

# FELLOWSHIP

MAY 2007

## 2007 State Mission Offering Goal: \$80,000

to support

-  Our work with internationals in South Carolina, particularly the Japanese ministry based in the Upstate.
-  Our work with the poor in Allendale through a partnership with First Baptist Church in Allendale and Christ Central Ministries.
-  Our work with Metanoia, a SC/CBF urban ministry in North Charleston that is working to transform one neighborhood through a multitude of programs.

Materials — including bulletin inserts, posters, and DVDs — to help promote the offering are available through the SC/CBF office. Speakers knowledgeable about the missions work going on in South Carolina are also available to speak to your churches. Contact Missions Coordinator Beverly Greer at [beverly@cbfosc.org](mailto:beverly@cbfosc.org).

### ESL in Anderson

Mihoko Kakuno from Japan, substitute teacher Ila Tribble, teacher Ruth Hodges, and Supornthip (Bea) Nilaruk from Bangkok, Thailand.



The students who participate in our ESL classes at Boulevard are a fun group. We celebrate birthdays, relatives' visits, the change of seasons and bon voyage times. The bon voyage parties get teary. Recently, some of our students participated in our *Taste of Anderson* fund-raiser to support our Honduras mission project. The students brought wonderful food to be sold for a dollar a portion. There was friendly competition between the Japanese and Brazilians. This tells you that we enjoy each other. Currently we have four teachers, two substitutes, a child-care worker, and 12 students. I am grateful that our church encourages its members to look around us to see how we can make a difference anywhere we might find ourselves.

— Ruth Hodges, International Committee, Boulevard Baptist Church, Anderson



The Cooperative Student Fellowship at Clemson spent spring break, March 17-22, working with Metanoia. Here intern John Callaway, a former member at Fernwood Baptist Church in Spartanburg and now a member of FBC Clemson, and Christy Beemer, a graduate student and member of Sans Souci Baptist Church in Greenville, entertain at the daily after-school Young Leaders program. Students also painted the space used for Metanoia's youth leadership development programs.

## METANOIA

The Cooperative Student Fellowship from Clemson added big splashes of color to the space used for youth development programs at Metanoia. Shown at far right is Sarahann Callaway from Boiling Springs, a member at Fernwood Baptist Church in Spartanburg. Near right is the entire CSF group.



## Missions in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:

# Helping, Fixing, or Serving

*“The object of this society is to evangelize the poor, dark, idolatrous Heathen, by sending missionaries into different parts of the world.”* In 1792, these words inaugurated “The Particular Baptist Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen.” The society commissioned William Carey and John Thomas as missionaries to India, and the modern missionary movement began.



By David Brown, Chair  
SC/CBF Missions Committee

Through much of Baptist history, missions has been the centerpiece of Baptist life and identity. But how often have we wrestled with our theology and practice of missions? How has our notion of missions changed since the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and

what should missions look like in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

As a pioneer in the holistic health movement, Rachel Naomi Remen offers a unique perspective that can inform our understanding of missions. She writes about the differences between three approaches to life: **helping**, **fixing**, and **servicing**. **Helping**, she says, is always based on inequality. The helper always has power over the one in need of help. **Fixing** views the other as broken or in need of repair. The fixer refuses to see wholeness and integrity in the other. Remen continues, “If helping is an experience of strength, fixing is an experience of mastery and expertise. **Service**,

on the other hand, is an experience of mystery, surrender and awe... When you help, you see life as weak; when you fix, you see life as broken. When you serve, you see life as whole.” We serve with our whole selves, not just our strength. We serve the wholeness in others, discovering the divine image in them.

Much of our past theology and practice of missions tended toward helping and fixing, rather than serving. But CBF initiatives have focused on “Being the Presence of Christ,” and last month’s *Fellowship News* featured South Carolina churches undertaking the *It’s Time* study. Rob Nash, CBF Global Missions coordinator, envisions a new era in missions where the *local church* takes seriously its missional calling.

First century guidance for the 21<sup>st</sup> century: “The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve” (Mark 10:45). Effective missions efforts in the 21<sup>st</sup> century must ask: how will your church, how will my church, how will CBF of South Carolina *serve*?

So, give to the **Just Sharing** offering. It supports a number of *servicing* initiatives in our state – Metanoia, Allendale, and ministry with internationals. But giving is not enough. Ask: How can I serve?

*David is associate minister for students at Oakland Baptist Church in Rock Hill, where he directs the Cooperative Student Fellowship at Winthrop University.*



**T**he International Committee at Boulevard Baptist Church in Anderson wanted to do something for the international community beyond its regular ESL classes. It decided to host an evening “Bring a Dish” meal and invite all ESL students, their families and acquaintances, as well as members of Boulevard. About 100 people from 14 countries attended. Good conversation and good eating were the top priorities of the evening.

**Boulevard member John Walker, center, enjoys a meal with two internationals.**

## HOUSING FOR THE FUTURE

# Allendale Alive needs volunteers to help with renovations

Allendale Alive, a local community development organization, has as its priority the renovation of houses in the Fairfax community that will be made available as rental units. To qualify, tenants must commit to receive appropriate counseling to prepare them to buy a house within three years. Allendale Alive will provide certified counselors. A licensed contractor will be employed to oversee the repairs/renovations, and money for materials is being provided from several sources. Volunteers are being sought to do much of the work.

Missions Coordinator Beverly Greer has talked with Allendale Alive director Wilbur Cave about CBF groups helping. He can be reached at 803-584-3600 or [aca-director@bellsouth.net](mailto:aca-director@bellsouth.net). Please supply the following information: 1. Capabilities of the group (such as painting, roofing, house repairs) 2. Number in group and age of group (youth, adults, both) 3. When group is available – date(s) and time.

**ALLENDALE.** Freddie Wayne Hill stands in front of an old motel that was renovated and recently opened as a Men's Shelter in Allendale. Acquiring this new property means that the main house of Christ Central Ministries can be used exclusively to house women and children in need.



**Wilbur Cave**  
Allendale Alive



## STUDENT MINISTRY IN ALLENDALE

USC-Salkehatchie is an important part of the Allendale community. It gives students from rural areas an opportunity to attend college. USC-Salkehatchie's student enrollment increased in 2006 leading to more students living in the Allendale area. In ministering to the students, First Baptist realized the need to have a positive place for the students to socialize, eat a meal, and attend Bible study and we now offer that opportunity to them. We are grateful that CBF of SC joins with our many friends in reaching out to the students in Allendale.

— Carol Holladay, Associate Minister, First Baptist Church, Allendale

*(CBF of SC has allocated \$1,200 to help with FBC Allendale's ministry to these students.)*

## HOUSING FOR TONIGHT

# A look at just one month

Christ Central served as transitional housing for 23 people who stayed more than one night in February. Two families — a total of 12 people — were among those. One family from New Hampshire stayed 3½ days. The man in the family was well-educated with multiple degrees but the family fell on hard times because of his alcoholism. He is trying to put things back together and found his way to Christ Central. The other family which stayed five days included a grandmother. In addition to those families, Christ Central housed five single men and six single women more than one night in the two transitional housing facilities. There were numerous others who were helped with supplies and personal care kits.

## Needs in Allendale

### Men's shelter

- Heating system for the fellowship building where counseling and study take place
- Plexiglass sheets to replace windows that have been broken
- A security system to prevent a continual barrage of damage
- Toiletry items
- Many labor challenges: painting, woodwork, and cleaning

### Women's and children's shelter

- Baby diapers, formula, wipes, bottles, Tylenol, fever medicine for babies, crib sheet sets
- Four rooms need to be converted from a men's environment to rooms for women and children
- A new washer and dryer
- A commercial stove
- A set of kitchen cabinets (Can be used)
- Set of pots and pans



They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share. — 1 Timothy 6:18 NRSV

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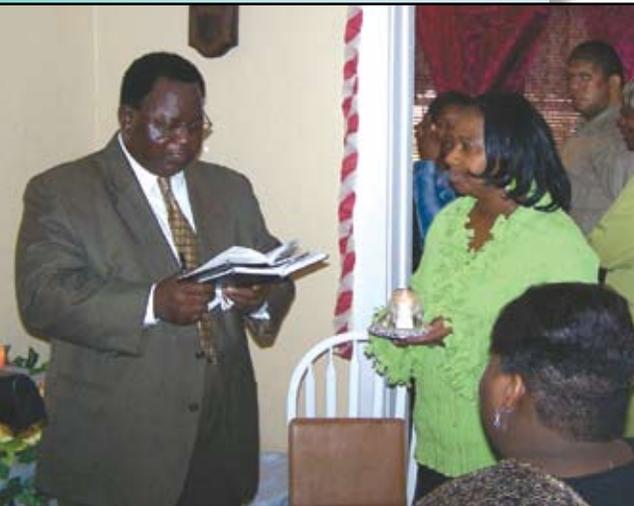
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**ANOTHER NEW HOMEOWNER IN NORTH CHARLESTON**

Barbara Sheppard is Metanoia's most recent homeowner. She lives on Victory Lane with her teenage son who has special needs. Barbara says she knew that the house on Victory was for her because she had a dream about it even before she saw it. And she feels like God has really put her in contact with Metanoia at just the right time. Within a few weeks of purchasing the home, she had her family and friends over for a house blessing. Volunteers from Kathwood Baptist in Columbia and FBC Greenwood painted her house. Providing affordable housing in the Chicora neighborhood is a primary goal of Metanoia.

**Many Asians are hurting, feel neglected**

We are working not only as a Japanese pastor and chaplain but also certified interpreters for Japanese at several hospitals and courts in Anderson and Greenville counties. Recently we met with four Japanese who are in physical and spiritual crisis, three at hospitals and one of them at the court. Yoko met with a Japanese woman who lost her son. She said she recalled her son every day and was crying every night. She visited a morning service at a Baptist church several times but she could not get comfort in their worship because of language and cultural barriers. Yoko was able to help her. I did not know how many Japanese and Asian people are here who feel neglected in this community. They are living in the US for more than 20 years. They really need spiritual help. Not only us but all Christians should introduce them to Jesus' great love.

— Aki and Yoko Shigemi, ministers to internationals



**Bringing the romance home**

Baptists have often been drawn to the allure and even romance of "foreign missions." In rural and small town south, stories of missionaries in exotic, far-away locations intrigued us, and we responded with generous contributions. Ministering to the poor people down the dirt roads in our own counties has always been more of a challenge. When we give to CBF of SC's state missions offering, we are recognizing the importance of doing the work of God both far away and nearby. Traditionally, Baptist churches have given five or ten times more to foreign missions than to state missions. This is our opportunity to be involved in Both/And missions and ministry rather than Either/Or.

— Marion Aldridge, Coordinator, CBF of SC