



The Gathering

of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina

In This Edition

- PAGE 3 *Hopeful Imagination: A Dream Come True* by Larry Hovis
- PAGE 4 *CBFNC 2011 General Assembly*
- PAGE 5 *Strong Backs, Willing Hearts and Fumbling Fingers* by Tom Cabannis
- PAGES 6-7 *Where Can We Go on a Mission Trip?* by Linda Jones
- PAGE 8 *Joining God in the World: A Fresh Look at Missions and Evangelism*
- PAGE 8 *CBFNC Hispanic Network*
- PAGE 9 *Greenville is Doing Missions the Missional Way* by Laura Barclay
- PAGE 10 *Wondering What to Do This Summer? CBFNC Offers Three Ideas* by Wanda Kidd



SOUND THE GONG!

SEE STORY ON PAGE 9



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of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina



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Financial Report:	September 2010 Contributions	Undesignated - \$118,543	Designated - \$205,852
	October 2010 Contributions	Undesignated - \$146,882	Designated - \$194,119
	April 2010 - March 2011 Monthly Undesignated Goal: \$110,538		



Staff Minister's Retreat

February 28 - March 3, 2011
Beach Cove Resort, North Myrtle Beach, SC

This is an opportunity to relax, spend time with fellow ministers, attend workshops geared toward your needs and renew your spirit.

Early bird: (Deadline: January 24)
\$379 for private room; \$299 for semi-private room; spouse is an additional \$150.

Regular prices (Deadline: February 11)
\$399 for private room; \$325 for semi-private room; spouse is an additional \$160.

These are lower prices than last year!

Visit www.cbfnc.org for more information and to register.

CBFNC invites all adults to a time away as you are led into

"THE SPIRITUALITY OF JESUS"

Adult Spiritual Formation Retreat

April 8-10, 2011
Caraway Conference Center

Leaders: Rev. Rick Bennett and Kyle Matthews

Visit www.CBFNC.org for more information and to register.



Hopeful Imagination: A Dream Come True

by Larry Hovis, CBFNC Executive Coordinator

In 2004, I was the brand new Coordinator of CBFNC, and my first major responsibility was to travel around the state on a “meet the new Coordinator” tour to share my hopes and dreams for our fellowship.



One of my convictions, I explained, is that the real experts for resourcing congregations reside not in a denominational office but in sister congregations. I shared a dream that, one day, CBFNC would identify the strengths, capacities, gifts and graces for ministry found in congregations around our state, and that we would devise a system for congregations to share those corporate spiritual gifts with one another. An extension of that dream would be to lift up teaching congregations, who could share their stories with other congregations. Those congregations could then apply in their own communities what they learned from these fellow travelers.

Though CBFNC has grown and expanded and improved in far more ways than I could have ever imagined back in 2004, one dream that hasn't been realized fully is this one – the dream of a system whereby congregations would resource and teach one another. But this year, 2010, that dream is becoming a reality. And there is no better example of that dream coming to life than the recent Hopeful Imagination conference held at FBC Wilmington.

On October 22-23, 296 participants from 79 congregations in 11 states gathered at this historic, 200-year-old “First Church” with only 13 parking spaces. We gathered to hear a story of transformation, renewal and growth. In the process, our imaginations were stimulated and our hopes awakened for the bright futures that can await any church, even traditional churches that some so-called experts have given up on, saying their best days are behind them.

This conference was the dream of Mike Queen, FBC's pastor, because their journey was inspired by attending a conference

at a teaching church in Florida several years before. Eddie Hammett, CBFNC's Church and Clergy Coach, worked with FBC and CBFNC leaders to develop a plan for the experience. We were assisted by partners from CBF National, the Columbia Partnership and the Center for Congregational Health. Three plenary sessions were led by three FBC ministers: Mike Queen, Pastor; Jim Everette, Associate Pastor; and Jayne Davis, Minister of Spiritual Formation. In addition, ministry workshops on seventeen topics were offered during four time slots and were led by FBC leaders and other recognized ministry leaders.

In an effort to make this an ongoing experience rather than a one-time event, conference planners gave special attention to recording plenary sessions and workshops and reproducing handouts prepared by presenters. All of these resources are posted on the CBFNC website so that those who attended, as well as those who could not attend, can continue their learning. In addition, follow-up learning communities and teleclasses are being offered so that ministers and lay leaders will have support as they seek to implement ideas gained from the conference in their own church and community.

What's next for this approach to congregational resourcing? We can't clone FBC Wilmington, but we do hope to offer similar experiences in other congregations in the years ahead. We plan to offer experiences, sometimes on a grand scale, sometimes on a much smaller scale, but always in ways that will spark imagination and engender hope for leaders of churches of all types – small and large, rural and urban, young and old.

The writer to the Hebrews explains, “*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen*” (11:1). As we learned in Wilmington, hope and imagination are alive and well in God's kingdom, including in traditional congregations. What are the strengths of your congregation? What gifts can your congregation share in your community and beyond? What is God doing in your world, and how can you join in?

Each CBFNC congregation is an expert in some practice of ministry and mission that makes a positive difference for God's kingdom... What's your congregation's expertise? Will you share it with us?

CBFNC is compiling a database of “church strengths” to share across our fellowship. What are your congregation's strengths or unique ministry approaches – in worship, spiritual formation, communications, leadership, administration, missions, or age-group ministries? Will you share them with others? Contact Casey Carroll in the CBFNC offices to share your expertise (CCarroll@cbfnc.org).

Here's a sampling of workshops that will be offered:

The Practice of Sabbath
Jim Strickland, Rachel Lackey

Praying with Scriptures - Sophia Steibel

Conner's HEART (Help Eliminate Adolescent Risk Taking)
Dale and Michele Galloway

From the Pew to the Potato Patch

Panel on Rural Ministries

Panel on Urban Ministries

Racial Reconciliation and the Body of Christ

At the Intersection of Church and State
Brent Walker, Baptist Joint Committee

Fields of Hope project

Human Trafficking

Church's Care of Caregivers - Cindy Miles

Vanishing Appalachia - Bill Leonard

In Their Shoes - Hyaets Community

Pilgrimage and Preaching - Darryl Aaron and panel

From "Almost Christian" to "Committed Disciple": Exploring Authentic Youth Ministry - Curtis Freeman, LeAnne Ryan, Chris Schelin

Biblical Foundations for Active Justice
Cal Robertson, Jim McConnell

Involving Your Congregation in Hands-On Missions
Mark Abernathy

A Spirituality for Preaching - Guy Sayles

Social Networking and the Church

Ten Things You Can Do for the Unity of the Church
Steven R. Harmon

The Dialogue of Worship - Tony Spencer

Hymnody of Justice and Mercy
Larry Ballard, Celebrating Grace

The Mental Health of the Missional Congregation
Steve Scoggin

What Does a Healthy Missional Congregation Do? The 4Cs Your Church Can't Live Without - Bill Wilson

New Possibilities for the Interim Wilderness
Les Robinson, Jack Causey

How to Have a Difficult Conversation Without Breaking Your Congregation Apart - Chris Gambill

Creating Redemptive Relationships and Structures
Eddie Hammett

Learn more about General Assembly details and registration, ministry workshop titles, discounted hotel options, childcare reservations, and exhibitor applications at www.cbfnc.org.



living
justice
mercy

"We know love by this, that [Jesus] laid down his life for us Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." (1 John 3:16-18 NRSV)

March 25-26, 2011
First Baptist, Asheville

FRIDAY worship speaker:

Rev. Dr. David P. Gushee, *Distinguished University Professor of Christian Ethics at Mercer University*

SATURDAY worship speaker:

Rev. Nancy Hastings Sehested, *Co-Pastor of Circle of Mercy in Asheville, NC, and Chaplain for the NC Department of Corrections*

Friday, March 25

Welcome and Orientation
Ministry Workshop Sessions
Fellowship Dinner (requires pre-registration)
Evening Worship
Fellowship Reception

Saturday, March 26

Ministry Workshop Session
Ministry Celebration
(incl. adoption of '11-'12 budget & council election)
Morning Worship

The 2011 General Assembly offering will support CBF's **Haiti Housing Network ministry**. Their goal is to construct 1000 permanent houses in the area of Grand Goave, Haiti, over the next three years, at a cost of \$3,500 per house.

Strong Backs, Willing Hearts and Fumbling Fingers

by Tom Cabaniss, FBC, Kannapolis

If you can imagine a blind man pushing a wheel chair up ten flights of stairs, then you might have some idea how we felt in Kannapolis at First Baptist Church. We believed God was leading us to begin an outreach soccer ministry. Call it delusional or World Cup fever, but we were convinced that was God's call for us. And God used a bunch of people with strong backs, willing hearts and fumbling fingers to launch a ministry that enabled us to connect with lots of people who may not have found their way to Christ or First Baptist on their own. We went places that only eyes of faith could take us. It's okay to be blind when God becomes your sight!

We had some experience with church-based soccer. For five years, we had offered an Upward Soccer experience, but we just did not sense it was outreach in the truest sense. For the most part, Christians across Kannapolis came together a couple of times a week to talk, fellowship and cheer on the kids. We did a devotional, talked about God and had a first-rate end-of-the-season celebration. And about eighty kids had a blast ... but it really wasn't outreach for us.

There wasn't very much of going to the least of these or making a Kingdom-sized impression in the lives of kids and families who did not know much about Christ and His love. So, God gave us an idea. Why not approach a couple of elementary schools and offer scholarships to their whole student body? That's right! We volunteered to let any kid who wanted to play soccer do so for free, on our dime. We gave them uniforms, a soccer ball and even cleats and shin guards when necessary ... and often, it was necessary!



Some parents cried when their kids could finally "afford" to play a sport because many moms and dads had not been able to pay the sport's registration fees.

The results were nothing short of awesome. Almost two hundred kids and their families jumped into this ministry headfirst! Some did not speak English. Many had no church home. A few had virtually no money. And some had no jobs. To be honest, at times we felt a sense of panic, desperation and "what have we gotten ourselves into?" But God was rich in all things. He was good. And He started to move. He raised up parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, adults, youth, sports freaks and people who knew nothing about soccer at all, but really loved kids and the Lord.

We fielded twenty-two teams from age four through grade four. FBC members became coaches, cheerleaders, equipment managers, surrogate moms and dads, and, most of all, ambassadors for Christ. We shared the gospel with words, actions and our feet.

Each week, we shared a devotional time with the kids that led to a presentation of the gospel and an introduction to Jesus. Our members mixed and mingled with families who came to see their kids play. There was a wonderful tapestry of colors, languages, ages, backgrounds and results.

This soccer ministry accomplished five ministry goals. First, we had a chance to do something bigger than ourselves. We stepped out and trusted God to provide people, money and resources. And He did. Second, we connected with people who are different from us. We had a chance to love neighbors we had never met. Third, our people had a chance to serve their community. We were coaches, concession operators, planners, movers and simple servants doing what needed to be done. Carry this, pray for that, organize these things ... just doing whatever! Fourth, we grew in our own faith. We saw God at work. We saw prayers answered. We saw walls break down. We moved an uptown Baptist church into a neighborhood often overlooked and forgotten. And, finally, we planted seeds that God will harvest in His time.

Through soccer, we had a chance to become the church we should have always been ... trusting, serving, sowing and anxiously looking at what God will do next!



Church-to-church relationship building is CBFNC's primary

focus as we minister together with the Belizeans. Since most areas have been evangelized, there is a need in area churches for ministry to focus on spiritual growth. Opportunities to minister include: Training for Pastors/Church Leaders; VBS/Children's Ministry; Youth Ministry; Women's Ministry; Men's Ministry, which would need a different structure to allow for their long work schedules and time away from home; and construction, including roofs, installation of windows and doors, plastering and bathroom additions, as well as general repair. There are many places to stay during your week of ministry. Contact Linda Jones for more information at ljones@cbfnc.org.

Eric and Julie Maas, CBF Affiliate Field Personnel, are Volunteer Directors of the Baptist Training Center (BTC). This facility hosts the Belize Bible School, Mission Teams, Belizean churches and ministries for conferences and camps. There are ways local NC churches can be involved, whether it's planning a mission trip to Belize, collecting NIV Bibles (both English and Spanish) and Promise Books, or donating funds to aid with anti-trafficking efforts here in Belize. Contact Eric and Julie Maas at julie@seeksaveserve.com.

The Baptist Bible School of Belize is a three-year program where the students come to the Baptist Training Center in Camalote, Belize, for one week of classes, three times each year. Dr. Robert Lamb, Director, secures outstanding teachers from the United States who come at their own expense. If interested in teaching, contact Bob at rlamb12@carolina.rr.com.

Ottawa, Canada Kim and Marc Wyatt, CBF Field Personnel with the Internationals Team in North America, call Ottawa their home. Ottawa, the capital city of Canada, has 18.5% foreign-born residents and is truly a diverse, mosaic, multicultural city. The Wyatts serve as mobilizers and encouragers among churches and mission organizations from Windsor (across the border from Detroit, Michigan) to Quebec City, Quebec, along the St. Lawrence Seaway, which is a distance of 15 hours by car or train.

This region includes Toronto, Canada's largest and most diverse city, and Montreal. The Wyatts welcome churches and individuals called to minister among the unreached and marginalized people groups. For specific opportunities to serve with the Wyatts in Canada, e-mail wyatt@thefellowship.info or call (613) 521-4918.

Cecelia Beck, a CBF Affiliate and a member of CBF's Transformational Development Team, is living among

and ministering in a Shelby neighborhood struggling with crime and violence. She is in the midst of rehabilitating her home. Immediate opportunities for involvement include contributing materials or funds for the house rehab and contributing your time and talent! Other opportunities include ministering in the neighborhood with Cecelia.

Contact Cecelia Beck at cbeck@thefellowship.info.

Belize, Central America

Tammy and Ralph Stocks show the love of Christ by helping meet the basic needs of the Roma, providing clothing, fuel in the harsh winter, food, medicines, school supplies and whatever else might be needed as they build relationships.

They also offer support to Project Ruth which includes the Ruth School, an elementary school in Bucharest providing education for Roma (Gypsy) children. Opportunities for mission engagement with the Roma of Romania/Hungary include VBS-style activities for children, construction teams to paint or do building maintenance at Project Ruth, landscaping, teaching English as a second language, and women's ministry. Pastors and theological professors can volunteer to teach for a week at the Gypsy Smith Leadership Training School of Project Ruth.

Contact Ralph & Tammy at rstocks@thefellowship.info.

Hungary

Chaouki Boulos, missionary to Lebanon, has

some incredible stories of what God is doing in Lebanon. Chaouki and Maha Boulos coordinate "Celebrate Jesus" rallies in downtown Beirut and neighboring countries, where thousands of people have heard about Jesus Christ – some for the first time. Chaouki and Maha grew up in Lebanon and knew that religious freedom in Lebanon might provide "the open door to reach the peoples of the Middle East."

This is not the only way this couple is the presence of Christ. They've facilitated Vacation Bible Schools, sports camps, children's ministry and prison outreach. They help distribute food and medicine to families in need. They have given street children shoes and provided women with dental care. Now, one of their priorities is opening a conference and training center for churches in the region. This center is being built right now! The first building which will house 36 people and the campground are finished. Three cottages will be built this spring and summer.

This will be a place where pastors and Christian leaders throughout the Middle East and North Africa come for training, renewal, and countless other opportunities. This center will serve every aspect of Christian evangelism, especially to the Muslim population.

Teams are needed to help! Contact Chaouki (pronounced "shall we") Boulos at operationantioch@hotmail.com.

Living Faith Ministry, Lebanon 2011 Projects

Passport

Empowering Students ... Embracing the World ... Extending Grace. Passport Kids for 3rd-6th grades will take place in multiple sites. Here are opportunities for 6th-12th grade students: Passport Choices in Wingate, NC; Passport Missions in Boston, MA, and in Macon, GA. Passport Missions 2, with expanded missions engagement, will take place in Dallas, San Francisco, St. Louis and Washington, DC. And check out Passport in Malawi, Africa! Great experiences await your youth. Watch a two-minute video on Youtube at Treasure: Passport Camps 2011. www.passportcamps.org

WNC Slavic Ministries, Asheville, NC

Fran and Mike Graham lead WNC Slavic Ministries, Inc., which is a non-profit interde-

nominational ministry working together with Slavic leaders to provide holistic ministries to empower Slavic immigrants as they integrate into the Asheville, NC, area. Dentists, dental assistants and dental hygienists will be needed the last week of April to assist with the Dental Van. During the summer, groups are always welcome and needed to lead Backyard Bible Clubs and host Saturday picnics in the apartment complexes. In addition to the "family move-in kits" that are listed on their website, 48 pairs of standard pillowcases are needed to accompany sheets that have already been donated!

Contact Fran and Mike Graham at www.wncslavicministries.org.

Together For Hope of Arkansas

Together For Hope of Arkansas is a two-county initiative helping Phillips and Lee Counties in the Delta area of Arkansas.

TFH of Arkansas ministers in the following areas: education (literacy, tutoring, creativity and computer labs); health; community development; sports and leadership development; and economic development. The ministry is based at the Helena Community Center which hosts Stories on Wheels (a toy and book lending library), sports ministries, after-school tutoring programs, nutritional programs, health programs and a community laundry program.

Come be a part of CBF's Rural Poverty Initiative as we reach out to this community.

Teams, families and individuals are encouraged to come each summer to be a part of the swimming instruction team or to participate in the ACC (All Church Challenge) that will include a kids camp, building renovations, and a community garden. Delta Jewels sale parties and other micro-enterprise opportunities are needed!

Contact Ben Newell at (870) 995-3518, bn@worldmail.org.

Northeastern North Carolina

LaCount and Ana Anderson, CBF Affiliates working in Northeastern North Carolina, are busy teaching the book, **When Helping Hurts**. They are happy to work with churches interested in this study. They have discovered that helping people understand poverty is extremely important to successful, quality poverty relief.

On March 4-5, they are teaming up with WMU of NC to host the Plunge-2-Poverty retreat, which will take place in Roanoke Rapids. Sign up on the WMU website at www.wmunc.org.

WMU of NC and the Anderson's ministry are launching Christian Women's Job Corp sites in northeastern NC. This partnership will focus on those struggling with poverty and, with the help of a mentor, identify how to get a job and keep a job. Donations are needed to fund this new ministry. Contact Anna and LaCount Anderson for more information at landerson@thefellowship.info.

Together For Hope, Nada, Kentucky

Paula Settle serves in Nada and Booneville in eastern Kentucky as a part of the Rural Poverty Initiative. This involves working with more than 35 church mission teams each year, housing repairs, reverse-mission team trips, tutoring at the elementary school, and GORGEous Gals earrings/Business As Mission project. Paula welcomes NC mission teams, Kroger gift cards, Walmart cards, linens, and adopt-a-classroom sponsors. Through a grant, eight families in Nada will receive new houses. New household items are needed for these families.

Contact Paula Settle at psettle@thefellowship.info.

Haiti

Steve and Nancy James

seek to be the presence of Christ in Haiti by sharing their faith and helping to provide needed medical services. Skilled medical professionals in Haiti are often overworked and poorly paid, and hospitals lack the proper infrastructure to function. The Jameses have three major goals: to network people by understanding the concrete needs in Haiti, to encourage staff at medical clinics as well as Haitian Christians, and to empower by sharing medical and spiritual training.

In addition, teams are building homes, which continues to be a tremendous need in Haiti after the earthquake. If you are interested in construction, contact Chris Boltin at cboltin@thefellowship.info. If you are interested in Haiti medical missions or financial contributions to the Jameses' ministry, contact jamesinhaiti@gmail.com.

The Village of Hope, Ukraine

This ministry

was officially founded in 2003 when a deserted Russian youth camp, consisting of seven buildings, was purchased. Since 2004, volunteer teams have served at the Village of Hope renovating and constructing housing and other buildings, landscaping and sorting clothes. Yet, with all the hard work, the most memorable times were spent with the children!

Our major construction is finished, but teams are still encouraged to come for many other projects, including renovation of other buildings on the property, work with the children, women's ministry, sports camp, and VBS. Contact Bill Mason at wmason@carolina.rr.com.

The Timothy Project

The Timothy Project, led by Cliff Christian, is an ecumenical missions-coordination agency for church, youth, college and inter-generational groups. Based in the Appalachian Mountains of western NC, they identify, develop, assist and support ongoing mission efforts in the southeastern US. Their summer mission activities are youth-oriented and seek to connect students with opportunities to serve, learn and grow in relationship to Jesus Christ and others.

Rural Appalachian: Madison County, NC, in June; Yancey County, NC, in July; and Cumberland Gap, KY, in July.
Urban Mountain Appalachian mission: Asheville, NC, in July
Urban Coastal: Charleston, SC, in July

For more information, visit www.TheTimothyProjects.com



Joining God in the World

A Fresh Look at
Missions and Evangelism

Tuesday, February 1, 2011
First Baptist, Graham

As the Father has sent me, so I send you. John 20:21

Schedule:

2:30-3:45pm Session 1

***The Theology and Practice of
Evangelism Among Baptists:
Then and Now***

Curtis Freeman
Director, Baptist House of Studies,
Duke Divinity School

Followed by question and response
time moderated by Mark Mofield,
Pastor, First Baptist, Elon

3:45-4:15pm Break

4:15-5:30pm Session 2

***From Maintenance to Mission:
One Church's Story of
Transformation***

Tom Cabaniss, Pastor, First, Kannapolis

Followed by question and response
time moderated by Linda Jones,
CBFNC Missions Coordinator

5:30-6:45pm Dinner

including a brief presentation
from CBFNC Evangelism Task Force

6:45-8:00pm Worship

Address - Larry Hovis,
CBFNC Executive Coordinator

Sermon - Shane Nixon, Dir. of Church
Relations, Baptist Retirement Homes

Mass Choir from area churches led
by Shannon Hall, Minister of Music,
First Baptist, Graham

A strong emphasis on evangelism and missions, at home and around the world, has shaped our identity as North Carolina Fellowship Baptists. There is broad agreement that we are committed to evangelism and missions. How we pursue evangelism and missions as we embark on the fifth Baptist century is less clear. Methods that worked thirty years ago don't seem to be (or aren't) as effective.

At the same time, Christians are not satisfied to franchise the global missions effort to paid professionals — they want hands-on involvement. In addition, a new term has entered the conversation that is embraced by some and seen as faddish by others: missional.

What is the future of evangelism and missions for Fellowship Baptists in North Carolina and beyond? What can we learn from our history and heritage that will help us chart a new course? What can we learn from sister congregations about practices and approaches that are faithful to our heritage, consistent with our identity, and relevant to today's changing times? This convocation, for pastors, staff ministers and lay leaders in congregations will address these issues and more.

Details:

This event is free of charge, although there is a \$10 charge for dinner (paid advance reservation required by January 24).

Pre-register today to save time when you arrive at the event and to assist us in planning.

Free preschool childcare is available by reservation only, also due January 24.

Registration:

Visit www.CBFNC.org to pre-register and to make dinner and childcare reservations.

CBFNC Hispanic Network

With few resources, determination and a sense of calling is strong among the CBFNC Hispanic Network, Companerismos Cristiano Emanuel.

“The church should carry out its work, not the association nor the convention. I believe that you are capable to do the work of creating new churches, new pastors and new leaders,” said Pastor Javier Benitez writing to the Hispanic Network.

“La Iglesia debe cumplir su trabajo y no las asociacion, ni la convencion. Creo que ustedes son capaces de hacer su trabajo de crear nuevas iglesias, nuevos pastores y nuevos lideres.”

Companerismo Cristiano Emanuel Retreats in 2011

Men - May 13-14
Family - June 3-4
Children - July 30-31
Youth - August 5-7
Women - Aug. 27-28

Contact Javier Benitez
at javierb1@embarqmail.com or 919-200-2109
or Linda Jones at
LJones@cbfnc.org
for more information.

Greenville is Doing Missions the Missional Way

by Laura Barclay, Social Ministries Coordinator

On October 30, 677 members from 10 Greenville churches gathered for an Operation InAsMuch day of mission. Some churches included a racial reconciliation emphasis, beginning the month with pulpit and choir swaps. This cross-cultural partnership emphasized the value of diversity and the importance of every member of the body of Christ. I was invited to bring the commissioning prayer at breakfast, and witnessed what was being done in this community for God and neighbor.

At First Born Community Development Center, Executive Director Carolyn Spencer told the story of the church and feeding facility that serves around 1,200 people a month. Supported by the USDA and local churches, volunteers provide food and ministry to the community. Carolyn has faced hard times in her ministry, but, gesturing toward her volunteers, says, "I trust in the Lord. Every time I've needed an angel, God would put one in my path."

At *Unidos por Cristo*, a Hispanic United Methodist mission, workers began a Backyard Bible Club. Many Anglo families and youth participate in such programs but stay involved because Pastor Heather Olsen says, "They build friendships cross-culturally. They are excited by how enthusiastically the Hispanic youth observe their faith, and their good witness helps visitors renew their own faith."

Back at First Christian Church, volunteers from First Christian, Oakmont Baptist, Koinonia Christian Church, and

Unidos por Cristo measured rice. For every 1,000 meals packaged, a gong sounded and shouts of encouragement ensued. Side by side, these volunteers packaged 27,406 meals to ship to Nicaragua.



"One Church, One Child" program with Jennifer Fowler of DSS.

At Oakmont Baptist Church, the "One Church, One Child" program began with a Fall Festival. Jennifer Fowler of the Department of Social Services organizes local churches to support foster children and provide parent-education classes. Kids happily played games as

Fowler shared her dream that this program would involve many churches who would commit to helping Pitt County children.

At nearby Oakmont Square Apartments, which Oakmont Baptist purchased to be on mission in the community, volunteers work on crafts with children. Dave Norris of Oakmont shared that his Bible Study group met at their community center to send the message that all are welcome.

He said, "Why would people cross the bushes to walk towards that steeple if we aren't willing to meet them where they are?"

More than 50 missions projects were completed, but the most remarkable thing was that this event surpassed just one day. It was born out of relationships built in the community

through intentional work by pastors and lay leaders who believe it is their duty to value all members of the body of Christ. This event highlighted collaboration, but the relationships and work continues. This is doing missions the missional way!



Rev. Greg Rogers, pastor of Oakmont Baptist; Rev. Virgil Smith, pastor of the First Born Holy Church; and Carolyn Spencer, Executive Director of the Feeding ministry at First Born Community Development Center.



Community members gather at First Christian for rice bagging.

Wondering What to Do This Summer? CBFNC Offers Three Ideas ...

by Wanda Kidd, College Ministry Consultant

Student.Go *Beyond your culture. Beyond your comfort zone. Beyond yourself.* Student.Go, a program of CBF Global Missions, provides opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to serve among and advocate for the most neglected people in our world. Our positions include a wide variety of locations and unique types of ministry and are intended to provide students with hands-on missions experience. Students serve for a summer or a semester alongside CBF Global Missions field personnel and ministry partners in locations around the globe. Not only do the students gain invaluable experience in cross-cultural service, they also provide crucial assistance to the ministries with which they work.

Through these experiences, Student.Go strives to help students reach beyond themselves to be the presence of Christ in the world. Student.Go is open to undergraduate and graduate students 18 years of age and older. Applicants must have completed at least one semester of college before their term of service begins. There is no upper age limit! All ages of undergrad and graduate students are welcome. Student.Go reflects the priorities of CBF in its emphasis on holistic ministries, taking seriously God's mandate of doing justice and mercy and Christ's instruction to care for the hungry, naked, sick, homeless and imprisoned as we would care for him. We value God's calling of both women and men to all types of ministry and seek to support both male and female students in their following of God's will in their lives. Student.Go provides room, board, local transportation and a stipend



(\$1,000/summer, \$1,500/semester) as well as a weekend of orientation before you go and a debriefing retreat at the end of the summer. Some positions may require extra fundraising due to their length, location or the nature of the work.

Passport Summer Staff *Inquire. Pray. Apply.* We interview in the fall and hire by February. For information about our summer camps, visit www.passportcamps.org or call 800-769-0210. An application will be e-mailed to you. We have the following opportunities: videographer, pastor, bible study leader, program coordinator, worship leader, summer staff intern and recreation coordinator.

Collegiate Congregational Internship *An unexpected church experience.* The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Collegiate Congregational Internship program provides summer opportunities for college students to serve through Fellowship partner churches. Beginning in 2010, the Fellowship began facilitating internships to 100 college students every summer. These 10-week full-time internships help students explore a call to congregational ministry. The program is funded by a three-year Lilly Endowment grant.

Undergraduate students are eligible to apply for the 10-week summer internships. Through the internship, the student will explore his or her call to ministry by working within a local congregation. Student interns need to: attend an CBF-sponsored orientation in May and a debriefing retreat in August; build an action plan with goals for the internship and steps to fulfill those goals; set a schedule of hours and be reliable and

punctual; attend worship services weekly unless other arrangements have been made for a particular week; meet with your mentor weekly; and complete journaling, reading and reflection expectations for the summer.

The CBF grant provides the following: \$1,200 stipend; three-day orientation; \$200 travel stipend to orientation and to/from the field; coaching throughout the summer; and two-day debriefing at the end of the summer. To apply, visit www.thefellowship.info/collegeinternship. The application deadline is in early spring. If selected for an internship, you will be matched with a church.

Selahvie Students who serve with Collegiate Congregational Internships, Student.GO and Passport top off their summer with an opportunity to debrief and prepare to re-enter campus life at an event called Selahvie. This year, it will be held August 8-10 at Schocco Springs Assembly in Talladega, Alabama. There will be music, sharing, and time to reflect and worship together. We would love to have you join us, even if you do not serve with these mission opportunities this summer. The cost is \$100 and you can contact Passportcamps.com to get more information.

So join us this summer. Learn to serve, to lead and grow in Christ. It will change your life.

"The church included me in everything just as if I was a full-time member of the staff. I realized my calling, had personal growth and fell in love with children. I'm grateful for the internship experience CBF allowed me to have." –Kelly

Ministers Who Have Retired

Compiled by Jack Causey, Ministerial Resources Coordinator

Each year, ministers retire who have served North Carolina Baptist churches and have supported the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina. We want to join their respective congregations in giving thanks for the ministry they have rendered through the years and also express our prayers and best wishes for them in the next chapter of their lives. Beginning with this issue of *The Gathering*, we share with you the names of those ministers that we are aware of who have recently retired.

Since this is our first effort at recognizing these ministers, it may well be that we have missed a minister who retired this past year. We are requesting that if you or a minister you know retired in 2010, please let us know so that we can recognize them.

January – December, 2010

Dean Baughn

from First Baptist Church, Rutherfordton

Dennis Herman

from Greystone Baptist Church, Raleigh

Ray Lundy

from Fair Bluff Baptist Church, Fair Bluff

Richard Muri

from First Baptist Church, Burnsville

If you are retiring or know of someone who has retired, please e-mail that information to jcausey@cbfnc.org.

New Contributing CBFNC Partner Churches

(As of November 30, 2010)

Sawyer's Creek Baptist Church, Camden

Garland Baptist Church, Garland (new MRP* contributor)

Loray Baptist Church, Gastonia (new MRP* contributor)

First, Hickory (new MRP* contributor)

Calvary Baptist Church, Mt. Airy (new MRP* contributor)

Pfafftown Baptist Church, Pfafftown (new MRP* contributor)

Temple Baptist Church, Raleigh

Wake Forest Baptist Church, Winston-Salem

*Mission Resource Plan - visit www.CBFNC.org



New Ministers to NC Luncheon

February 3, 2011 (snow date: February 10)

11:30am-2:00pm

For ministers (pastors and staff) and spouses who moved to a church/ministry position in NC during 2010.

Join us for a complimentary luncheon at the CBFNC offices in Winston-Salem. There will be fellowship as well as an opportunity to meet CBFNC staff and learn about our organization.

Register at www.cbfnc.org or call 888-822-1944.

Ministers on the Move

Compiled by Jack Causey, Ministerial Resources Coordinator

Our encouragement and support go to the following ministers who have recently moved:

Andrew Daugherty is now serving as the Minister of Faith Formation at Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte.

Jenny Lee is now serving as Minister to Students for the First Baptist Church of Asheville.

Kevin Wilson has been called to the First Baptist Church of Boone to serve as their associate pastor.

Steve Ayers has been called as the Associate Minister for the First Baptist Church of Mt. Airy.

Sally Williams is now serving as Adult Ministry Coordinator of the Wingate Baptist Church.

Ron and Louise Glover have also joined the staff of the Wingate Baptist Church as Children's Ministry Coordinators.

Craig McCoy has been called to serve as the Minister of Music for the University Baptist Church in Chapel Hill.

The Ridge Road Baptist Church in Raleigh has called **Randy Sherron** as their pastor.

When you make a move or know of someone who has changed places of ministry, let us know at jcausey@cbfnc.org. For vocational placement or search committee requests, visit our vocations page on our website at www.cbfnc.org or call 336-759-3456 or 888-822-1944.

Coordinator Visits

September-October 2010

Ardmore, Winston-Salem

First, Albemarle

First, Eden

First, Goldsboro

First, Henderson

First, Jamestown

First, Lexington

First, Liberty

First, Mooresville

First, Shelby

First, Taylorsville

Forest Hills, Raleigh

Hiddenite, Hiddenite

Knollwood, Winston-Salem

Mount Pisgah, Fayetteville

Parkwood, High Point

Sandy Plains, Shelby

Sardis, Charlotte

The Summit, Cullowhee

Viewmont, Hickory

Wise, Wise



**Bringing Baptists of North Carolina
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Upcoming Events ~ January/February Edition

Preaching Hopeful Imagination
teleclass
January 18, 2011, at 2pm EST

Building Pastor/Congregation Relationships
teleclass
January 27, 2011, at 10am EST

CBFNC Youth Ski Retreats
January 21-23, 2011
January 28-30, 2011
Winterplace Ski Resort
Beckley, WV

**Joining God in the World:
A Fresh Look at
Missions and Evangelism**
February 1, 2011
First Baptist Church, Graham

New Ministers' Luncheon
February 3, 2011
CBFNC office, Winston-Salem

Children's Choir Festival
February 5, 2011
FBC, High Point

College Mid-Winter Retreat
February 5-6, 2011
Camp Mundo Vista

**Christian Coaching
Certificate Training**
Part II: February 7-9, 2011

**Reaching the Unchurched
in Your Community**
webinar
February 15, 2011, at 2pm EST

Staff Minister's Retreat
February 28-March 3, 2011
North Myrtle Beach, SC

Youth Choir Festival
March 18-19, 2011
FBC, Greensboro

**CBFNC General Assembly
The Heart of Jesus:
Living Justice and Mercy**
March 25-26, 2011
First Baptist, Asheville

**The Spirituality of Jesus,
an adult spiritual formation retreat**
April 8-10, 2011
Caraway Conference Center

**Hispanic Men's Retreat:
Walking By Faith**
May 13-14, 2011
Camp Mundo Vista, Asheboro

**Hispanic Family Retreat:
Walking By Faith**
June 3-4, 2011
Siler City

**Hispanic Children's Retreat:
Walking By Faith**
July 30-31, 2011
Camp Caraway, Asheboro

**Hispanic Youth Retreat:
Walking By Faith**
August 5-7, 2011
Camp Caraway, Asheboro

**Hispanic Women's Retreat:
Walking By Faith**
August 27-28, 2011
Camp Caraway, Asheboro

Visit www.CBFNC.org to register and for more information.

The Gathering is published six times a year. All questions may be directed to Sarah Mitchell, 888-822-1944 or smitchell@cbfnc.org.
For story submissions, contact Sarah Mitchell for requirements and newsletter deadlines.