

CBFA News

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

Higgins to Succeed Logue as CBF Coordinator

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Arkansas has chosen Ray Higgins of Little Rock as its next coordinator. Higgins, pastor of Second Baptist Church for the last 10 years, will begin as coordinator Jan. 1, 2005, a day after the retirement of Tom Logue, who was the group's founding coordinator.



Ray Higgins

Higgins, 48, was unanimously elected at a special coordinating council meeting on Aug. 31. He will be the group's first coordinator with a full-time salary, as Logue was paid part-time for his full-time commitment. Logue is retiring to spend more time with his family, although he said he will still be involved in the Fellowship.

Higgins was selected by a four-person search committee chaired by the group's moderator-elect, Jim Maloch. "We felt like he would be the perfect one to follow in the footsteps of Tom Logue. He has a good relationship with pastors in the state, and we think his background in education and ethics makes him an ideal choice for us," Maloch said.

Currently serving his second term on the national CBF Coordinating Council, Higgins was CBF of Arkansas moderator from 1999 to 2000. Higgins said he plans to build on Logue's work, citing specific involvement with the Fellowship's rural poverty initiative, Partners in Hope, the state coordinating council and churches. "I want to create a sense of healthy pride in being Baptists and keeping our freedoms alive," he said.

Higgins said Logue built a solid foundation for the group. "He has worked over a

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Dean Dickens to Speak at CBF Luncheon During Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Dean Dickens, not to be confused with his twin brother, Doug, will be our speaker at our CBF luncheon to be held at noon at First Baptist Church in Hot Springs (across from the racetrack) on Tuesday, Nov. 9.

Dickens and his wife, Karr La, former Southern Baptist missionaries in the Philippines, work now as Coordinators for Global Mission Teams. They coordinate teams of missionaries working with international refugees and students, with urban inner-city workers, and with transformational development mission teams in the U.S., Canada, South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.



Dean Dickens

After the Dickens resigned from the Foreign Mission Board, Dean served as senior pastor of Cliff Temple Baptist Church in Dallas from 1989 to 1996, Calvary Baptist Church in Garland, Texas, 1997 to 1999, and North Cities Fellowship in Garland from 1999 to 2001.

Karr La is the daughter of Nellie Miller of Dallas and the late Dillard Miller, long-time pastor of First Baptist Church of Mena and former president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

The Dickens have three children, Douglas, Whitney, and Courtney.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$5.00. Please let us know by Friday, November 5, if you are coming. The address is 6120 W. 32nd Street, Little Rock, AR 72204, phone 501-565-5343.

Congratulations, Arkansas CBF!

In announcing Ray Higgins' selection as State Coordinator for Arkansas CBF, the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* erroneously reported there were 10 Arkansas churches that give to CBF. Already this year 30 churches have given to CBF.

Below is the record of Arkansas gifts last year, 2003, to the national CBF office in Atlanta, Georgia.

30 churches gave	\$199,916
*Individuals gave	38,216
Total	\$238,132

In addition to this, Arkansas churches and individuals gave over \$90,000 to CBF of Arkansas in 2003.

The grand total of Arkansas' gifts to CBF was over \$300,000 last year.

Since the "birth" of CBF in 1991, Arkansans have given over \$3 million to CBF's national office in Atlanta and CBF's state office in Little Rock.

*Exact number not available from Atlanta

Our Website: webaxiom.com/cbfofArkansas

CBF = MISSIONS CBF = M

“Mr. Shaw, I Am Not Afraid Anymore to Wear This Cross”

In recent weeks, I have taken a survey trip in a Eurasian country, a crossroads between East and West, ally of Western powers, but with intimate affinities with the Middle East. In the city of Bajraktar, I began as I always do, pounding the streets and alleys, engaging persons in conversation, stumbling through my finite knowledge of their language, and then progressing to a regional or world language, such as German, Arabic or English.

One of the gentlemen whom I met during the survey was Ali, a 43-year-old individual, slightly rotund, balding, but with elan and elegance, and a fire in his eyes. Much to my astonishment, Ali was sporting a small gold cross hanging on a chain around his neck. This country of Bajraktar is not known for a Christian population. Defy-



The Shaw Family

ing Western insistence upon personal space, I touched his cross.

“Yes, sir, I am a Christian,” Ali told me.

“Really?” I am surprised to find a follower of Christ in this place,” I replied.

“I am not afraid anymore to wear this cross and to tell people that I have accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord,” the Eurasian man responded.

“Please tell me,” I continued, “how you came to faith in Jesus.”

Ali told me his story, how he had become dissatisfied with the religion of his heritage; how the holy writings of his previous faith had seemed “distant,” “cold,” and “impersonal” and how his soul longed for experience that would give him peace. The Eurasian commented that he had sought out the Divine, had begun reading the Injil (the New Testament), and had met the God-man Jesus Christ through Nicodemus’ evening encounter with Him in John, Chapter 3.

“I asked Isa [Jesus] to make me born again through the Spirit,” Ali confessed.

“At the beginning, I was afraid because I knew how my family and friends would react.” The believer was passionate now, “but the Spirit of Jesus gives you confidence and strength. This country is changing. For centuries we have been committed to another prophet, but there is something happening here.”

I promised Ali that I would pray for him daily. I asked his permission to write his story and publish it, and I beseech you to pray for this Eurasian Christ-follower as well.

Rick

Shaw Family News

James, our eldest son, is now well into the fall semester at Baylor University. He reports that he loves studying Arabic and is doing quite well in the subject. American constitutional development is a challenge, as is calculus. James celebrates his 19th birthday today, always a sad time for Mom and Dad halfway around the world.

Faith, our second child, is thriving in her sophomore year at the Nova High School here in Skopje. A natural student and organizer, Faith is challenged mainly by her studies in honors physics. Our first daughter will celebrate her 16th birthday October 11.

Benjamin, our third, is loving first grade and beginning to settle into a disciplined classroom environment. His viola-playing is progressing well, and he is looking forward to playing “O Come, Little Children” with brother James and sister Faith at the school Christmas program in December.

Grace, fourth in line but not to be usurped by anyone, is precocious as ever, spoiled beyond everyone’s expectation, and is enjoying some alone time with Dad each week.

If you would like to, please:

1. **Pray** for our family, our ministries, and the precious peoples with whom we work.
2. **Give** to CBF’s Global Missions Offering:
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
P.O. Box 450329
Atlanta, GA 31145-0329
3. **Give** to one of our ongoing projects:
#80363 — Martha’s Orphans and Indigents
#80361 — Konjare Village Development
#80366 — Liria Bread

May God richly bless you in these days with the peace of our Lord Jesus.

Rick and Martha

James, Faith, Ben, and Grace Shaw
International Coordinators for Albanians
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
Ulica Ivo Lola Ribar 98A
1000 Skopje
Republic of Macedonia

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+011-389-70-25-25-37 (Rick’s mobile phone number)
+011-389-70-269-815 (Martha’s mobile phone number)

Our Website: webaxiom.com/cbfofArkansas

MISSIONS CBF = MISSIONS

Newell News

Have you ever heard of that saying, "Time flies when you are having fun"? Well, if it is true, then we are certainly having fun. Where did the time go? It seems like yesterday we were greeting teams from Missouri, North Carolina, and Arkansas.



Ben and Leonora Newell

The news from the Delta is encouraging. Our mission initiative, called the All Church Challenge, was held from June 5 to 19. It was attended by 16 churches from all around the country as well as from seven local churches. These 23 churches brought together a formidable volunteer force of close to 350 people. You should have seen God's church in action! Skills and talents abounded as young people, older people, white, and black people worked together to serve the under-resourced and marginalized people of Phillips County.

We held a sports camp that served over 200 kids, ages 5-15, for two straight weeks. Then we partnered with Fellowship of Christian Athletes to hold another specialized sports camp for one more week where close to 80 kids were energized with sports and the Holy Spirit. Guess what happened during the third week of sports camp? That is right, 35 kids came to the Lord. Praise God! Don't fret though. We did not forget them. We followed up with every kid, offering them a discipleship opportunity so that they could grow in their new faith.

We also held concurrent sessions of kids camp (for us Baptists, we call that VBS) where 150 kids enjoyed the time of learning, fellowship, and fun. Our theme for VBS was the Olympics and running the good race.

Then we had other mission activities that were conducted throughout Phillips County. We repaired people's houses (installed new ceilings and flooring, fixed a bathroom, provided insulation and ventilation, completely re-roofed two homes and much more), renovated the Marvel Community Center, worked on a Habitat for Humanity house, renovated our community garden, created two new gardens in the community, and worked with the toys and books lending library. That is why time has flown by and why we have been having fun.

Now don't you think that mission activities stopped on June 19! To the contrary, we have continued throughout the summer and fall doing God's work in the Delta. To date, we have hosted 39 mission teams and we have engaged over 500 volunteers and worked over 13,000 man-hours. Doesn't that sound like FUN?

If it does, then mark your calendars to come down and partner with us as we serve God and His people in unique and interesting ways. If you have the heart to serve, we have the place to do that. Please feel free to contact us directly at 870-995-3518 or 870-338-3464 or email us at bn@worldmail.org.

Prayer Concerns

1. Leonora's dad, who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer and is undergoing treatment.
2. Hurricane victims
3. Pray for the opportunity to vote on consolidation between Helena and West Helena. The grassroots people want to settle this issue by vote. The politicians don't want to.
4. Pray for friends for our kids as they serve alongside us in our community.

Ben and Leonora

Exciting Times in China

This is an exciting time to be in China. Guangxi projects are going well. The CBF Missouri project tour last November has had great success. The group enjoyed the International Folk Song Festival in Nanning and visited projects. Individuals and churches have provided funds for Shitang Elementary School kitchen and dining hall, Shanglin Church, and Angel House (the first school specifically for children with cerebral palsy in Guangxi). For more information about these and others or to make donations, see below. The next project tour is planned for May 23-June 1, 2005.



Brenda Lisenby

Arkansas CBF has had China in its budget for several years. We have helped in the school project for children with cerebral palsy, a church building project, Christian leadership training, etc.

Editor

Donations, designated and mailed to: CBF, P.O. Box 101699, Atlanta, GA 30392

- Lisenby Ministry
- #81175 Church Building Project
- #81177 Elementary School Project
- #81172 Christian Leadership Training
- #81171 Amity Foundation Project
- #81170 Housing for Physical Therapist

Brenda Lisenby,
Flat E, Block 5, 20/F
#8 On Chun Street
Villa Oceania
Ma On Shan, NT
Hong Kong

Brenda

Memorials

*In Memory of Myrtle Childs
(Beverly Jones' mother)
Tom and Ethel Logue*

*In Memory of Fran Coulter
Lane Phelps*

*In Memory of Tom Flynn
Tom and Ethel Logue*

*Winston and Carol Hardman
Jamie and Beverly Jones*

*In Honor of Dr. Ralph Douglas
Rosalee Scott*

*In Honor of Madison Dempsey
Rosalee Scott*

*In Honor of J.J. Dempsey
Rosalee Scott*

*In Honor of Rosie Dunham
Ed Coulter*

*In Memory of Lynn Strother
Johnny and Sharon Heflin*

*In Memory of Andrew Setliffe
Charles and Cindy Fuller*

*Tom and Ethel Logue
Rosie Dunham*

*In Memory of Garland Goodwin
Rose Marie Goodwin*

In Memory of Charles Ashcraft
Dean Newberry**

**I was Chairman of the Operating Committee
of the ABSC when Dr. Ashcraft was elected
Executive Secretary.*

*In Memory of Joey Dempsey
Rosalee Scott*

*In Memory of Blanche Douglas
Rosalee Scott*

*In Memory of John Elrod
The Dunham Family*

Higgins to Succeed Logue

(Continued from page 1)

decade to create a CBF organization in Arkansas, to give Arkansas Baptists a home and a fellowship in CBF, and to connect Arkansas with the national CBF mission," said Higgins, who met Logue through Baptist Student Union at the University of Arkansas, where Higgins earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1977. Logue, at the time, was State BSU Director for Arkansas. Originally from El Dorado, Ark., Higgins went to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, where he earned a master of divinity degree in 1980. He earned a Ph.D. in religion with emphasis in Christian ethics from Baylor University in 1990.

Higgins was assistant professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern from 1987 to 1994. He has also served as pastor of Purnela Baptist Church in Purnela, Texas, and special projects coordinator for the Southern Baptist Convention's Christian Life Commission and Home Mission Board.

Higgins and his wife, Judy, have two teenage sons, Adam and Ryan.

Carla Wynn
CBF Communications

**Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
of Arkansas**
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Little Rock, Arkansas 72204

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**Luncheon
during
Arkansas Baptist
State Convention
12:00
Tuesday
November 9
FBC, Hot Springs
Speaker: Dean Dickens**

Our Website: webaxiom.com/cbfof Arkansas