



JULY-AUGUST 2006

FELLOWSHIP



COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP OF SOUTH CAROLINA

First Baptist Church, Blackville

Finding mission opportunities close to home

Members of First Baptist Church in Blackville don't have to venture far from home to find mission opportunities, and pastor Jeff Hayes is trying to help his congregation discover the possibilities.

"The church gives above and beyond to many different mission offerings, but I wanted to see people get hands on with some mission activities," said Jeff, the pastor at Blackville for about a year and a half.

"I know we can talk a good game, but not many of us follow it up in the way we live," he said. "And while it is easy to give monetary resources to help someone across the continent or the world, it is a much more rewarding experience to help someone in your backyard—and, by doing so, we fulfill a need."

One major event the congregation has already been involved with is a Missions Blitz. The day began with breakfast, followed by a brief commissioning service, and then teams set out to do various mission activities including yard work for disabled persons, baking appreciation cookies for teachers and town leaders, and town clean-up and beautification.

"All of this was done in the name of Christ," Jeff said. "I tell people to speak Christ when the opportunity arises, but to live Christ through service and love constantly."

The congregation is already looking for other ways to help. "Last year, one Sunday School class went through a study that prompted discussion of the possibility of us doing lots of mission emphases, including the prospect of a medical clinic—something Blackville could desperately use," Jeff said.

"With a below national average income, rural setting, and minimal opportunity for growth, Blackville is a priority mission ground of persons who are in need," he said. "By following the instruction and example that Jesus has set before us, I pray that we can become a church that looks beyond racial ethnicity and social status to meet

the needs—spiritually and physically—of persons in our area."

Sylvia Quattlebaum is the director of the church's WMU program and a strong force in mission involvement, Jeff said.



These young members of First Baptist Church in Blackville, Sidney and Samantha Whittle, were part of the town beautification team during a day-long local Missions Blitz. Church members helped clean up the yards of several disabled residents.

FBC Blackville was organized in 1846 and has a total membership of 457. Average Sunday School attendance is 85 with 125 in worship.

In May, the church was a part of a community revival that had as its theme "Unity in Our Community."

"In a town where racial tension still runs rampant and churches are more concerned with what team you play for rather than what our joint mission is, I feel this is an unprecedented event for us to gather as a community to pursue a common purpose," Jeff said.

**SC/CBF Fall
Convocation—
Missions:**

The Heart of CBF

Date: Monday, November 13
Time: 2:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Location: First Baptist Church, Clinton
Speakers: Evelyn Oliveira (afternoon)
Emmanuel McCall (evening)

Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Someone responded, "I have been taught that sentence from Holy Scriptures ever since my childhood, and I believe it. I have often quoted you on this very point when arguing that Liberals, Muslims, Jews and others will go straight to Hell!"

Jesus spoke slowly, as if he had attempted to explain this idea of God's grace to many people many times, but they refused to listen. Jesus said, once again, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

"I know, I know. That's what I said. The Feminists and the Hindus and the Buddhists are all going to Hell."

"That's not what I said," Jesus cautioned.

"Oh, yes you did," the man corrected Jesus. "Nobody goes to heaven unless they become a Christian."

"Let me repeat myself," said Jesus, "and maybe you would honor me by actually listening, and not repeating over and over again words I never said."

"I know what you said. I have been taught it since birth. It is a word of judgment against people who are not believers. Unless someone becomes a born-again Christian, just like me, then they cannot ever get into heaven. No chance. Period." The man smiled proudly at his perfect summary of what he believed to be true.

Jesus was very patient with the man: "You have stated accurately the beliefs of many Christians, but what they say



By Marion
Aldridge
Coordinator

Coordinator's Column:

An imaginary conversation

should not be confused with what I said."

"Well, I know what you said. You said that people are going to Hell if they..."

Jesus interrupted the man, and repeated himself, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

"I am pretty clear about what I believe..." the man began, "and only True Believers like me will get into Heaven."

"I decide," said Jesus, firmly, "who might have access to the Father." Then, once again, he added, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

"Yeah, but..."

Then, Jesus turned away, sorrowful, pained by the man's hardness of heart.

CBF General Assembly

As usual, a South Carolina meeting was held during the CBF General Assembly in Atlanta June 22-23. The meeting provided an opportunity for state CBFers to get together for fellowship and to hear reports about some of the work going on in the state.

Cheryl Adamson talked about the new church she is pastor of in Conway. Several members of the church attended their first CBF meeting with Cheryl.



Furman CBSF: Joe Farry, the director of the Cooperative Baptist Student Fellowship at Furman, with CBSF members Brittany Riddle and Clary Gardner. Brittany gave an update on CBSF at the SC meeting.

2006 Children's Sabbath Observance

Endorsed by more than 200 denominations and religious organizations, the National Observance of Children's Sabbath weekend unites religious congregations of many faiths in speaking out and acting faithfully for children and families. Please join other SC/CBF churches in celebrating Children's Sabbath October 20-22. Resources can be obtained by contacting The Children's Defense Fund (865) 457-6466 or email Klibby@childrensdefense.org. —Melanie Tidsworth, Chair, SC/CBF Justice Committee



Rivertown has a small but active youth group. Pictured are Jory Trevino, Patrick Shelley, Jake Burden, Rich Shelley, Amber Kinman, and Matthew Lambert. Church member Debbie Dantzer talked with the youth about leading the church to sponsor a child at the Ruth School for Gypsy children in Bucharest, Romania. They agreed to do it and have discussed ways to raise the money.

Rivertown Community Church, Conway Small congregation adapts to best use its resources

By Bud Esper, pastor

Our congregation is small, so we don't have the resources, either people-power or financial, that larger churches have. We haven't let that stop us from pursuing many goals, but we've had to adapt many of our desires to fit our situation.

We have a small, but active, youth program meeting on Sunday evenings. This past year we tested an academic excellence recognition program. So far, it seems to have helped our academically challenged youth, and will likely be continued next year. Our youth are planning a summer outreach/mission project to Appalachia in cooperation with another church. We've found that some larger churches with such programs are glad to have us on board with them.

We are blessed with several school teachers who take turns leading our women's discipleship/Bible study program. It is always popular and brings in folks beyond our congregation.

Our benevolence team (missions) has done excellent work to keep us mission-minded, something we hold as essential to our church mission. Locally, we are active with the "Street Reach" homeless shelter where we serve meals, CAP food bank, Waccamaw Youth Center for homeless teens, and in the summer the Waccamaw Resort Ministries program which distributes Bibles and food to

beach lifeguards.

This year we began a pastor's class, a short term Sunday School group looking at specific topics. The current group is designed for new Christians and others less familiar with Bible study issues.

Consistently, our folks point to our blended worship service as special. We believe it is among the most successful blended formats anywhere, and our folks, young and not-so-young, all seem to feel engaged in it. It's been a learning experience for us, and at times a challenge, to think beyond the traditional frames with which most of us grew up. Nonetheless, it's been a blessing and an inspiration the way our worship/praise

team has been willing to try new things, always in the spirit of worship.

From our founding, we have held close to SC/CBF. We place strong emphasis on CBF state and global missions, keep connected to Metanoia, and participate with the Coordinating Council.

Our current membership is about 48, with Sunday morning attendance averaging around 37. We baptized six new Christians this past year (we do not have a baptismal pool, so we use a member's unheated swimming pool).

Our staff consists of one part-time music director/praise team leader, Jean Burden, and our part-time pastor, me.

We use a team governance, rather than a committee structure. Most of our teams are open to anyone who wishes to participate, and we encourage everyone to get involved in some team activity. We have better than 90% participation.

Participants can be added at any time, so a new person coming in does not need to wait for "elections" to get involved in a way that promotes the feeling of inclusiveness and ownership.

Our team design promotes interaction among teams which helps eliminate delays waiting for team meetings when projects involve more than one team. Our teams meet as needed and set their own meeting schedules; this helps reduce unnecessary meetings and promotes participation. We also include our older youth on our teams as a means of training them for future church leadership.

Rivertown Community Church is located at 1917 Oak Street in Conway. Bud Esper, bud@spiritwise.com

The benevolence team at Rivertown Community Church. Pictured are Laura Dantzer, Bud Esper, Dan Burden, Judy Shelley, and Debbie Dantzer



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of South Carolina**

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July-August 2006

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Missions right at home

FBC Blackville has discovered missions opportunities aplenty in its own community. During a recent missions blitz, Sylvia Quattlebaum, Jan Bodiford, and Becky Jean Collins delivered a food basket to a needy local resident, while DJ Sullivan cleaned brush from a disabled neighbor's yard.

Missions is our mission (and not just somewhere else)

By Pat Kirkbride, Chair, SC/CBF Missions Committee

Too many times when we hear "missions" we think about foreign lands, strange cultures and sending a "few good men" (and women). We write a check once or twice a year and we have "done missions" for another year.

Those checks, of course, have been and continue to be needed throughout the world. But, there is much more to doing missions than that.

We are commanded to go into all the world. That "all" also means here in South Carolina, right at our own doors.

It means reaching out daily, not just during a special mission emphasis. It means helping those in need – those we see every day – those we see and from whom we turn and walk on the other side.

Missions is our mission as children

of God. Our command is to reach out and minister to a lost and hungry land – wherever that may be.

CBF of SC has statewide special missions priorities each year where we provide for special needs and ministries. Our state missions offering helps support these priorities.

There are, however hundreds of mission ministries going on in our churches every day. These include feeding the hungry, volunteering for Meal on Wheels, or at free medical clinics, caring for homeless and building and

refurbishing homes for them, providing temporary housing, educational needs and ESL classes, providing job guidance and assistance, visiting the sick or nursing home residents, prison ministries, and the list goes on and on.

The missions committee would like to hear about your missions ministries. What is your church doing? What are your special individual mission projects? Share these with us. Others are looking for service ideas and are interested in what your church is doing.

Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it to the least of these. . ." That's missions at work. That's getting our hands dirty and getting in the trenches. That's what it is all about and that is our mission.

Through June 30, gifts to the 2006 State Missions Offering total \$26,910. The goal for the calendar year is \$80,000.

Gifts given through CBF of South Carolina

Fiscal Year July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006

These are gifts given through SC/CBF. Some churches may make direct gifts to CBF National, and to other designated causes.

	CBF of SC	State Missions	CBF National	Global Missions	Other	TOTAL
Augusta Heights Baptist Church Greenville	\$653.60	\$865.00	\$0.00	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$1,613.60
Augusta Road Baptist Church Greenville	\$2,446.34	\$50.00	\$4,543.20	\$1,006.00	\$684.00	\$8,729.54
Belmont Baptist Church Columbia	\$1,201.05	\$110.00	\$1,091.96	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$2,453.01
Blaney Baptist Church Elgin	\$1,844.16	\$0.00	\$227.89	\$705.00	\$0.00	\$2,777.05
Boulevard Baptist Church Anderson	\$28,457.04	\$710.00	\$52,848.82	\$5,025.00	\$2,778.43	\$89,819.29
Brunson Baptist Church Brunson	\$1,627.42	\$425.00	\$1,909.86	\$2,008.75	\$3,410.00	\$9,381.03
Cedar Spring Baptist Church Spartanburg	\$277.03	\$0.00	\$514.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$791.52
Chesterfield Baptist Church Chesterfield	\$1,821.43	\$425.00	\$2,605.34	\$410.78	\$0.00	\$5,262.55
Clearview Baptist Church Anderson	\$1,191.31	\$170.00	\$2,212.38	\$1,241.88	\$1,893.00	\$6,708.57
Corinth Baptist Church Vance	\$2,177.66	\$25.00	\$4,044.25	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$6,421.91
Cornerstone Baptist Church Hartsville	\$2,783.77	\$0.00	\$927.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,711.69
Earle Street Baptist Church Greenville	\$1,240.10	\$0.00	\$2,303.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,543.13
East Park Baptist Church Greenville	\$35.25	\$0.00	\$66.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$102.05
Ebenezer Baptist Church Florence	\$518.00	\$0.00	\$962.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,480.00
Edisto Beach Baptist Edisto Island	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Emmanuel Baptist Fellowship Lexington	\$2,009.19	\$50.00	\$3,731.32	\$1,057.08	\$325.00	\$7,172.59
Fernwood Baptist Church Spartanburg	\$12,080.50	\$1,165.97	\$12,079.50	\$4,743.03	\$1,261.29	\$31,330.29
First Baptist Church Aiken	\$55,555.47	\$3,905.00	\$0.00	\$54,740.63	\$19,060.34	\$133,261.44
First Baptist Church Allendale	\$525.00	\$0.00	\$975.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$1,550.00
First Baptist Church Anderson	\$18,243.05	\$1,453.50	\$33,879.94	\$5,481.00	\$0.00	\$59,057.49
First Baptist Church Belton	\$3,595.23	\$1,088.00	\$6,676.78	\$5,608.63	\$15,412.55	\$32,381.19
First Baptist Church Blackville	\$1,514.82	\$656.90	\$2,813.24	\$972.50	\$0.00	\$5,957.46
First Baptist Church Clemson	\$18,454.75	\$2,489.75	\$47,708.25	\$6,793.46	\$400.00	\$75,846.21
First Baptist Church Clinton	\$1,774.16	\$100.00	\$3,294.78	\$4,160.00	\$0.00	\$9,328.94
First Baptist Church Conway	\$4,337.08	\$0.00	\$8,054.61	\$0.00	\$4,790.00	\$17,181.69
First Baptist Church Denmark	\$533.16	\$1,051.18	\$103.01	\$2,595.91	\$0.00	\$4,283.26
First Baptist Church Easley	\$2,287.96	\$0.00	\$4,249.08	\$0.00	\$1,740.00	\$8,277.04
First Baptist Church Edgefield	\$1,674.38	\$0.00	\$3,109.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,783.97
First Baptist Church Gaffney	\$2,077.35	\$0.00	\$3,857.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,935.31
First Baptist Church Greenville	\$7,582.50	\$4,901.92	\$22,727.50	\$83,332.73	\$26,522.72	\$145,067.37
First Baptist Church Greenwood	\$10,500.00	\$6,372.50	\$19,500.00	\$8,868.94	\$1,650.34	\$46,891.78
First Baptist Church Holly Hill	\$3,613.06	\$0.00	\$4,602.79	\$1,327.75	\$0.00	\$9,543.60
First Baptist Church Inman	\$1,404.43	\$0.00	\$879.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,284.00
First Baptist Church Lake City	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$50,000.00
First Baptist Church Lancaster	\$258.65	\$0.00	\$480.35	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$989.00
First Baptist Church Laurens	\$683.69	\$700.00	\$1,269.77	\$845.00	\$0.00	\$3,498.46
First Baptist Church Lorris	\$291.55	\$0.00	\$541.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$833.00
First Baptist Church Mauldin	\$364.70	\$0.00	\$677.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,042.00
First Baptist Church Newberry	\$7,564.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,564.96
First Baptist Church North Charleston	\$348.53	\$0.00	\$647.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$995.80
First Baptist Church Orangeburg	\$15,999.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,999.94
First Baptist Church Pamplico	\$1,322.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$320.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,642.18
First Baptist Church Pendleton	\$7,291.73	\$926.00	\$13,541.77	\$7,642.67	\$0.00	\$29,402.17
First Baptist Church Piedmont	\$1,547.37	\$520.00	\$2,873.67	\$1,527.32	\$395.00	\$6,863.36

	CBF of SC	State Missions	CBF National	Global Missions	Other	TOTAL
First Baptist Church Simpsonville	\$4,260.81	\$1,564.10	\$3,213.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,038.54
First Baptist Church Walterboro	\$12,271.20	\$2,122.50	\$22,789.37	\$3,000.16	\$0.00	\$40,183.23
First Baptist Church Woodruff	\$868.67	\$0.00	\$1,613.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,481.89
First Baptist Church York	\$3,808.34	\$547.50	\$7,072.61	\$2,377.08	\$0.00	\$13,805.53
Florence Baptist Fellowship Florence	\$1,551.00	\$555.00	\$1,551.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$4,257.00
Great Commision Baptist Church Lancaster	\$71.00	\$0.00	\$39.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$110.00
Greenlawn Baptist Church Columbia	\$2,682.11	\$10.00	\$4,292.30	\$1,970.56	\$1,072.86	\$10,027.83
Heath Springs Baptist Church Heath Springs	\$54.54	\$0.00	\$101.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$155.84
Kathwood Baptist Church Columbia	\$17,611.09	\$520.00	\$30,849.16	\$12,244.59	\$65.00	\$61,289.84
Lakeview Baptist Church Camden	\$2,548.98	\$895.00	\$4,733.89	\$2,605.00	\$0.00	\$10,782.87
Lawtonville Baptist Church Estill	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$4,538.31	\$4,988.31
Mountain Bridge Community Church Greer	\$674.75	\$0.00	\$1,253.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,927.76
New Beginnings Baptist Fellowship						
West Columbia	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
New Heights Baptist Church Gaffney	\$2,466.30	\$0.00	\$4,580.28	\$1,834.05	\$1,000.00	\$9,880.63
New Hope Christian Fellowship						
West Columbia	\$907.30	\$446.16	\$1,684.97	\$778.00	\$558.00	\$4,374.43
Newkirk Baptist Church Rock Hill	\$187.86	\$0.00	\$348.89	\$1,520.72	\$0.00	\$2,057.47
Nixonville Chapel Conway	\$420.00	\$0.00	\$780.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Oakland Baptist Church Rock Hill	\$36,051.00	\$7,089.40	\$24,034.00	\$10,634.08	\$0.00	\$77,808.48
Overbrook Baptist Church Greenville	\$179.00	\$0.00	\$268.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$447.50
Palmetto Missionary Baptist Church Conway	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Parisview Baptist Church Greenville	\$191.85	\$0.00	\$17.55	\$77.00	\$0.00	\$286.40
Pelham Road Baptist Church Greenville	\$2,850.38	\$0.00	\$5,293.59	\$2,824.00	\$1,812.68	\$12,780.65
Pendleton Street Baptist Church Greenville	\$334.66	\$0.00	\$100.67	\$28.00	\$0.00	\$463.33
Providence Baptist Church Daniel Island	\$4,200.00	\$1,628.50	\$13,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,628.50
Rivertown Community Church Longs	\$1,125.00	\$2,332.00	\$0.00	\$2,359.03	\$1,500.00	\$7,316.03
Sans Souci Baptist Church Greenville	\$4,722.82	\$350.00	\$8,770.88	\$2,209.25	\$825.46	\$16,878.41
Shaws Fork Baptist Church Aiken	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
St. Andrews Baptist Church Columbia	\$15,374.82	\$10.00	\$28,553.30	\$4,485.25	\$0.00	\$48,423.37
Swift Creek Baptist Church Hartsville	\$1,356.84	\$0.00	\$2,622.16	\$840.00	\$0.00	\$4,819.00
The Baptist Church of Beaufort Beaufort	\$22,334.08	\$1,913.95	\$7,578.91	\$9,478.43	\$751.85	\$42,057.22
The Bible Fellowship Baptist Church						
North Myrtle Beach	\$3,101.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,101.79
The Community Church of the Midlands						
Columbia	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Tidal Creek Fellowship Beaufort	\$420.00	\$0.00	\$780.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Timberlake Baptist Church Myrtle Beach	\$3,968.55	\$0.00	\$7,370.19	\$1,135.00	\$2,189.00	\$14,662.74
Trinity Baptist Church Seneca	\$10,661.00	\$1,000.00	\$19,799.00	\$4,600.00	\$400.00	\$36,460.00
TOTAL Church Giving	\$417,100.29	\$49,194.83	\$477,538.82	\$268,084.26	\$116,135.83	\$1,328,054.03
TOTAL Individual Giving	\$35,071.61	\$2,398.00	\$11,119.70	\$1,362.50	\$7,933.46	\$57,885.27
TOTAL Gifts 2005-06	\$451,561.90	\$51,592.83	\$488,658.52	\$269,221.76	\$122,480.83	\$1,385,939.30

The category of "Other" includes all other designated gifts such as to theological education, Katrina and tsunami response, new church starts, world hunger, and Japanese ministries.

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South Carolina operates on a fiscal year that runs from July 1-June 30. These figures indicate gifts received in the SC/CBF office between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006. They are unaudited. A comparison of receipts versus expenditures, and other financial data for the fiscal year, should be available for the September newsletter.

Thank you for your support of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in 2005-06.