

CBFANA News

Being the Presence of Christ ... Today ... Tomorrow ... Together

Shane and Dianne McNarry Appointed to Slovakia

Donated Coins Bring CBF's Offering for BWA to \$52,480

ATLANTA — When 10-year-old Erin Strnad generously donated her change bank on the last night of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's General Assembly, she single-handedly added nearly \$1,000 to the total raised for the Baptist World Alliance.



The Fellowship raised \$47,670 in two offerings at its annual General Assembly in Birmingham, June 24-26. At the conclusion of the worship service on June 25, Strnad of McCalla, Alabama, was called to the podium by Emmanuel McCall, the Fellowship's representative to the BWA and pastor of Christian Fellowship Baptist Church in College Park, Ga. She came forward towing a red wagon containing a three-foot-tall replica Coca-Cola bottle filled with change.

Strnad, the daughter of Russ and Gage Strnad and a member of Hunter Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, explained that she had been saving that money for a long time, and now she wanted to give it to someone who could use it to help eradicate world hunger. She learned about the BWA, and chose to give them all of her coins.

The result? Strnad's bank held \$915.07 that helped push the total offering collected for BWA to \$48,585. Gifts received after the Assembly made toward the special offering increased the total to \$52,480.

In addition to the offering, the Fellowship voted at the Assembly to double its annual contribution for the BWA from \$20,000 to \$40,000. The new budget took effect July 1.

"And a little child shall lead them."

Lance Wallace, CBF Communications

Shane and Dianne McNarry of Malvern will be leaving soon with their son and daughter for their new home in Slovakia, where they will work with the Romany people as CBF Field Personnel (missionaries).

The McNarrys were appointed recently at the annual CBF General Assembly in Birmingham. Shane has served as pastor of the First Southern Baptist Church – Magnet Cove in Malvern for the past six years. Dianne, an RN, has served as Clinical Coordinator at Hot Springs County Medical Center in Malvern for the past four years.

Last summer the McNarrys spent their vacation in Prague. They had searched the CBF web site for a mission opportunity for their church and found a request that caught their eye. The volunteer mission opportunity involved the Gypsy Cluster meeting in Prague. It fit the McNarry family perfectly. It was to provide childcare for Ellen and Rebecca Holmes, 10 and 8 years old, while their parents attended a meeting in Prague. The McNarry children, Taylor, 10½, and Allie, 8, were a perfect match for the McNarry children.

What a wonderful ending (or beginning) for a website search for a volunteer mission opportunity. Try it and let's see where you end up!

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Tammy Stock, CBF, Dianne and Shane McNarry, Tom Martin, FBC, Arkadelphia

Lakeshore Drive Baptist — A Truly “Missional” Church

Missional: an adjective of the word “mission” or “missions”

Mission: a specific task with which a person or a group is charged

Does your church think of herself as being too small to meet the needs of hurting people? Then remember the story of David and Goliath.

An example of a “missional” church is Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church in Little Rock. The church had its beginning in 1958 during the segregation turmoil that occurred throughout the city and was heard around the world.

A small group of members of the Broadmoor Baptist Church was dismissed from the church because they differed with the pastor on the segregation issue. This group believed in tolerance to their fellow man no matter who he might be. Because of these beliefs their names were taken from the church rolls.

The University Baptist, which later changed its name to Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church, was in a fast-growing area of West Little Rock and rapidly grew in membership. Its numbers peaked in the late 60s at over 200 in attendance.

As the Broadmoor neighborhood changed over the years and younger couples moved farther west, Lakeshore changed also. The church became a congregation of mostly senior citizens and grew smaller with the passing years.

Today the church’s average attendance is less than 50. There is not much a church that size can do, is there? Wrong.

Love (Let Our Violence End)

Two nights a week a LOVE (Let Our Violence End) group meets in the education building of the church. This group ministers to troubled young people in the Little Rock area.

Narcotics Anonymous

Another group, Narcotics Anonymous, meets at the church on Monday and Wednesday nights. It’s not unusual to see the church parking lot filled with pick-up trucks and motorcycles on these nights.

Food Pantry

Lakeshore operates a food pantry on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. With food purchased from and donated by the Food Bank of Arkansas and the Rice Depot, groceries are provided to 15 to 20 families each time the pantry doors are opened.

Dress for Success

“Dress for Success,” an organization that provides interview suits, confidence boosts, and career development to low income women seeking employment, uses two rooms for fitting and storing clothing. These women are referred by social service organizations, and the clients are met at the church to outfit them for their new jobs.

Office Space for CBF

Another mission ministry of the church is providing office space for CBF of Arkansas for the past ten years. Lakeshore was one of the first churches to encourage its members to contribute to the national program. CBF now supports over 150 missionaries and 12 new seminaries.

Adopting Bale Elementary

The members of Lakeshore have adopted the teachers and staff of a nearby elementary school, Bale Elementary. The school staff is remembered in prayer and sometimes with cards and gifts. Twice a year the church provides a noon meal consisting of soups, sandwiches and desserts in the teachers’ lounge at the school. Members of the church also volunteer during special activities such as carnivals, field days and reading events.

(continued on page 5)



Lakeshore Baptist Church Food Pantry



Church’s Adopted School — Bale Elementary

Smiths Report News in Europe and Asia



Becky Smith

The last few months have been exciting for us personally, as we celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary the same week our youngest graduated from high school in June. Erik, as class president, opened the ceremony with a speech, presented the other speakers, and was honored with several awards and a scholarship. We are proud parents. He will be a freshman at Campbell University in North Carolina beginning in August.

Daughter, Kristin, to Be Senior at Wake Forest

Our daughter, Kristin, is here this summer also, working as a tour guide. She will begin her senior year at Wake Forest this fall. In the midst of all this activity it has not yet dawned on us that we will be facing an empty nest this fall. Please pray that we

will make a good adjustment, as our children are on their own.

Becky Meets with Kurd and Persian (Iranian) Workers

Becky just returned from a meeting of our teams working with Kurds and Iranians. During that time we dedicated the new building for Persian World Outreach in New Jersey. It was



Jim Smith

exciting to see how local churches have been among the active volunteers in getting this building completed. It has also opened their eyes to the “foreign” mission field among us. Several churches have offered space for Persian worship services.

Jim Finds Armenian Christians Dedicated Followers of Christ

Jim completed a survey trip to Armenia in May. It is a fascinating country, isolated geo-politically and surrounded by Muslim-dominated countries. Armenia has serious economic challenges, but it also has a Baptist Union that seems like the “Little Engine that Could” in terms of evangelism, church planting and pride in the Armenian culture – which has ancient traditional Christian roots. The Baptists there are growing rapidly, are friendly and desire to have closer interaction with CBF believers and churches. Even the poorest start-up churches are running soup kitchens for those even poorer than they. They minister regularly in orphanages and prisons, reaching out to the neglected in the name of Jesus. Jim came away awed and inspired by Armenian Baptists. They would love to have some partnerships with U.S. churches. We will be working on some of those possibilities. There are exciting things going on with many of our personnel. We will include some of that next time...

Jim and Becky Smith
Berlin, Germany

Serving God in China

For your CBF China representative, April faded into May and June in a flurry of continuing to coordinate summer volunteers, visiting with folks passing through Hong Kong, a visit from my family, and a trip home for the CBF annual General Assembly in Birmingham. The Assembly was a good time of reconnecting with volunteers and colleagues.



Brenda Lisenby

Summer Volunteers

The Amity and Guangxi University summer volunteers arrived safely in July, received orientation and are currently at their sites and teaching. A CBF volunteer for World Vision will arrive in August. Altogether there are 30 CBF volunteers teaching English in China this summer. For the first time, we have American high school and college students assisting in our Guangxi Summer English Program for Chinese senior middle school students, and it has been a positive experience for all involved.

A Kitchen, A School for Cerebral Palsy, Etc.

Projects are going well, too. We have assisted a rural elementary school in building a kitchen and dining hall so that the 200+ students who board at the school can have hot meals each day. We have assisted a school for cerebral palsy students to upgrade and expand their facilities. And we are more than halfway toward our goal of \$15,000 assistance of a small town church building project. Thanks for Arkansas' help on these. For more information, visit www.cbfinchina.org or email info@cbfchina.org

Our Apologies

We apologize for mistakes we made in the last issue of our paper in writing of Dr. Charles Ashcraft's death.

The years of his wonderful leadership as Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention were actually 1969-80.

In our listing of survivors we misspelled the name of one of the sons, James Quintin Ashcraft of Conway.



Dr. Charles Ashcraft

We regret that news of Partners in Hope, CBF's rural poverty initiative, did not reach us. The Newells had a great summer with help from many churches from five states. There were over 200 volunteers from North Carolina alone.

North Carolina CBA plans to partner with Arkansas CBF in other ministries also.

The five Newells are in Holland helping Leonora's parents celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

“See You Later, Tough Lady”



Dr. Fran Coulter

Few deaths in Arkansas have brought sadness as the passing of Dr. Fran Coulter, not only among Baptists in the state, but also among countless other friends, former students, colleagues and admirers.

Fran and her husband, Dr. Ed Coulter, met at Ouachita Baptist University their first day as freshmen. Later the two spent 20 years at Ouachita, Fran as a teacher of history and Ed as vice president of the university.

In 1995 the Coulters moved to Mountain Home where Ed worked to create ASU-Mountain Home. Fran became the division chairman of social sciences and education and taught five history classes a semester until she became too ill with cancer to teach.

Last December the Arkansas State University at Mountain Home Board of Trustees named the honors program at ASU at Mountain Home the “Dr. Fran Coulter Honors Program.”

In a full-page ad in the Baxter Bulletin, Mountain Home’s daily paper, the students, faculty and staff of Arkansas State University at Mountain Home paid tribute to the marvelous lady with a picture of Fran’s beautiful smile and a picture of one of the beautiful buildings on the campus. The tribute began “With heavy hearts and with many fond memories we say farewell to our friend, professor and benefactor.”

Fran “kept up” with so many friends. She wrote notes from the hospital when she really didn’t have strength to write. I will always cherish several of these notes. It was my privilege to pray at the celebration service at First Baptist Church. One of Fran’s qualities, for which I thanked God, was Fran’s teaching us not only “how to live but also how to die.”

Many memorials have been made to Arkansas State University at Mountain Home, Ouachita Baptist University, First Baptist Church, Mountain Home, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, etc.

No gift would please Fran more than the \$25,000 gift from First National Bank of Mountain Home to Hospice of the Ozarks for a patient room to be named in memory of Fran. A ground breaking for the Hospice House is planned for the fall with the opening in the summer of 2005. Somehow I feel that Fran will be with each patient who is ever placed in that room, saying, “Come on. You can make it. We can make it together.”

Dr. David Johnson, pastor of First Baptist Church, quoted C.S. Lewis’ words when a friend told Lewis “good-bye.” Lewis responded, “Christians don’t say ‘good-bye’; they just say, ‘see you later’.” In an editorial about Fran Coulter in the **Baxter Bulletin**, the editorial was entitled, “Good Night, First Lady.”

So all of us CBF people in Arkansas, with thousands of other admirers across the country, say to our beloved Fran, “See you later, Tough Lady.”

... the Editor

Memorials

IN MEMORY

In Memory of Fran Coulter

Bonnie Margason
Ethel and Tom Logue
Jamie and Beverly Jones
Rosie Dunham
Ina and Russell Miller
Edith Potter

In Memory of Claud Cash

Charlie Chaffin
Tom and Ethel Logue
Rosie Dunham

In Memory of Charles Ashcraft

Mrs. John Shoemaker

In Memory of Laura Brown

Norma Meyers

In Memory of Wilson Deese

Jerry Wilcox*

In Memory of Larry Sparks

Margaret Sparks
Tom and Ethel Logue
Jamie and Beverly Jones

In Memory of Robert V. Ferguson

Mary Ferguson
Tom and Ethel Logue

In Memory of Nancy Patterson (wife of Dr. J.D. Patterson)

Dr. and Mrs. Roy Melton
Evie and John Watkins
Rosie Dunham
Tom and Ethel Logue

In Memory of Edna Turner (mother of Mike Turner)

Rosie Dunham
Tom and Ethel Logue

In Memory of Lynn Strother (father of Lane Strother)

Ed Coulter
Rosie Dunham
Ina and Russell Miller
Tom and Ethel Logue

*Wilson baptized our first daughter, Leslie, at Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church in 1985

IN HONOR

In Honor of Tom Logue

Ed Coulter

In Honor of Andrew Hall

Ed Coulter

In Honor of Doris Albert Yarnell

Harold Stocks

Rick Shaw in Albania Wants Us to Know Eliza

Hello Tom,
I am praying for you daily. I am also lifting your wife to the Lord.

I have cut and pasted an article I recently wrote. I hope it is acceptable for your newsletter. It was a joy to get to be with your group at the General Assembly in Birmingham.

Many American friends know the story of Albanian Kosovor pastor Eliza D well, having followed her from her refugee days in Macedonia in 1998-99 and her conversion to faith in Christ, through her return to a Bektashi Muslin husband, and now to her leading a fledgling congregation of believing young people in the southwestern region of the Balkan province.

You have followed the story of my mentoring relationship with Eliza, riding the up-and-down pilgrimage of missionary and indigenous leader. My journey is a developing one, as is that of Eliza, trying to learn as we go, charting new ground, pioneering a new endeavor.

For those of you who have met this trailblazing Albanian woman, you can affirm that her greatest strength is her faith in the Lord Jesus. Often her comment during our theologizing time in worship service is, “Rick, it is very easy to accept the Lord Jesus, but it is very difficult to hold to that decision.”

Eliza married young – at 13! She had her first child, Behar, about one year later, and then three more children in a row. She never attended high school, let alone university. But now the time is come, and through a very generous donation from a caring sister in Christ in Alaska, Eliza is working toward her GED. At the time of this writing, she has completed the first year (nine exams), and three exams (out of seven) toward the second year.

At 42, this material is not always easy, and Eliza finds herself studying diligently, after a 29-year hiatus. The goal that Eliza has set is to complete all four years' exams by September 20 — unreachable?

Please pray for Eliza as she learns and as she takes these exams. Pray she will learn this material, and realize the value of learning.



The Shaw Family

Appointed to Slovakia ...

(continued from page 1)

We will keep you informed of their work and prayer needs. Presently they are on Samford's campus in Atlanta learning all about the inner workings of CBF. They say all is going well.

The picture shows Dianne and Shane at their commissioning service in Birmingham with Tammy Stock, Field Personnel with the Romany people in Budapest, Hungary, and Tom Martin, First Baptist Church, Arkadelphia representing Arkansas at their commissioning.

The McNarry's need to sell their house in Magnet Cove. Let's pray about it.

A Truly “Missional” Church ...

(continued from page 2)

A Part of Shepherd Center

A senior citizen group meets once a week for painting classes. This group is a part of the Shepherd Center of Southwest Little Rock.

Don't ever think of your church as being too small. God, on your side, makes the difference.

(The author of this article is Lakeshore member Doayne Elder. Elder has been a daily volunteer at Bale Elementary School for five years. This year he was awarded the Mentor/Tutor Award by the Volunteers in Public School organization for the Little Rock School District.)

CBF
Luncheon
During ABSC
at noon
First Baptist Church
Hot Springs
Tuesday, November 9
Speaker: Dean Dickens
Reservations by
November 2
\$5.00

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of Arkansas
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Little Rock, AR 72204

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CBF of Arkansas Budget

1 July 2004-30 June 2005

MISSIONS

Habitat House, Pulaski County	\$1,000
Berlin, Germany, Jim and Becky Smith	3,000
China, Brenda Lisenby	2,000
New Church Starts in Arkansas	3,000
Rena Road Baptist Church, Van Buren, Ark.	5,200
Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City	2,500
Baptist Joint Committee, Washington, D.C.	1,200
Baptist Center for Ethics, Nashville, Tenn.	250
Partners in Hope, Helena, Ark.	10,000
Mission House Contingency, Helena, Ark.	2,000
BSU, Dartmouth University	1,200
Unreached Peoples Group, Southeast Asia	500
Associated Baptist Press, Jacksonville, Fla.	500
Baptist World Alliance, Falls Church, V.A.	1,200
Contingency	1,500

Subtotal **\$35,050**

Publicity	2,500
Newsletters	3,890
CBF Luncheon@ABState Convention	250

Subtotal **\$12,390**

ADMINISTRATION

Telephone	\$1,200
Supplies	600
Furniture & Equipment	250
Postage	1,330
Travel-Staff	1,350
Travel-Council	1,000
Salary, State Coordinator	12,000
Salary, Office Secretary	9,000
Payroll Taxes	7,000
Miscellaneous	400
Accounting Fee	1,200
Audit (to be determined)	

Subtotal **\$35,330**

EDUCATION

Arkansas General Assembly	\$5,000
National General Assembly	750

Total **\$82,770**