

FELLOWSHIP

BEING THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN THE WORLD

MARCH 2009



The theme of the 2009 General Assembly, **MISSIONAL 101: FROM MEMBER TO MISSIONARY**, will be developed through the spotlight luncheon, breakouts, exhibits, missions banquet and worship services. We will redirect, redefine and broaden our concept of just giving money to send someone else to do missions. Participants will leave the assembly with a new awareness of "being the presence of Christ" as we go about our daily lives.

MISSIONAL 101

2009 GENERAL Assembly
April 24-25
FBC GREENWOOD

From member to missionary

The Assembly starts with the Spotlight Luncheon at 11:45 a.m. on Friday and concludes after morning worship on Saturday. Tentative schedule on the back page.



Volunteers keep the food pantry at Greenwood's United Center for Community Care well-stocked.

SPOTLIGHT LUNCHEON: Jack Parham, a member of First Baptist Church in Greenwood will be the keynote speaker assisted by Deborah Parks, director of the United Center for Community Care, a site where Greenwood's most needy residents can receive services through the United Way, food bank, soup kitchen and the Mental Health Association.

MISSIONS BANQUET: Boo Sheppard, a member of Providence Baptist Church on Daniel Island, will entertain us while also helping us better understand what it means to be missional.



Boo Sheppard

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Harry Rowland, director of missional church ministries at CBF, is an expert on helping churches become more missional. As pastor of The Baptist Church of Beaufort, he led that church and its members to find ways to serve in the local community.

BREAKOUTS: 1) Paul Moore, pastor of FBC Inman, will lead a Bible study focused on what scripture says about missions; 2) Blake Kendrick, youth minister at FBC Greenwood, will lead a breakout on encountering God through personal spiritual formation and missional involvement; 3) Amy Morris and Chris Bolton from the CBF staff, will offer resources for persons wanting to be involved in missions; 4) A tour of the United Center for Community Care will be offered 5) In Missional Potpourri, representatives of several churches will talk about how they sensed the need for particular projects, the obstacles they encountered and the responses of participants and recipients of their mission efforts.



Paul Moore

WORSHIP: Our worship services will reinforce the missional theme, beginning with the individual's response to missions, moving toward the small group and the congregation. The youth choir from Boulevard Baptist Church in Anderson will participate in worship on Saturday morning. That service will include communion.

A missional theology is not content with mission being a church-based work. Rather, it applies to the whole life of every believer.

—Harry Rowland, primary speaker for the Assembly and former pastor of the Baptist Church of Beaufort

MISSIONAL (adj). 1. Discerning God's mission and discovering what it means to participate in that mission. 2. Participating in God's mission in the world. 3. Recovering a missionary understanding of God.

Go to our website to register. The only cost is for meals.

K. Jack Parham is the son of a Baptist minister, born in Greenville in 1933. He attended Boys High School in Anderson, and earned a bachelors degree from Furman University in 1955. Jack then graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina and Harvard University. He had an active OB/GYN practice in Greenwood from 1965 until he retired in 1997. He was hospice medical director for 25 years. Jack has been married to Barbara Holbrook Parham for 53 years. His hobbies include travel, photography, hunting/fishing and community service. He has been a member of First Baptist Church in Greenwood since 1966; has served on the board of Connie Maxwell Children's Home; is a recipient of the Order of the Palmetto; and was inducted into the Greenwood County Hall of Fame in January.



Jack was the impetus that led to the creation of the United Center for Community Care in Greenwood. He will be the speaker for the Spotlight on South Carolina Luncheon on Friday, April 24 at 11:45 a.m.

Parham: How could we do anything less?

Jack Parham has demonstrated throughout his life what being missional means as he has worked on countless projects in the Greenwood community. But the *Index-Journal* newspaper of Greenwood said Parham's "biggest impact on the community" might be the new United Center for Community Care (UC3).

Jack helped raise more than \$175,000 to buy and develop an old school building to serve as a single-source location for several non-profit organizations that provide services for Greenwood's most needy residents

Anchored by the United Way of Greenwood and Abbeville Counties, the facility houses entities such as Greenwood Food Bank, Greenwood Literacy Council, the Soup Kitchen, and will house several other organizations once it is complete.

"At FBC Greenwood, we seek God's heart for our church family and strive to be God's hands in missional involvement in any way that we can be of service to God and our fellow man," Jack said. "We have seen first-hand what commitment

to discipleship and the leadership of God through prayer can accomplish."

The idea for UC3 came from the church's *It's Time* study in the spring of 2007. "We wanted to stop talking about doing God's work and start doing it," Jack said.

Several ideas were considered before church members, led by Jack, focused on the old school building and its possibilities. Even though the building was old and the upgrades needed were expensive, Jack said he persevered, and formed the partnerships necessary to make it happen.

"It was the right thing to do," he said.

"We now see faith-based non-profits

and government sponsored social services working together to be whatever God leads us to be in offering assistance to the homeless, the hungry and the disenfranchised in our wonderful and caring community," he said. "This has proved to be a missional project at its finest and most meaningful level. The CBF monetary assistance grant has been invaluable in getting this huge project off the ground and we now are seeing the fruits of our labors."

Jack's next project is to make First Baptist's dream of a homeless shelter a reality. His vision is "a place with a dozen beds, an area with a TV and a coffee pot, where people could spend the night, be fed a hot breakfast, and maybe be given the opportunity to make some money and stay out of trouble working in the center."

"Considering our good fortune, living in such a great community and worshipping with such a great mission-spirited church fellowship, is very motivating to action," he said. "In good conscience and in Christian brotherhood, how could we do anything less?"



Intentional discernment efforts help FBC Greenwood be missional

FBC Greenwood, the host of this year's General Assembly, is a missional church because of the caring and supportive nature of its people, says church member Tom Gordon. "The church is where it is today because over the past 10 years we have engaged in intentional discernment processes to identify our core values, worship style and programs to reinforce our beliefs and ministry commitments," Tom said.

As a result of the *It's Time* study, FBC Green-

wood launched its effort to establish the United Center for Community Care to meet a host of local needs. "With a lot of prayer and hard work, the facility is coming alive today in the community," Tom said. "God works in wonderful ways and the community effort continues to grow. The *It's Time* study planted the seed, the congregation stepped up to the challenge, we reached out to the community, and others are joining in the effort to make this a missional facility."

"The 21st century is more like the apostolic era than any century since the first. Our churches must claim their mission calling. We are in the midst of the Second Reformation. The First Reformation gave God's **WORD** back to God's people. The Second Reformation gives God's **WORK** back to God's people. The answer for a viable western church is not found in successfully navigating the worship wars, becoming a slave to cultural relevance or selling out to a church growth mandate. The answer is the biblical mandate – just be church!! That is, be on mission – be missional." — Harry Rowland

IT'S TIME

It's Time: A journey toward missional faithfulness is a CBF study designed to help congregations consider what it means for both churches and individuals to lead a missional lifestyle. Churches that complete the study are eligible to apply to CBF for grants up to \$25,000 to start a new initiative that engages the local community. For information about *It's Time*, go to <http://www.thefellowship.info/itstime>.

Churches in South Carolina that received an *It's Time* grant

Church	Contact Person	Amount	Date	Overview
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Aiken	VICKY MCCULLOUGH vmccullough@fbcaiken.org	\$4,500	11/27/2006	Scholarships for children to attend four-year-old kindergarten.
PELHAM ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH Greenville	SAM COATES sam@pelhamroad.org	\$25,000	4/18/2007	The church provided a monthly Saturday night program for kids of single parents. This gave the parents a night out.
OAKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH Rock Hill	CHRISTY MCMILLIN GOODWIN cgoodwin@oaklandchurch.com	\$25,000	3/20/2008	Three missional ministry projects: 1) A Support Group/Mission Group for Immigrant Women 2) Refugee Resettlement Ministry 3) International Student Ministry at Winthrop University
EMMANUEL BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP Lexington	BONNIE ROBINSON bn_robinson@bellsouth.net	\$10,000	5/15/2008	Engagement with area college students
PALMETTO BAPTIST CHURCH Conway	CHERYL ADAMSON revcheryl@msn.com	\$25,000	6/4/2008	Palmetto Kids, a children's music and worship arts program designed to provide music lessons for children ages 3-12 in piano, guitar, drums, singing (choir), African Drumming, and dance.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Greenwood	TONY HOPKINS adhgrace@yahoo.com	\$25,000	9/8/2008	Renovation of building which will house ministries that provide needed services for the poor and disenfranchised in the community. Will house several agencies as well as church ministries.



Offering a program that helps prepare at-risk children to be ready for school is just one way that Boulevard serves the Anderson community.

BOULEVARD: A MISSION OUTPOST

BY JOHNNY MCKINNEY, PASTOR
BOULEVARD BAPTIST CHURCH, ANDERSON

It has been more than two years since we studied *It's Time*, and it has changed the nature of our conversation around here. If you ask most of our members "What is the mission of Boulevard?" they will repeat what has become our mantra—"to be the presence of Christ at the corner of Boulevard and the world."

It ties together our strong missional connection to community ministries and our partnerships in New York City, Romania and Honduras by emphasizing hands-on engagement. Rather than view ourselves as a church involved in missions—which has always been Boulevard's identity—we view ourselves as a mission outpost.

We haven't added or developed a lot of new missional components since that study because we already had so many going. The one new thing that has arisen was already in conversation when we did the study—we call it

"Community Kids Clubs." We work with predominately black churches and communities in Anderson to offer quality pre-school experiences to children who are at risk. The emphasis is on school readiness because many of these children show up for the public school system already behind. They easily become frustrated and then drop out of school at an alarming rate.

We have five different centers operating with approximately 100 children in them. We use the same curriculum as we use at Boulevard's Child Enrichment Center. We utilize and train teachers from those churches, provide materials, teachers' salaries, on-going leadership and hands-on-participation.

We didn't apply for a CBF grant because the program is well underwritten by our church.

Pelham Road used the *It's Time* material to introduce the idea of how to serve an often overlooked community: single parents. The grant was used to provide a monthly night out, free of charge, to single moms and dads. Meeting in our Family Life Center, the kids participated in crafts, heard stories, watched movies, and were loved. The parents got a needed night away. Thanks, CBF, for ministering to those whose voice is seldom heard, to those overworked and overlooked.

—John Roy, pastor, Pelham Road Baptist Church, Greenville

The public school system in Aiken targets at-risk children for the four-year-old kindergarten. Many other children who need and could benefit from this class are excluded because they are not considered at risk, and their families are not in a financial position to afford private kindergarten. We requested and received a grant from CBF to provide scholarships for some of these children to attend our four-year-old kindergarten. I have wonderful stories to tell about the children and families that we have been able to serve. There have been children from single parent homes. Children in crisis situations. Children in foster care. I am extremely grateful to CBF and *It's Time* for inspiring us to share our treasure — the kindergarten — with these families.

—Vicky McCullough,
children's minister, First Baptist Church, Aiken



by Caroline Krueger,
member of Oakland Baptist Church in Rock Hill

Missional and happy at Oakland

I love Oakland Baptist Church for many reasons, but high on the list is its emphasis on outreach *unto the least of these*. Much of our energy and resources are spent on our missional endeavors, including ESL, interfaith hospitality, Habitat builds, mission trips to Allendale and other critical areas such as Katrina-ravaged Mobile, AL. We also participate in CBF workdays, supply clothing and food to needy everywhere, and take care of the food, shelter, and utility needs of the countless who come to our church from off the streets.

Presently we are providing Nell and Butch Green, our resident CBF missionaries, with a home with quarters for visiting missionaries and other personnel who come to meet with the Greens, and also our church provides office space for Butch.

We are in the final stages of preparing to house a refugee Iraqi family of five in a furnished apartment in Rock Hill and are equipping a tool trailer to take to areas where construction needs are prevalent, especially in time of crisis.

We have several mission action groups and Wednesday night mission groups of children who study mission needs around the world and contribute as we can to special needs. My group recently sent money to Kenya to the Wycliff translator team of Sue and Jim Ness to help a man with building materials to build his first home.

Our youth are encouraged to participate in helping others on a regular basis. We give generously each year to CBF missions.

What more can I say? I know there is plenty that I have forgotten; besides, tomorrow a new mission opportunity will appear, and we will respond! That's what keeps us missional and happy at OBC.

Members of all ages at Oakland Baptist Church in Rock Hill participate in missional activities, including this young man who was helping at a work day in Allendale a couple of years ago.



Although missional is a relatively new term, it captures the 200+ year heritage of Aiken's First Baptist Church. Being a missional church reflects our heads, hearts, and hands — that is, our understanding of who we are, the focus of our passion, and the work in which we are engaged with both our backs and our backs. Missional describes both our identity and our purpose. —Fred Andrea, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Aiken



The year 1999 was pivotal for me. I had been pastor of The Baptist Church of Beaufort for three years. During this time we had undergone an 18-month and \$2.2 million sanctuary renovation, restructured the governance and focus of the church and were now entering into a year long celebration commemorating our 200th anniversary as a church.

In my years as a pastor, I had become frustrated with church long-range planning or visioning models. Most seemed too corporate and all were dependent upon being able to accurately predict the future and then creatively plan for it. Thus, the mind boggling array of “creative” programs, church growth models and worship styles and techniques. There was something missing. I felt it.

My readings and prayers continued to take me back to the Bible and the calling of the church. The church was to be on mission. We have a missionary God (seen in the sending of Jesus). Therefore we are to be a missionary people/church. My MISSIONAL journey had begun.

So through a Missional Visioning Process predicated upon prayer and preparation rather than predicting and planning, The Baptist Church of Beaufort and I embarked upon the Missional journey. This represented a significant shift in the way we thought about the church. As the people of a missionary God, we ought to engage the world the same way he does – by going out rather than just reaching out. We discovered that when the church is in mission, it is the true church.

The results were that things became more

messy as we entered into our community as missionaries because people and needs are messy. People became passionate. Two new churches were birthed. Seventy percent of the congregation became involved in at least one outside-the-church-walls mission engagement. Mission giving increased by \$60,000. A soup kitchen was established...a partnership with the city to transform the most needy community in Beaufort was entered into with such success that a million dollar grant was awarded...sustainable global partnerships from SC to Miami and Belgium were commissioned which transformed communities in the mission contexts as well as in the lives of church members.

Things were out of control, well, out of our control, but very few of us would ever go Back. History began to be made not just celebrated.

This is what can happen on the Missional journey...



Harry Rowland, CBF's director of missional church ministries for global missions, is primary speaker at the General Assembly in April. He brings to this position more than 20 years of experience as a local church pastor as well as seasoned missional experience in more than 25 countries. He has a love and expertise for assisting local churches in making the transition from institution churches that DO missions to missional churches whose heartbeat IS missions.

Harry has a B.A. in business from Baylor University, M.Div. from Southwestern and a D.Min from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where his focus of study was on reaching non-traditional family units. He is married to Lana, a tax CPA with SunTrust Bank. They have two children, Melissa Rowland-Whisnatt and Harry Rowland III.

Immediately prior to joining CBF, Harry was pastor of The Baptist Church of Beaufort.

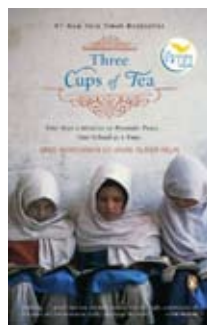
Read what Harry has to say about being missional. <http://cbfportal.wordpress.com/2009/01/26/defining-missional/>



Three cups of tea: One man's mission to promote peace ... One school at a time

By Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
Penguin Books, 2006, 349 pages
Reviewed by Marion Aldridge at
<http://cbfscbookbytes.wordpress.com/>

This isn't a quotable quote kind of book. Ultimately, according to Relin, the co-author, this is the narrative of one man “fighting the war on terror the way I think it should be conducted.” It is interesting to read about men and women we might call “moderate Muslims,” who are as untrusting and suspicious of radical Muslims as moderate Christians are dubious about fundamentalist Christians.



CBF work day is one way to be missional

Two words that describe the Missional Church are **BEING** and **DOING**, being the presence of Christ and doing the ministry of Christ. Work Day gives us an opportunity as missional Fellowship people to work together and care together in areas of need in South Carolina.

—Beverly Greer, Missions Coordinator

2009 Work Day: Sept. 12



P.O. Box 11159
Columbia, SC 29211

March 2009

Tony Hopkins MODERATOR
864.229.5557 | adhgrace@yahoo.com

Marion Aldridge COORDINATOR
803.779.1888 | Cell: 803.413.2734
marion@cbfosc.org

Christina Whitehouse-Suggs ASSOCIATE COORDINATOR
803.779.1888 | Cell: 803.727.7581
christina@cbfosc.org

Beverly Greer MISSIONS COORDINATOR
864.338.9923 | Cell: 864.360.1396
beverly@cbfosc.org

Sue Poss EDITOR AND WEBMASTER
864.848.9828 | editor@cbfosc.org

SC/CBF Web site: www.cbfosc.org
Fax: 803.779.2242

National CBF: www.thefellowship.info • 800.352.8741

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Help us save resources: Sign up to receive future newsletters online. The April newsletter will be online only. Be sure we have your email address. Look for a sign-up box on the home page, www.cbfosc.org.

MEAL COSTS

	By 3-24	After 3-24
Spotlight Luncheon	\$8	\$10
Missions Banquet	\$15	\$18

Sign up and pay for meals when you register online. Final deadline for meal reservations is April 15. Register by March 24 to take advantage of the EARLY BIRD discount.

WHERE TO STAY

Holiday Inn Express, 110 Birchtree Dr, Greenwood
864.223.2296
\$92/night plus 11% tax (includes continental breakfast)
Deadline for reservations: April 2

SCHEDULE

Friday, April 24
11:00

11:45-1:15

1:30-3:15

3:30-4:45

5:00-6:45

7:00

After Worship

Saturday, April 25

8:30-9:00

9:00-10:15

10:30-11:45

Registration begins

Spotlight on South Carolina Luncheon

Business Session

Breakout Sessions

Missions Banquet

Worship

Fellowship

Juice & Java

Breakout Sessions

Worship

From member to missionary

MISSIONAL

2009 GENERAL Assembly
April 24-25
FBC GREENWOOD

A church with a mission program usually sees mission as one activity alongside many activities of the church — Christian education, worship, mutual aid, hospitality and other programs. A *missional church* focuses all of its activities around its participation in God's mission in the world — it trains people for discipleship and witness; it worships and practices mutual aid before the watching world.

A church with a mission sends others to witness on its behalf. A *missional church* understands that the congregation itself is sent by God to proclaim and to be a sign of the reign of God. Just as God sent Jesus, now Jesus sends the church.

Read more about what it means to be missional: <http://www.thefellowship.info/Resources/Missional-Church/FAQ>.

Go to our website to register.
The only cost is for meals.

First Baptist Church
722 Grace Street
Greenwood, SC 29649
864.229.5557
fbcgwd@fbcgwd.com