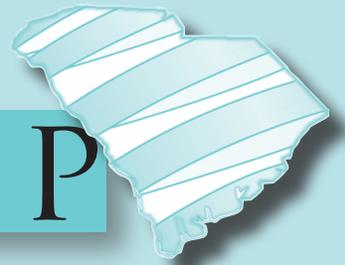


FELLOWSHIP

NOVEMBER 2006



COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The future of CBF

Featured in this issue are students who have received seminary scholarships through SC/CBF and an update on the Baptist Studies Program at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia.



Lauren Deer

Lauren Deer, BTSR

Lauren Deer has just begun her studies at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. Her first class this past summer was Hebrew.

Lauren chose BTSR after visiting the campus. "I felt so welcomed from the start, and felt like the seminary was headed in a direction where I saw myself," she said. "Since starting, I am so glad I decided to come to BTSR and have been welcomed with open arms."

She hopes to find a part-time youth ministry position while attending seminary. "Once I graduate from seminary in three years, I hope to be able to come back to South Carolina and work with youth or college students."

Lauren was involved in starting the Cooperative Student Fellowship at Clemson University, where she graduated in May with a B.S. degree in biological sciences.

She grew up in Beaufort and attended the Baptist Church of Beaufort all of her life. Her parents are Teena and Bill Deer, and she has a younger brother Andrew. "I enjoy playing and watching sports. I also enjoy hanging out with my friends," she said. "I have been very active in church all my life, going through GAs and youth group, and going on mission trips."

"I applied for the SC/CBF scholarship so I could be able to afford seminary," she said. "I am very grateful to have received it. It means a lot to me to know that I have an organization that supports me both financially as well as through prayer."

"Thank you very much for giving to CBF to help seminary students like me!" she said.

Fall 2006 Scholarship Recipients

Each of the seminary students listed below received a scholarship for the Fall semester from SC/CBF. If you would like to send a note of encouragement to any of them, contact the SC/CBF office for their addresses. Full scholarships are \$600 per semester. Half scholarships are \$300.

McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, Atlanta

Cody Joshua Sanders, Duncan Clayton E. Davis, Pendleton

Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia

Kelly Evon Dickerson, Columbia
Tricia H. Kilgore, Columbia
Bridget Lea Wilson, Columbia

Wake Forest University School of Divinity, Winston-Salem

Greg Dover, Greenville
Whitney Joy Hodges, Moore
Cameron Mason, Dallas, TX

BTSR, Richmond, VA

Mary Carol Anderson, Greenville
Casey Loraine Callahan, Travelers Rest
Martha Ann Callahan, Spartanburg
Lauren Deer, Beaufort
James Matthew Hensley, Spartanburg
Amber Blackwell Sloan, Inman

M. Christopher White School of Divinity, Gardner Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC

Sherry B. Steadman, Boiling Springs, SC

Erskine Seminary, Due West

Timothy W. Evatt, Pendleton (1/2)



Greg Dover

Greg Dover, Wake Forest Divinity School

Greg Dover, a member of First Baptist Church in Greenville, is just beginning his studies at Wake Forest Divinity School in Winston-Salem. "I chose to study at Wake because, while it has a lot of Baptist connections, it is ecumenical," he said. "I also liked the fact that it is a small school. My impression of Wake has been great so far, but it is definitely going to be a lot of work."

"Receiving this scholarship means that SC/CBF is willing to support the next generation of ministers, and it has helped by paying for my books this semester," he said.

Greg's short term goal is to finish divinity school. His long-term goals are

still undecided. "I could see myself in church work, non-profit, or possibly getting a doctorate to teach at the college level," he said.

Greg graduated from Furman University in 2005 with a degree in psychology. He is the son of Tina and Joe Ballew and grandson of Jim and Evelyn Hayes. "I love to do anything outdoors (hunt, camp, hike, etc.) and am an avid sports fan," he said. "I also am very involved in athletics of all types, and one of my favorite hobbies is cooking."

Greg has been actively involved with FBC Greenville, and has worked there twice as a youth intern, and also as an interim minister to singles and youth.

Fall Convocation • Nov. 13 • FBC Clinton

Please register early. Only cost is for dinner. www.cbfofsc.org.



This picture is from a fishing trip Tricia took with her coworkers, all male. "I caught the first fish, the biggest fish, and the most fish, which drove the guys crazy!" Tricia said. "We had a tasty lunch that day."

Tricia Kilgore, Baptist Studies Program, LTSS

Tricia Kilgore is in her second year (fourth semester) at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, a part-time student taking classes as her work schedule permits.

"I like that the Baptist program is diverse and not all white like most of the rest of Southern Baptist and CBF life," she said. "Lutheran is small and people know my name. The faculty is good. LTSS is academically demanding. This is definitely not Sunday School. The Lutherans are good. They appreciate us and value ecumenism. I feel like I am getting a broader sense of what it means to be a Christian by learning from them even if we disagree about certain things."

Tricia is an environmental engineer in drinking water compliance at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. This year she earned her Professional Engineer license.

Tricia earned a B.S. in civil engineering from Virginia Tech in 1997, and a masters degree in water and waste engineering from the Water, Engineering and Development Centre at Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK, in 2001.

Tricia is a member of Shandon Baptist Church where she teaches English as a Second Language to internationals and once a month teaches Sunday School. "I love going to church," she said.

After college, Tricia was a short-term missionary in Kenya for two years, spent a year working

with international students at the BSU at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA, then went to graduate school in England. She's lived in Columbia for five years. She grew up in Charleston and graduated from Hanahan High school. Her father is a pilot and her mother is a teacher. She has twin sisters.

Tricia and Rob met 13 years ago when they were freshman at Virginia Tech and in BSU together, and were married in 2002. Rob is writing his dissertation for his Ph.D. in English Renaissance literature at USC. They have season tickets for Virginia Tech football games. Tricia enjoys inline skating, reading, travel, and working on her house. She skated a marathon this year.

"I applied to SC/CBF for assistance because non-SBC seminaries are expensive and no Southern Baptist entity will support me in this," she said. "National CBF doesn't give scholarships to Baptist students at LTSS, so SC/CBF is a primary source of scholarships for us."

"The SC/CBF scholarship helped me go to seminary for four semesters without going into debt," she said. "My tuition was \$3,475 this semester. My scholarships (SC/CBF, Baptist Studies, LTSS and Seminary Partnership) brought the bill down to \$1,200."

"I hope my involvement in CBF will allow me opportunities to serve and lead, opportunities that, as a woman, are not available in other areas of Baptist life," she said.

Update on Baptist Studies Program at Lutheran Seminary

By Ginger Barfield, director

We welcomed a new president to our campus in August. Marcus Miller and his wife Kathy have ushered in positive energy and a new excitement. Along with a new president, we welcomed two new full-time students to the Baptist Studies program.

Ben Lucas is beginning his studies in the Master of Divinity program. He is from Rock Hill and is a member of Oakland Baptist Church, one of our sustaining churches and financial partners of the Baptist Studies program. Ben will be doing his field education at Oakland Baptist under the mentoring of the ministers there.

Bridget Wilson Kokolis is a transfer student in the master of divinity program. She has completed two years at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Bridget is on the ministerial staff at Greenlawn Baptist Church in Columbia where she will be doing her field education work.

During this academic year, we will be reviewing our partnership agreement with

the Lutheran Seminary and hope to make a permanent agreement with them. This is the third year of our original three-year partnership. It is important that we build our list of partner churches so our financial support is stable and so that we can show the seminary that the Baptists of the state will be able to support our share of the program costs.

Baptist Studies at Lutheran

**11 students enrolled for Fall
13 expected for Spring
Full time tuition is \$11,375. Three of the Baptist students are part time and pay \$1,155 per course. The others are full-time.**

In October, the Coordinating Council of national CBF named LTSS a leadership partner, making students now eligible to apply for CBF Leadership Scholarships.

We have committed about \$70,000 per year to sustain scholarships, recruiting, Baptist workshops, and a portion of the personnel expenses.

In addition to directing the program and teaching, I am serving as interim assistant dean this year. With this new duty, I am responsible for the positions of registrar, director of financial aid, and institutional effectiveness officer. In this last position, I assist departmental heads in goal setting, evaluation, and planning for the future. We are engaged in accreditation processes and, therefore, this is a focal point of institutional life right now. I report to the president in this role.

Students and I are always available to speak to churches. Also, churches are welcome to bring groups to our campus to visit or to have planning meetings or retreats. Please contact me at gbarfield@ltss.edu or by phone, 803.461.3249, to schedule a visit or to invite us to your church.



One happy pastor: This pastor in Bucharest, Romania, holds up two new suits that he will now have to wear when he preaches. The suits were donated to SC/CBF from people all across the state. They were distributed among Gypsy pastors attending training at the Gypsy Smith School in September where SC/CBF Coordinator Marion Aldridge and Randy Wright, pastor of Fernwood Baptist Church in Spartanburg, taught. "I continue to learn something of the passion and feeling of gypsy Christians," Randy said. "Their discussions are lively and pointed. Their praying is soulful. Their singing is spirited and colorful. Their friendship is genuine and warm. CBF is doing a good thing, a really good thing, with this educational opportunity for gypsy pastors. We all learn. We are all taught by the Rabbi Jesus."

When I visit with our Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel anywhere around the world, I am overwhelmed. The size of our world and the task of taking God's Good News to the "ends of the earth" is daunting.

Nine hour plane rides and 14 hour train rides don't get you even halfway around the globe, not even close. That just gets you to the center of the next continent over from us, Europe. There are five more great land masses after that. Do you know there are over 50 indigenous languages spoken in Europe alone? We think of Europe as a homogeneous setting, friendly, uniform, familiar. You would be surprised.

In the Czech Republic, our CBF folks spend Koruna (Crowns). In Romania, they use the Lei, which isn't worth much, and are now transitioning to the New Lei. In Hungary, they need to use Forint. And these are countries that are next door to each other. Imagine the headaches at our national Global Missions office of making sure each missionary is paid in the correct currency.

Each of these countries I have named was behind the Iron Curtain just a few years back. We now have CBF ministries in all of these locations, a seminary partner in Prague, a ministry at a public school for Gypsy children in Pecs, Hungary, and a school for undereducated Gypsy pastors in Bucharest, Romania. You would be proud of what Penny Mann, Ralph and Tammy Stocks, Wes and Susan Craig and others are doing in these diverse locations on your behalf.

Speaking of our field personnel, I am overwhelmed by the impressive people we are sending to these locations. I can't know everyone CBF has serving around the world, but the people that I meet representing Jesus first, and also you and me through CBF, are talented, wonderful people. They have given them-

selves to go to where the needs are deemed to be greatest on our huge globe. CBF's mantra is "ministry to and with the poorest of the poor, the least of the least, the most marginalized and the most neglected."

When I visit with our missionaries, I don't always get to take hot showers. The beds might not be comfortable and there is not always enough cover to keep me warm. I certainly don't drink the water. I catch viruses and throw up, but I come home. Our field personnel, however, live in these places. In Africa, they contract Malaria. In Hungary, they have to learn a difficult language. In Romania, they deal with government corruption as a way of life. Even on our own continent, where our Together for Hope folks serve in 20 of our nation's poorest counties, our representatives are "up close and personal" with poverty, alcoholism, bad health and illiteracy.

The money we give through our churches to CBF's Global Missions Offering sustains these men and women in their ministries. In our current church culture, we are often prone to give to missionaries and ministries we know personally. In this post-denominational era, each church divides its mission money in two dozen different directions.

I want to remind you that the "Cooperative" system of underwriting missionaries is a tried and true technique. It works. You may never know our CBF personnel in Bucharest, Romania, or on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, but they would not be there, serving Jesus and you and the poorest of the poor, without your faithful contributions each year.

The world is overwhelming enough. We don't need to add to their worries the question of whether or not they will receive their next paycheck. Please give generously.



By Marion Aldridge
Coordinator

Coordinator's Column:
Too much need ... too little response

Missions: The Heart of CBF

Worship and Workshops

Fall Convocation

Monday, Nov. 13

First Baptist Church • Clinton • 2:30 - 7:30 p.m.

If you need a brochure with more information, call the SC/CBF office at 803.779.1888 or go download one from www.cbfofsc.org. Only cost is for the meal.



Urban minister Evelyn Oliveira from Metanoia in Charleston will preach in the afternoon.



CBF Moderator Emmanuel McCall from Atlanta will preach in the evening worship.



Carol Holladay from First Baptist Church in Allendale brought three trucks with her to Rock Hill to load up the goods left over from a consignment sale. The goods will be distributed to those in need through Christ Central Ministries.

Allendale ministry benefits from consignment sale in Rock Hill

The SC/CBF work in Allendale was one of the beneficiaries of a consignment sale in Rock Hill on Sept. 25. Everything that wasn't sold was donated to Christ Central Ministries, SC/CBF's partner in Allendale.

Sisters Lori Hoffman and Alisa Johnson organize three big sales each year, called For Every Season Consignment Sale. The original primary purpose for the sales was for the two stay-at-home moms to earn a little extra income. This was their 11th sale.

Lori and Alisa are daughters of Caroline and Richard Krueger, members of Oakland Baptist Church in Rock Hill. Caroline is also a member of the SC/CBF Coordinating Council and serves on the Missions Committee.

"Mom is the brains behind this donation

to Allendale," Lori said. "She told our consignors of the need and encouraged them to donate any items that did not sell. Every consignor who donated items knew they were going to Allendale to assist in this ministry and were very excited to be allowed to help these families."

"They asked me to suggest charities to which they could donate, and I immediately thought of Allendale," Caroline said. "I called Carol Holladay at First Baptist Church in Allendale. She was very receptive and proved it by showing up with three vehicles, which we loaded to the brim with leftover items."

Lori is also a member at Oakland. Alisa is the director of Christian Education at Clover Presbyterian in Clover.

Centers for congregations and clergy in SC and NC announce partnership

The Center for Congregational Health of North Carolina and The Center for Clergy & Congregations of South Carolina have become partners. Each center grows out of the Baptist healthcare system in its respective state. With this partnership, clergy and congregations can now access the services of each center, regardless of which center they contact.

"We are already working collaboratively as consultants with several congregations, as well as partnering on a significant training event for clergy," said Mark Tidsworth, Coordinator of the Center for Clergy & Congregations.

"Congregations and their clergy leaders are experiencing increasing complex opportunities and challenges," said Congregational Health President David Odom. "Many congregations are looking for specialized help at a time when many denominations are not able to respond to every request."

Congregational consulting, leadership coaching for clergy, training programs for clergy, and enrichment events are some of the services each center provides. Contact the Center for Congregational Health at 336.716.9722 and The Center for Clergy & Congregations at 800-444-9334.

Nash's schedule in S.C.

Greenville

Monday, Nov. 27, 6:30 p.m.

Columbia

Tuesday, Nov. 28, Noon

Conway

Tuesday, Nov. 28, 6:30 p.m.

Walterboro

Wednesday, Nov. 29, Noon

Global Missions Coordinator Rob Nash to be in South Carolina

You are invited. Rob Nash, recently-appointed Global Missions Coordinator, will visit South Carolina in late November to meet pastors, missions leaders and others who would like face-to-face conversation about CBF's missions efforts.

Call the CBF office in Columbia (803-779-1888) or register on-line if you would like to attend one of the gatherings listed above. The meals are free, but pre-registration is required.

In order to make it convenient for clergy and laity to attend, Rob will be speaking at four locations around the state. Specific sites will be announced later and will be posted on the web site.

SC/CBF Coordinator Marion Aldridge and Missions Coordinator Beverly Greer will be at each of the events, so questions about state missions can also be addressed.

Antiphony...

Conversations about things that matter ... for university and graduate students

Dec. 29 2006 - Jan. 2, 2007

Atlanta, GA

www.antiphonyonline.org

Martha Ann Callahan, Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond

By Martha Ann Callahan

Casey and I moved to Richmond in August 2003 and both started at BTSR that fall. After a semester of seminary, I decided I needed a break to think about my ministry and what I really felt called to do. I withdrew from seminary classes and worked a year at Lakewood Manor, a retirement home. I loved my job and discovered I really loved working with senior adults. Casey and I attended the national CBF General Assembly in Grapevine, TX, and there I felt a desire to return to seminary.

The following year, I stayed at Lakewood Manor and took a night class each semester at seminary; my hopes were that this would help me discern my next step in life. I really enjoyed my classes and decided to go back to seminary full-time. I resigned from my job this past summer and have returned to BTSR, refreshed, renewed, and ready to study even harder.

Casey will graduate this May, and even though sometimes I think how I could be graduating with him, I would not change my decision to withdraw

Casey Callahan, BTSR

By Casey Callahan

The first 21 years of my life were spent in South Carolina. I grew up on a small farm in Travelers Rest, where the majority of my time was spent playing outside or doing chores around the house. When I applied to Clemson University, I picked the major that best suited my interests at the time: Environmental Science. And though my real vocational calling would become clearer in the years

that followed, I decided to continue pursuing an undergraduate degree in science and to attend seminary after college.

Though my four years at Clemson were filled with various experiences, there were two phenomenal things that happened: I got involved with a campus ministry group, and I met my future wife. I met Martha Ann Hensley at a fellowship event for the Baptist Student Union during my first fall semester. Nine months

in 2004 and work for two years at Lakewood Manor. Working there gave me a chance to find my passions and talents. Now I am working toward a master of divinity degree and am looking to take some classes involving senior adult and mission work.

Casey and I will be traveling to Argentina in January as part of our mission immersion experience with BTSR. We work at May Memorial Baptist Church in Powhatan, VA. Casey is the minister to students and associate pastor, and I am the minister to children.

We became involved with SC/CBF through my father, Mike Hensley, the church administrator at Morningside Baptist Church in Spartanburg, and our campus minister, Tim Willis, now college minister at Clemson First Baptist.

We attended Clemson University; I graduated in 2002, and Casey graduated in 2003. We have attended some SC/CBF meetings as well as the General Assemblies in Grapevine, TX and Atlanta, GA.

It means a lot to have the support of our home state behind us as we explore our ministry at BTSR.



The Callahans, Casey and Martha Ann

later, we'd be dating. A little over four years later, we'd be married. Martha Ann and I got involved in BSU, and we were greatly impacted by our campus minister, Tim Willis, and our friends and classmates. Through BSU, we found service opportunities, biblical insights, corporate worship, leadership roles, and even distant summer mission trips.

Since I enrolled at BTSR in 2003, my connections to South Carolina have been invaluable. My campus minister is still a great mentor. My BSU friends are still great companions. And, the churches of South Carolina, as represented through SC/CBF, have offered encouragement and support that continues to nurture us and allow us to focus on the seminary studies and experiences that surround us.

This May (2007), I will graduate from BTSR. I have been able to serve as the minister to students for over three years at a nearby church, and there, my ministerial skills have been stretched and refined. After graduation, I will pursue campus ministry and perhaps other student ministry opportunities.

Cody Sanders, McAfee School of Theology

Cody J. Sanders is in his second year of study in a four-year joint degree program at McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University in Atlanta, GA, and expects to graduate in May 2009 with the master of divinity in pastoral care and counseling and the master of science in community counseling.

"I applied to the SC/CBF for a scholarship because the mission and message that CBF is living out in Baptist life is one of which I want to be a part," he said. "I knew of CBF's reputation for helping seminary students in the pursuit of theological education and I am thankful for the support that was granted to me on my journey."

Cody began his studies at McAfee in the fall of 2005. "I chose to attend McAfee because I felt that the personality here was a good fit for my own personality," he said. "Of course, it was the strong academic reputation, impressive faculty, and McAfee's

connection to the CBF that prompted me to consider theological study at McAfee in the first place."

"I hope that through my education and in my ministry, I may have a continuous relationship with the SC/CBF so that I may make a positive contribution to the mission of the CBF in South Carolina and throughout the world," he said.

Cody is currently interim associate pastor/youth at First Baptist Church of Lithonia, GA. "I am enjoying the experience of local church ministry very much and it is helping me to discern where my gifts and interests can be used in ministry," he said.

From Duncan, Cody completed his undergraduate work in religious studies and psychology at Gardner-Webb University. While there, he worked at First Baptist Church In Spindale, NC.



Cody Sanders

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November 2006

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Still Scholarship established for LTSS Baptist Studies program

Charles N. Still, a member of First Baptist Church, Columbia, and a senior master of arts in religion student in the Baptist Studies Program at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, has endowed the first scholarship for Baptist students at the seminary. The new scholarship is named in honor of Charles's wife and will be called The Dorothy Varn Still Scholarship.

Charles is a graduate of Clemson University (1949), Purdue University (1951), and the Medical College of S.C. (1959). He is a retired doctor of neuropsychiatry who has practiced and/or taught at Johns Hopkins, the Williams S. Hall Psychiatric Institute in Columbia, the USC School of Medicine, and the William Jennings Bryan Dorn VA Hospital in Columbia.

When he completes his MAR next spring, Charles hopes to enroll in the master of sacred theology degree program and continue his studies.

"A student scholarship can be endowed with a \$10,000 gift, but Dr. Still made a generous gift of \$25,000 to begin the Dorothy Varn Still Scholarship so that the proceeds will be able to assist in recruiting quality Baptist students to the program here at LTSS," said Ginger Barfield, director of the program. "We will be able to offer the first Still scholarship in the 2007-08 academic year."



**Charles Still,
left, with Ginger
Barfield and
John Harmon,
Coordinator of
Development and
Seminary Relations
at LTSS.**

Wanting to learn Greek, Still found his way to the Baptist Studies Program at LTSS

By Charles Still

I am a lifelong Baptist with highest regard for Christians who hold fast to apostolic faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whether at "high-church" or "low-church" worship services.

Having taught the Koinonia Sunday School Class at the First Baptist Church of Columbia since 1988, I wished to learn to read Koine Greek, the original language of the New Testament. However, I was not fully satisfied with self-study methods.

Near the time of my retirement, The Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (LTSS) offered a new Baptist Studies program, under the direction of Virginia C. Barfield. When I took the New Testament Greek course taught by Dr. Barfield, she encouraged me to continue in the Baptist Studies Program, with a major in church

history. Ultimately, I hope to serve as a voluntary teacher in a place that needs one, if called upon.

At LTSS, I have enjoyed an excellent educational experience, fully comparable to that of my prior postgraduate studies in the fields of neuropsychiatry and behavioral sciences. Moreover, a wonderful ecumenical spirit permeates the LTSS campus. The same spirit enriches worship services in Christ Chapel.

After having joined the LTSS family by the grace of God, I wanted to provide tangible evidence of my gratitude. I also wished to honor my wife Dorothy, who has ever been the gift of God to me. My fondest hope is that the Dorothy Varn Still Scholarship will help the Baptist Studies Program to grow stronger, in full accord with the mission of LTSS.