

# Fellowship

THIRD ISSUE | 2022

**FORMING TOGETHER:**  
Growing as a community  
of grace on a shared  
spiritual journey that  
connects people to Christ  
and one another.

## New CBFSC Coordinator Elizabeth Nance-Coker

*Praise God, all you nations, extol GOD, all you people! For great is God's steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!*  
—Psalm 117, paraphrased

AS THE NEW COORDINATOR OF CBF SOUTH CAROLINA, I AM EXCITEDLY LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING AND BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS WITH THE PEOPLE OF CBFSC. It was fantastic to attend CBF Global General Assembly in Dallas and to begin networking within our fellowship. Over the past two weeks I was thankful to visit three of our covenant mission partners who have summer programs for children. At Koinonia, Palmetto Works and Metanoia, there are amazing things happening!

I'd like to take this opportunity to share some information about myself and my vision for CBFSC. A cradle Baptist, I grew up in a ministry family, being nurtured in Christian faith formation by Baptist churches in Indonesia, Oklahoma and Texas, where I was baptized at age ten. God called me into ministry in 1978 when I was a college student attending Student Week at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center. While there I heard a female minister preach, and I realized that God was leading me into ministry as a vocation. The initial call was to serve the church through music and education ministries, and the path involved serving in varied denominational traditions in a plethora of ministry contexts which were friendly to women in ministry. Having served in a variety of ministry contexts and roles, I know God cultivated my heart for leading and accompanying people in spiritual growth, being in worship together while sharing both joy and grief, as we abide in community with one another for the transformation of the world.

Years later, I sensed God leading me in a different ministry direction and began further theological training while I prayed for direction, ultimately discerning a call to pastoral ministry. I discovered the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship through treasured relationships with CBF ministers and laity in South Carolina, re-discovering my Baptist faith heritage and the initial love language of my faith in God. Emmanuel Baptist Fellowship ordained me to the ministry of the gospel, and I later served as a CBF pastor at Lakeview (Camden). I also became well-acquainted with many CBF people around the state while on the Coordinating Council as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Our people are working and following Christ together in a beautifully harmonious way.

My husband Dennis and I have three grown children and two teenagers. Dennis's family hails from Turbeville, SC, and includes both Clemson and USC enthusiasts. We were a military family for many years, and enjoyed sharing life with friends in choirs, community theater, handbells, and scouting. We are all looking forward to visiting your faith communities.

I am excited to envision the future of our life together. I will be spending my first year as coordinator listening to both staff and congregation while visiting all our churches. As the people called Cooperative Baptists, we are joyous and bold in our



See "New CBFSC Coordinator. . ." on page 2.

## New CBFSC Coordinator, continued from page 1.

embrace of historically foundational Baptist truths which we apply in fresh ways to twenty-first century living in church, community and nation. I want our churches to be aware of what our other churches are doing; it is inspiring and encouraging to work for greater connection with one another. We want to be informed about what is happening in our CBFSC and the work of CBF Global. Our CBFSC office is always happy to assist your church with navigating the CBF website, where you can find many

free resources for your church. We are indeed laborers together, sharing the love of Christ. Throughout the years, CBFSC has been blessed through the leadership of competent, capable and gifted laity and clergy. Thank you for pouring yourself into our life together as beloved community in Christ.

I hope we can continue the conversation in person—I would love to come to your church and meet you soon. You can reach me via emailing [elizabeth@cbfsc.org](mailto:elizabeth@cbfsc.org) or my cell 803.348-8692. •cbf•

### CBFSC Approves Five New Missions Grants

The mission committee of CBFSC approved five new missions grants:

- SC Fair Lending Alliance was approved for a \$3,000 missions grant to advocate for a 36% rate cap for payday, auto title, and installment loans.
- Growing COB (Calhoun/Orangeburg/Bamberg) was approved for a \$3,000 missions grant for community gardens in rural communities.
- K&H Resource Center (Clarendon county) was approved for a \$3,000 missions grant to provide holistic resources for youth and senior adults.
- Providence Church was approved for a \$1,500 church project grant to partner with St. Matthews Church (North Charleston) for a health and wellness community event.
- Welfare Baptist Church was approved for a \$1,500 church project grant for a Juneteenth Celebration.

*If your church or organization is interested in applying for a CBFSC grant, please visit <https://cbfsc.org/missions>.*

### Lottie Lewis Organizes Tornado Response in Allendale



Lottie Lewis (second from left) stands with individuals whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged during the April tornado

When tornados hit Allendale on April 5, 2022, Lottie Lewis knew she would be receiving a lot of calls. Mrs. Lewis is known in her community as someone who gets things done, and works hard to get people the help they need. While first response agencies were arriving, she called CBFSC to see if there was anything we could help with. Knowing that she knew what her community needed most, we sent her organization \$6,600 for her to have the resources to quickly respond to what her community most needed.

Over the following weeks, Mrs. Lewis stayed in touch with the families whose homes were destroyed or damaged. She was able to give away cleaning supplies, diapers, non-perishable food items, water, toiletries, and hot meals. She helped people with temporary housing. The money that CBFSC sent was used to help families purchase some of the items that were destroyed during the storm.

Mrs. Lewis's organization, Emma's House, has been a partner of CBFSC and Together for Hope for almost 20 years. We are thankful for her presence in Allendale, and her commitment to loving her neighbors. •cbf•



Thanks in partnership with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division and generous donations from CBFSC partner churches, CBFSC had 438 flood buckets in South Carolina, and helped organize delivery for 261 buckets in North Carolina. These buckets will help individuals and families immediately after a flooding, and include items like laundry detergent, garbage bags, and gloves.

Wayne Patterson, CBFSC disaster response coordinator, says "Flood buckets offer an opportunity for everyone in the church family to participate in hands-on missions. From mission friends to senior adults—preparing flood bucket clean-up kits can be done right where you are and the results of your labor will meet a real need."

Daynette Snead Perez, CBF's domestic disaster response manager, says, "Providing clean up buckets to flooded areas is one of the fastest ways that we can respond after a disaster."

If you would like to donate any flood buckets, you can find the information on our website at <https://cbfsc.org/missions-disaster-response>. •cbf•

*Update: In the wake of flooding in Kentucky, CBFSC distributed 300 flood buckets.*

## State of Women in Baptist Life

**PART 1** of the report discusses results and comments from the informal survey BWIM created and distributed last fall.

**Part 2** tracks statistics related to women's ordinations in Baptist congregations, Baptist women serving as pastors and co-pastors, women endorsed as chaplains and counselors in Baptist groups, and Baptist women's enrollment in selected seminaries. [Read the report at bwim.info/state-of-women-in-baptist-life-2](https://bwim.info/state-of-women-in-baptist-life-2).



## Camp Prism Testimonials

By Lucy Sims, a Camp Prism camper from First Baptist Church Greenwood

Camp Prism was a blast. Everything was so fun. You got to learn while you had fun. Everyone could go there if they wanted. When I was in Camp Prism we all had worship and Bible study. I got to learn about God while I was having fun. I made so many new friends. I feel like I got closer to God when I was there. This place is amazing. We all got to do a little short play about God. All of the plays about God were so funny. This place is a place where I want to go again.



Lucy and Anna Elizabeth go paddle boating at Camp Prism

By Anna Elizabeth Turner, a Camp Prism camper from First Baptist Church Greenwood

Camp Prism was so much fun! I loved our nightly activities. Some of the many fun things we did were the leap of faith, rock climbing, and ziplining. I also liked all of the friendliness from everyone there. I made some new friends and bonded with my old ones too. If you got hungry you could go to Nibble Nook!!! They had ice cream, popcorn, drinks, slushies, candy, and more. I had so much fun with all the fun activities and friends there. I hope I get to go back next year! •cbf•

### CBFSC Churches Welcome New Staff

**NAOMI BLACK-BASS**, Minister of Youth and Missions  
First Baptist Church Anderson

**ALLISON BENFIELD**, Associate Pastor  
Providence Church in Charleston

**PRESTON COOLEY**, Minister to Students  
First Baptist Church, Clemson

**WESTON HENDERSON**, Minister to Families, Youth and Children | Pelham Road Baptist Church, Greenville

**GRACE MARTINO-SUPRICE**, New Coordinator  
Baptist Fellowship of the Northeast

**CLAIRE SANG**, Ministries Coordinator  
Augusta Road Baptist Church, Greenville, S.C.

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS | Dallas, TX



Paul Baxley and Sara Gardner

## MISSION GRANTS

Welfare Baptist Church and Fernwood Baptist Church were named the Ministry Council grant recipients. Representing the churches were Rev. Jeffrey Howard, Minister to Christian Education and Community Outreach at Welfare Baptist Church; and Sara Gardner, member of Fernwood Baptist Church.

Rev. Cheryl Moore Adamson was presented the 2021 EMMANUEL MCCALL RACIAL JUSTICE TRAILBLAZER AWARD



Paul Baxley, Cheryl Moore Adamson & Kasey Jones

**Chaplain Christina Pryor Pittman was commissioned as a CBF endorsed chaplain.**



Elizabeth Nance-Coker, Paul Baxley, Jeffrey Howard, and Lane Riley



Rev. Jeffrey Howard; Rev. Lucy Cauthen; and Rev. Preston Cooley

CBF FELLOWS is for first-call ministers helping clergy transition to full-time ministry. There are three Fellows from South Carolina that attended General Assembly: Rev. Jeffrey Howard (*Welfare Baptist Church*). Rev. Lucy Cauthen (*Boulevard Baptist Church*), and Rev. Preston Cooley (*Trinity Baptist Church*)

**SAVE THE DATE! April 21, 2023**  
**CBFSC General Assembly | FBC Anderson**

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## E-NEWS

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