learn how to take great pictures as well as use machines that help make things. Also, we learn about what are good habits about teens, plus we found out info about colleges and scholarships.

Most importantly, something that has touched me is the fact that these people give up their time and come here to teach and watch over us even though they don't know us. We all know they don't have to come, but they come anyway out of the kindness of their hearts and do all these great things for us. I also know that even though we don't show it, we really do appreciate this camp. It gives us a place to have fun learning and playing, while giving us a place to hang out.

Therefore, this is what the camp means to me. A place to learn about God, things we have never done or seen, and it shows that people actually do care about us. So now you know that this camp actually does mean something to me and, hopefully, others.

Terrance Rhodes



afternoon to helping lead two entire weeks of camp, almost eighty camp leaders came together to lead 106 children and youth in an amazing experience called *Taliaferro Summer Camp*. Like mission service teams across the state and around the world, camp leaders made personal sacrifices to travel and serve students who live in one of the poorest counties in Georgia. The local economic situation, however, did not dampen the campers and leaders time together, as smiles were abundant and free throughout the participants' two weeks together.

Taliaferro Summer Camp is a ministry of the individuals and churches of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia. CBF/GA coordinates the camp in cooperation with Taliaferro County Family Connections, Taliaferro County School, and Touching Taliaferro with Love, Inc.

Continues to next page.

The essay at left was written by Terrance Rhodes, a junior this fall at Taliaferro County School. The essay contest was conducted during the 2008 Summer Camp, and Terrance was awarded a *Ipod Touch*®, which was donated to CBF/GA.

Sponsored by Churches and Individuals *(Continues from page 7.)*

March Mission Madness

March Mission Madness is a weekend mission service retreat for church youth groups and their adult chaperones.

Save the Date

March Mission Madness 2009
www.marchmissionmadness.com

March 20-22, 2009
Central Baptist Church, Newnan

March 27-29, 2009
Milledge Avenue Baptist Church, Athens

Worship Leader: Kyle Matthews
www.kylematthews.com



Now Serving ATL



Georgia Youth Choir



Disaster Response

Many thanks are expressed to the individuals and churches providing much needed help to families affected by the May 11, 2008, Mother's Day Tornado in Central Georgia. Special thanks are extended to the members of New Heights Baptist Church, Macon, who served breakfast and lunch to responders on four consecutive "Serve on Saturday" (S.O.S.) Disaster Response days of service.



Mission Trip Opportunity

Churches and other groups wishing to help with continued disaster response efforts in Central Georgia are invited to sleep and eat at Macon's New Heights Baptist Church. They would love to host church mission teams from near and far. If you are interested in organizing a disaster response trip, please contact Associate Coordinator for Missions Scott Ford at 478-742-1191, ext. 28 or sford@cbfga.org.



Interfaith Dialogue

Interfaith dialogue has become an important task in the life of CBF/GA. We are excited about the things done and are looking forward to doing more.

Last year, we had two wonderful events. At the first event, a group of Baptists gathered with a group of Muslims at Johns Creek Baptist Church in Alpharetta for fellowship and shared learning. Throughout the evening, we met people, who were as alike as us as they were different. It was an important step for us as we work to develop positive relationships with our Muslim friends. In the second event, a group of Baptists gathered with a group of Jews at Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta to listen to and learn about the music from each of the traditions. It was a delightful afternoon of shared learning and fellowship with our Jewish friends.

Over the next year, the Interfaith Taskforce will be working to create a brochure geared to help local churches begin the process of interfaith dialogue in their communities. CBF/GA

An Invitation from *CURRENT*

Shannon Rutherford & Ashley Gill, 2008 *Eleven-on-11* National Co-coordinators,
shannon@ubc-br.org or ashleyl.gill@gmail.com

Hello from *CURRENT*, CBF young leaders network! We want to inform you of an opportunity to get young Baptists involved in your community while serving alongside others across the United States. Each year *CURRENT* hosts a simultaneous mission project called *Eleven-on-11*, a time when young CBF members participate in service to their community. Now is the time to start planning how to get your church or group involved. Because we are fellow ministers and fairly recent seminary graduates, we know the busyness of the fall schedule, so we want to make this process as easy as possible. If you would like to participate, we ask that you email a registration form request to one of us. When you return the registration confirmation (“Kit #1”), you will receive “Kit #2,” a more thorough packet detailing specifics of the day. Later in August, you will receive “Kit #3,” a box of t-shirts for your group.

Eleven-on-11 began as a response to the September 11, 2001, tragedy, so we continue to host this annual event on the Saturday closest to the anniversary. This year, that Saturday is September 13. On that day, each leader and group (from various states, theological schools, and churches) will simultaneously participate in a project of your choosing that is constructive for your community. Sites in the past have included construction workdays, cleaning and gardening in a community park or home, picking up trash in a neighborhood, or working in a homeless shelter or soup kitchen. The possibilities are endless. You, as the leader, choose the site on the basis of your location and the number of participants you have. Being a site leader entails the following: choosing a work site, gathering participants, organizing lunch and transportation for September 13, leading a brief morning devotion, and distributing t-shirts. It’s a good idea to get started now with details like securing a site and arranging lunch plans. Many people find that they can get lunch donated by a Sunday school class or local restaurant. There are limited funds available for groups who do not have resources to buy supplies for their mission projects. If you feel your group will need financial assistance, please include that request in your registration confirmation. You can check out some of last year’s sites at www.thefellowship.info/current.

Please return your registration confirmation (as complete as can be at this point) to shannon@ubc-br.org or ashleyl.gill@gmail.com by Monday, August 4. This ensures a timely delivery of Kit #2 and allows us to order the correct number of t-shirts for your group. If you have any specific questions about your project or site location, please direct any needs or questions to one of us.

This year has the potential to be the best *Eleven-on-11* year yet! Please feel free to pass this information on to colleagues and friends who you think would be interested in participating. Thank you for your help with this community project—it has always proven to be a wonderful day in the past.



Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia

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VISIONS is published six times a year
by CBF/GA. All questions and comments may
be directed to ElizaBeth Copeland,
478-742-1191 ext 23
or ecopeland@cbfga.org.

OPPORTUNITIES / REPORTS / UPDATES

Youth Minister Retreat

CBF/SC, CBF/AL, and CBF/GA are excited about the first ever tri-state Youth Minister Retreat. This event will be a wonderful opportunity for youth ministers from Alabama, South Carolina, and Georgia to network with one another. The retreat will focus on community building and providing resources to you as you minister to youth. There still may be room. To register, please call Nikki Hardeman at 478-742-1191, ext. 26.

When: September 8-10, 2008.

Where: Simpsonwood Retreat Center, Duluth

Cost: \$100

It's Not Too Early!

Apply for a CBF/GA Scholarship today! The deadline is April 1, 2009.

For more information, or to download an application, go to

http://www.cbfga.org/church_life/scholarship.html. If you have questions, you may contact Nikki Hardeman at nhardeman@cbfga.org or 478-742-1191, ext. 26.

Sunday School Training

When: August 9, 2008

Where: FBC Eatonton

Karen Massey from the McAfee School of Theology will be the keynote speaker. There will be training for adult, youth, and children Sunday School teachers. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more information or to register, please contact Tim Deborde at tdeborde@firstbaptisteatonton.org or 706-485-3331.

A Youth Fall Retreat Experience Sponsored by CBF/GA

ReCharge

When: October 17-19, 2008

Where: The Swamp in Union Point

Who: Students currently enrolled in grades 6-12.

Cost: \$80

The deadline to register is August 15, 2008. If you want to know more information, or would like to register, contact Nikki Hardeman at nhardeman@cbfga.org. You may also visit http://www.cbfga.org/church_life/students/youth/recharge-2008.html for more information.



IN HIS PRESENCE:
***Keeping
a Steadfast Heart
on Life's Journey***
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

August 8-9, 2008
FBC Hawkinsville

CONCERT:
by internationally known
Babbie Mason

CONFERENCE SPEAKER:
Dr. Debbi Dunlap from Miles Road
Baptist Church in Summerville, SC

PRAISE AND WORSHIP:
Nancy Weeks of Jacksonville, FL, and
Hawkinsville's own *Blessed by Grace*

REGISTRATION FEE:
for the entire event \$30

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
call 478-892-9076

Financial Update

Budget Receipts as of June 30, 2008

Year to Date.....	\$45,512.78
Requirement.....	\$51,466.67
Over/Under.....	<\$5,953.89>
Month to Date.....	\$45,512.78
Monthly Requirement.....	\$51,466.67
Over/Under.....	<\$5,953.89>

CBF/GA ... 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.

COMING UP

■ August 2, 2008

Hispanic Health Fair

Iglesia Bautista El Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd Baptist Church)
Newnan

■ August 9, 2008

Sunday School Training

FBC Eatonton

Karen Massey from the McAfee School of Theology will be the keynote speaker. There will be training for adult, youth, and children Sunday School teachers. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more information or to register, please contact Tim Deborde at 706-485-3331 or tdeborde@firstbaptisteatonton.org.

■ September 13, 2008

Current: Simultaneous Mission Project

www.thefellowship.info/current

■ September 8-10, 2008

Forum on Youth Ministry

Simpsonwood Retreat Center, Duluth
<http://www.forumonyouthministry.org>

■ October 17-19, 2008

ReCharge: Fall Youth Retreat

The Swamp Retreat Center, Union Point
www.ReChargecbf.org

■ November 9-10, 2008

CBF/GA Fall Convocation — FBC Augusta

■ March 20-22 & 27-29, 2009

March Mission Madness

March 20-22, 2009 • Central Baptist Church, Newnan
March 27-29, 2009 • Milledge Avenue Baptist, Athens
Worship Leader: Kyle Matthews www.kylematthews.com
www.marchmissionmadness.org

Overtaken by Grace

CBF/GA FALL CONVOCATION

November 9-10, 2008 • FBC Augusta • Bill Leonard, Speaker

Doubletree Hotel Augusta, 2651 Perimeter Parkway, Augusta 30909, 706-855-8100

COOPERATIVE
BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

GEORGIA

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