

Kate Campbell Sings at Spring Conference



By Charlotte
Tubbs

Through tales of panthers in Arkansas, casinos in Mississippi and a road sign in Alabama, Nashville

singer and songwriter Kate Campbell entertained and inspired those attending the 14th Annual Spring Conference of the Arkansas Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Campbell, who performed both April 21 and 22 at Second Baptist Church in downtown Little Rock, reminded her audience of the gathering's theme – Being the presence of Christ ... to my neighbor – by singing about struggles, needs and hopes.

Campbell began Friday evening with her only song that mentions Arkansas, "When Panthers Roamed Arkansas," which tells of the times long ago when the creatures were common sights in the Delta cotton fields. Her song "Visions of Plenty" was inspired by a trip to her childhood home of Sledge, Miss., and the new signs advertising casinos that had sprouted since her last visit.

While people of the Delta dream big of winning one of the casino jackpots, they also face many challenges, she said.

Continued on page 5



Cooperative Baptist
FELLOWSHIP of Arkansas

NEWS

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Serving Christians and churches as they discover and fulfill their God-given mission.

SUMMER 2006

Tony Campolo Preaches at Spring Conference



By David McCollum

Noted evangelist and sociologist Tony Campolo told the CBF of Arkansas assembly that being the "presence of Christ" manifests itself in several actions.

Speaking at the conference in April at Second Baptist Church in Little Rock, Campolo, professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern College in Pennsylvania, related the aspect of a Christian rescuing people to a leading character in "Catcher in the Rye," who related a dream about standing on the edge of a cliff and keeping people from falling. "I can't catch 'em all but I can catch as many as I can." Campolo then challenged Christians to rescue people by telling them about Jesus.

Citing "none of us can make it alone," Campolo challenged his audience to disciple people. "We all need a support group to maximize what we can do for the

Kingdom; where I can best invest my life to serve Jesus Christ?"

He noted that church members should be builders of the body of the church. "We're all just messed-up people trying to find some healing," he said. "I've heard a person say that the church is full of hypocrites. A friend of mine says, 'that's why you're welcome.'"

He said the "Presence of Christ," also means building the Kingdom. He related a story about a person who wanted to go to Calcutta and minister alongside Mother Teresa. He said Mother Teresa replied to her, encouraging her to spread the kingdom, "Go, find your own Calcutta."

He said an agnostic student once challenged him that Jesus never met a prostitute. "You see, the student explained to me that he thought that when Jesus looked at a person, he never saw and prostitute," Campolo said. "And I get this from an agnostic. It's interesting that in Jesus' time, everybody knew what Jesus was seeing except for the Christians."

Campolo also offered observations, often pointed, and opinions on a variety of subjects:

About the charismatic movement:

"Just because we don't do it (speaking in tongues and other evidences of charismatic gifts), doesn't mean God is not doing something wonderful. One of my

Continued on page 5



Dr. Shovie Ducre, senior pastor of the Starlight Missionary Baptist Church, Slidell, LA, tells the Spring Conference audience how CBF rebuilt his home and church following Hurricane Katrina. On stage with Dr. Ducre are Ray Higgins (left), coordinator of CBF of Arkansas, John Daugherty, coordinator of CBF of Louisiana, and Charles Ray, Disaster Response Coordinator for CBF of Arkansas.

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CBFAR National General Assembly

Wednesday, June 21

Auxiliary Events

9:00 am - 3:30 pm - Invitation to Sabbath:

A Clergy Day Apart

(will be held at Wieuca Road BC, sponsored by Advent Spirituality Center)

1:00 - 5:30 pm - HIV/AIDS Summit

(will continue on Thursday morning)

6:30 - 8:30 pm - Theological Education Banquet

Thursday, June 22

7:00 - 8:45 am - Auxiliary Events

8:00 - 10:00 am - HIV/AIDS Summit

8:30 am - 7:00 pm - Resource Fair Open

9:00 - 10:10 am - Workshops

10:30 - 11:40 am - General Session I

Response from CBF moderator Joy Yee

11:45 am - 1:45 pm - Lunch and Auxiliary Events

2:00 - 3:10 pm - Workshops

(Includes Business Breakouts too)

3:45 - 5:00 pm - State Meetings

5:00 - 6:30 pm - Dinner and Auxiliary Events

6:45 pm - Pre-Worship Gathering

7:00 - 8:30 pm - General Session II

8:30 pm - Resource Fair Event

Friday, June 23

7:00 - 9:00 am - Auxiliary Events

8:30 am - 7:00 pm - Resource Fair Open

9:00 - 11:00 am - General Session III

Report from CBF coordinator Daniel Vestal

11:00 - 11:45 am - Fellowship Time

11:45 am - 1:45 pm - Lunch & Auxiliary Events

2:00 - 3:10 pm - Workshops

3:30 - 4:40 pm - Workshops

5:00 - 6:30 pm - Dinner and Auxiliary Events

6:45 pm - Pre-Worship Gathering

7:00 - 8:30 pm - General Session IV

8:30 pm - Resource Fair Event

Saturday, June 24

Auxiliary Events

8:15 am - 5:00 pm - Companions in Christ Training

(will be held off-site at Second Ponce de-Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA)



Joy Yee,
featured speaker
CBF moderator



2006 General Assembly

General Sessions - June 22-23
Auxiliary Events - June 21 & 24
Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, Ga.

Highlights



Trevor Hudson
featured speaker
a call to justice
and mercy



Al Staggs
worship leader
dramatic gospel
interpretations



C. Michael Hawn
artist in residence
worship arts from
around the world



Alicia Walker
worship planner
intentional focus
on worship

Worship opportunities

HIV/AIDS Summit, Wed. & Thurs.

Theological Education Banquet, Wed.

National Hispanic Gathering, Fri.

Companions in Christ Training, Sat.

There is no charge to attend the General Assembly.

Register and reserve your hotel room at

www.thefellowship.info

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship 

www.thefellowship.info

(800) 352-8741

Helena Summer Missions 2006

Your Time, Talents & Resources Are Needed!

Help Build A Church In A Day!

Join Us As We Build A Church
In A Day For The Lord

Where?

**New Light Baptist Church
Helena, AR**

*Everyone can participate in this project!
Special Construction Skills are an
additional help but not necessary.*

This will also be a great time of
fellowship with many others from
across the state.

For more information contact:

Ray Higgins
501-223-8586 - office
501-223-9474 - fax
rhiggins@cbfar.org

or Russell and Ina Miller
870-425-3652 - home
870-454-4844 - cell
inarus@aol.com



How Can You Participate?

- Send a work team to help build the church (stud walls, stairs, electrical, plumbing, sheetrock, ceilings, windows, lighting, painting, floor covering, etc)
- Send an offering towards the \$300,000 fund raising goal



CBF-AR Partners With Helena West Helena for Municipal Pool House

Ben and Leonora Newell, CBF missionaries to the Delta and CBF Together for Hope Coordinator in Phillips County, recently announced an agreement with the city to provide a new swimming pool house. The new facility will be built with volunteer labor and funded from gifts from several churches. "This will be a much used gift to the community", Ben said.

It is hoped that the building can be "fast tracked" to permit dedication the first week in August. "When completed the new structure will stand as an example of God using a faith based group to improve community life", Ben added.

Included in the plan is a new pavilion to replace the old pool house built in 1928. Volunteer teams may contact Ben Newell at bn@worldmail.org or 870.995.3518.

Together for Hope Summer Missions in Helena



Come one; come all to the greatest show on earth. This summer you will see our

God at work in the hearts of kids and adults in Phillips County, AR. Be part of our ministry in the Delta by:

*PRAYING *PARTICIPATING *Funding

We want everyone to respond to God's call in your life through missions in the special way that He has equipped and called you. So please review the ways below that you and your church can get involved.

1- Swim Instructors and helpers are needed to teach kids, ages 5-12, and adults during the 2 week camp starting June 19-23 and June 26-30. You don't need to be a certified instructor, but just someone who is comfortable in the

water and loves to teach others.

2- ACC 2006 needs volunteers to help put on the third annual summer mission camp that starts July 22-August 4. All churches, individuals, and organizations are invited to participate in an exciting community transformation project in Helena, AR. We will need people to work in various settings like VBS, sports, literacy, imagination station/creativity lab, community gardening, construction repair and renovation, "Stories on Wheels" bus ministry that will travel to outlining areas in Phillips County to setup 1 day mini-ACC camps for the kids that can't make it into Helena, and prayer walking and evangelism.

There is a place and job for everyone. So come one, come all to the greatest show on earth.

*Ben and Leonora Newell
CBF Missionaries and TFH Coordinators*

**2006 Summer
Missions in Helena
CBF's Rural Poverty Initiative
"Together for Hope"**

**Swimming Camp,
June 19-30**

**2nd Annual Together for Hope
Basketball Camp & Tournament,
June 26-30**

**All Church Challenge,
July 22-August 4**

**Contact Ben & Leonora Newell
(bn@worldmail.org
870.995.3518 cell)**

CBFAR Spring



Spring Conference worship at Second Baptist Little Rock.



Second Baptist Church Little Rock worship team led by Donna Gosser, Worship Arts Minister



Tony Campolo and Kate Campbell receive Arkansas Traveler certificates.



Jim Maloch, CBFAR moderator, introduces Matt Cook, new pastor at Second Baptist Little Rock.



Participants at the Spring Conference



Lucas Newell shows Tony Campolo a picture he drew of Tony's sermon.

Conference Highlights



Jim Russell, new CBFAR moderator, visits with Ginny Blaylock of Jonesboro.



Members of CBF partner church, Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Camden enjoy breakfast and prepare to attend the breakout sessions.



Kate Campbell autographs her CDs.



Charlie Cole Chaffin, CBFAR moderator-elect and James Thomason, Senior Adult Pastor at Second Baptist share a laugh.

Campolo cont. from page 1

charismatic friends told me that "the fact I pray in tongues doesn't make me a better Christian than you. It makes me a better Christian than I was."

About praying: "For years, I didn't know how to pray because I was a Baptist and all they do is ask for things." He told about a 6-year-old about to pray who said, "I'm going to bed and gonna be praying. Anybody want anything?" He encouraged centering prayer in sacred space, "Don't ask God for anything; totally focus on Jesus."

About women: He noted that to his understanding of scripture, women occupied the highest offices in the early church. Noting a female Presbyterian minister was in attendance at one of the worship services, he asked her to stand so "you can see what a female minister looks like." He added, "When the Spirit came upon the church, it didn't come upon men but came upon men and

women."

On the church: "Everybody is looking at new ways of evangelism. I like the old method of evangelism, caring and loving. The church is the only club in the world that exists for non-members."

On Christianity: "People know we are Christians not how we judge people, but how we love people. Jesus loves a lot of people that the church doesn't love."

David McCollum, a Baylor University graduate and award winning journalist, is a sports columnist with the Conway Log Cabin Democrat.

Campbell cont. from page 1

"[It is] a land of great poverty and great need," Campbell said as she introduced the song.

Her song "Jesus is the Way Home" was inspired by a message in a garden of signs and crosses south of Birmingham, Ala.

Campbell, the daughter of a Baptist

preacher, made her recording debut in 1995 with *Songs From the Levee* and was awarded Folk Album of the Year in 1997 and 1998 for her albums, *Moonpie Dreams* and *Visions of Plenty*. Entertainment Weekly once described Campbell as "a literate songsmith who's as satisfying as barbeque and sweet tea."

Campbell does not bill herself as a Christian singer, but her songs speak of life and faith. That approach was one reason why Ray Higgins, CBFAR Coordinator, was interested in Campbell performing at the spring conference.

"She is such a Christian at heart," Higgins said. "She draws people to the stage with her. She inspires you to live out your faith in a very ordinary way."

Charlotte Tubbs, a graduate of Auburn University, is a staff writer with the Arkansas Democrat Gazette and a member of Second Baptist Church, Little Rock.

Disaster Response



Life After Lacombe

By Charles Ray

In the first weeks of Katrina relief work the situation changed so fast our frustration level stayed rather high. After nine months one would expect that to change. In some cases it has. In others it is still so fluid, we are not certain where we are headed. In addition, we in Arkansas must address our current and potential needs. As neighbors we must consider our role in the current hurricane season that begins next week.

First, our past.

Within days of Katrina CBF teams from Arkansas were headed to Hattiesburg, MS to help clear streets, pass out food and water, and help a city recover. No one I have spoken to that has been involved in that effort believed the city would recover so quickly. You played a role in making this happen. As we were permitted to move south, it became apparent that we would not see that sort of recovery occur along the Gulf Coast. Two popular tourist towns had disappeared, and America's number one convention city lay under water. More than 400,000 of its residents were scattered across America. Another 60,000 didn't get out and for two weeks lived in fear of death. Still, your question was "How can we help?"

Many of you have gone down to help more than once. Your efforts have paid off. As CBF concentrated on helping families and churches, your hard work made us successful. As we enter the final phase of work in Lacombe and Slidell, more than 60 families have been helped. In at least 30 of these cases it has meant a complete rebuilding of the house. Not one homeowner has been asked for money. Using your gifts, those

of churches in Louisiana, more than \$60,000 from the Little Rock Rotary Club, and funds from CBF National these homes and three churches have been repaired. The churches alone represent more than 1,000 believers who worship in the faith of their choice because of you. We are now preparing to finish the work in this area.

We will never forget the openness of New Covenant Presbyterian Church in Mandville, LA for housing 100's of volunteers from across North America. We will always joke about sleeping on the floor, but never forget the free meals, great stories, and lasting friendships we shared. As we leave New Covenant we will miss her and the great staff that always made us feel at home. What a great mission job they have done.

Future needs.

Before we discuss New Orleans and the new threat to our coast, let's address our own needs. I was on the phone with Greene County Judge Jesse Dollars shortly after the storm hit Marmaduke. The town was so destroyed that the command center had to be set up 15 miles to the south in Paragould. We were still in the process of completing our debris removal trailer and were limited in how we could help. Nevertheless, we were able to get a team in during the first week. Over the next few days they worked with several of our partner churches in serving food, clearing debris, and to begin repairing what homes were left.

We learned another important lesson. We are not equipped to go in early and provide planning and communication help to an area hit as badly as Marmaduke. We need a mobile unit that can house up to four people, have a shower, small kitchen, and a place to set up our communication equipment. Only then can we help jump start a community to recovery. Such a unit costs between \$25,000 and \$40,000. We simply don't have that kind of money. Never-

theless, we are blessed with the debris trailer and will soon have our own shower trailer. We will continue to work with what we have. We also have received 75 names from across our state who are willing to be called in an emergency.

I often remind myself that we are a faith based group and rely on you for everything we do. At first this was a problem for me since I spent 45 years in business for profit. There, if we needed something we bought it. If we didn't have the money we often borrowed it. We did what it took to get the job done. The good news is that I have learned to wait on God for the answer. I like it better this way.

Is New Orleans next?

For the last several months we have avoided New Orleans for several reasons. Too big. Too destroyed. Too expensive. However, in those months God has been working in many hearts, churches, and board rooms. Only this week our Louisiana representatives met with Baptist Builders. A partnership is being proposed between them and CBF. If reached, we will establish our presence in New Orleans and probably make a two year commitment. We will let you know more as this develops.

Lastly, but most frightening, is what happens in the next few months? We are being told by the weather experts that the US can expect five storms to hit the Continent this season. With a prevailing wind pattern different from last year, forecasters are looking at the East coast more than the Gulf. If true, this window is from the southern tip of Florida to north of Virginia. Five states, 1,250 miles of coast, and millions of people.

As we continue to ask God to spare us from these tragedies, we must remain aware of the need to help our neighbors when problems do come. We are to be the presence of Christ to our community. We can never thank you enough for your past service. Please don't stop now.

RAYFLECTIONS



By Ray Higgins

Your attendance (over 350 people) makes our Spring Conference a significant catalyst in CBF of Arkansas' effectiveness. Thank you for investing your time, energy and resources in growing the CBF fellowship in our state. Also, my thanks to Second Baptist Little Rock for their hard work and warm hospitality in hosting our annual meeting.

About 45 pastors, ministers, and lay leaders attended a "Discovering New Directions for the Traditional Church" Conference sponsored by the Center for Congregational Health, CBF national and CBF of Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas. The two day event was hosted by Second Baptist Little Rock. Pastors Mike Tutterow, Wieuca Road Baptist, Atlanta, Tom Ogburn, First Baptist, Oklahoma City, Doyle Sager, First Baptist, Jefferson City, and David Johnson, First Baptist, Mountain Home, shared their stories of leading their churches in new directions. Dave Odom, president of the Center for Congregational Health at Wake Forest Medical School, facilitated the meeting. Twenty one attendees were from Arkansas.

There are many exciting opportunities ahead of us:

- There is a summer of mission activity in Helena. Building the New Light Missionary Baptist Church. Building a new swimming pool house. Plus the 3 major events sponsored by Ben & Leonora Newell. See the Helena page in this newsletter.
- Attend the CBF National General Assembly on June 22-23 in Atlanta. Enjoy the fellowship, worship and workshops. Attend the Arkansas state meeting at 3:45 p.m. on Thursday.
- Scheduling regional fellowship gathering throughout the state during

this summer and fall.

Jesus told a crowd one day (John 8:23, Msg), "I'm in touch with what is beyond your horizons." That's what's exciting about being on mission with Jesus as your leader. Of your church. Of our CBF movement. Of your family. Of your life!

Arkansas Layman to be Nominated CBF recorder

By Carla Wynn
CBF Communications

ATLANTA – Harold F. "Hal" Bass, of Arkadelphia, Ark., has been nominated to serve as the next recorder of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Bass, who has served on the Fellowship's national coordinating council, will be presented to the General Assembly for a vote as recorder during its annual business session at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Ga. Nominations for recorder can be made from the floor of the Assembly.

"He has a proven love for CBF and is an able scholar and a more than competent scribe to record our meetings," said Bob Setzer, immediate past moderator of the Fellowship and chair of the nominating committee.

Bass serves on the board of the CBF Foundation and has also served on CBF of Arkansas' coordinating council. He is a political science professor at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, where he also serves as dean of the school of social sciences.

A graduate of Baylor University and Vanderbilt University, Bass has served on the board of several local civic groups. He is a member of First Baptist Church in Arkadelphia, where he serves as moderator.

Bass's nomination completes the Fellowship's officer nominations for the coming year.

Pastoral Team Retreat



Pastoral teams from Pulaski Heights Baptist and Second Baptist Little Rock joined pastoral teams from churches in Tennessee and Mississippi at a retreat at Natchez Trace State Park. From left to right: Mike Smith, pastor FBC Murphresboro, TN; Brent Beasley, pastor 2BC, Memphis, TN; Matt Cook, pastor, 2BC, Little Rock; Randy Hyde, pastor, PHBC, Little Rock and David George, pastor, Immanuel Baptist, Nashville, TN and formerly pastor of FBC, Stuttgart.

Supporting Public Education Free Resources

The Baptist Center for Ethics has produced a free packet of resources on supporting public education. Churches can sponsor a seminar for public school teachers and staff before the fall school year begins, emphasizing ways that religion and public education can interact in constitutionally supported ways. See www.ethicsdaily.com.

2006 Willow Creek Leadership Summit

August 10-12 • AR Host Site
First Baptist Church, Mountain Home

Become a Willow Creek Association member church with a \$249 membership and receive 1 free ticket to the Leadership Summit from Willow and 2 free tickets to the Summit from FBC Mountain Home.

Plan to attend the Summit this August. Bring leaders from your church. Hear Pastor Bill Hybels, Bono, Jim Collins, and more! Yes, Bono!
www.willowcreek.com/event/leadership

Call Susan at FBC MH 870.425.8148; susanfbc@cox-internet.com



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Dr. Ray Higgins, Coordinator
Dr. Tom Logue, Coordinator Emeritus
Charles Ray, Disaster Relief Coordinator
Allyson Cook, Administrative Assistant

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In memory of Dr. Ralph & Blanche Riley Douglas and Ralph Lee Douglas III
by La Ron & Rosalee Scott
In memory of Joey Dempsey by La Ron & Rosalee Scott

**Purchase copies of
Dr. Tom Logue's book**



**God, Could
You Talk
a Little
Louder?**

From the CBFAR Office
\$7 per copy or
\$10 per copy if mailed

Articles for the Fall 2006 issue:

Alan Tyson on corporate chaplaincy; Randy Hyde and Carolyn Staley on their trips to Africa; David Johnson on his sabbatical; summer missions in Helena; and more.

Dear CBF of Arkansas:

Greetings from Slovakia where your contribution of January 2006 is making a difference in the lives of the Roma people.

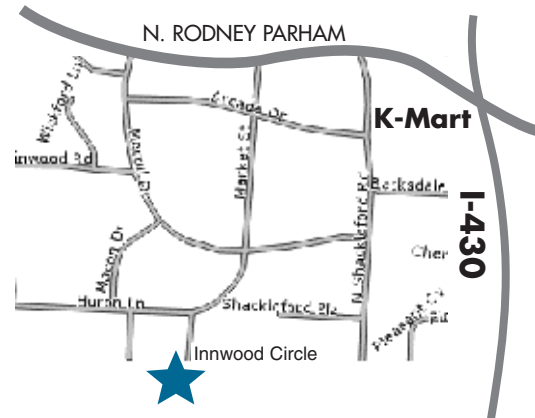
Your partnership helps to provide space heaters for the meeting place in Cinobana—a small group of believers who have been meeting for about one year.

We were also able to help deliver school supplies and winter hats and socks to Hope for Children which is a ministry to Roma families in Banska Bystrica. Your giving is allowing us to be the presence of Christ among the Roma.

Thank you for your continued prayer support and missions giving.

*In Christ, Shane & Dianne McNary
CBF Missionaries in Slovakia*

CBF of Arkansas' Office



**3 Innwood Circle, Suite 109
West Little Rock**

