



From left: Dr. Chester Thompson, Rev. Rod Torrence, Dr. Daniel Vestal, and Dr. Ray Higgins.

# Cooperative Baptist **FELLOWSHIP of Arkansas** **NEWS**

FALL 2009

1504 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202  
 501.223.8586 • Website address: [www.cbfar.org](http://www.cbfar.org)

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

## RAYFLECTIONS

**Dr. Ray Higgins**  
 CBFAR COORDINATOR

### It's a Miracle

**On an annual budget of \$212,275** (down \$18,000 from last year), CBF of Arkansas touches 1,800 families, partners with about 20 churches, plays a major role in Helena, helps support four global missionaries, and serves as a ministry resource to churches and individual Christians throughout the state.

Because of your generosity and support, we are fulfilling our key commitments and have raised an additional \$25,000 to hire Catherine Bahn to work with the Newells in Helena, and \$11,000 for a global missions project with the McNarys in Cinobana, Slovakia.

To be able to hold our own, we really need your help. Thank you for believing in the vision and value of CBF of Arkansas. Thank you for your year-end and year-round gifts to CBFAR!

So grateful,  
 Ray

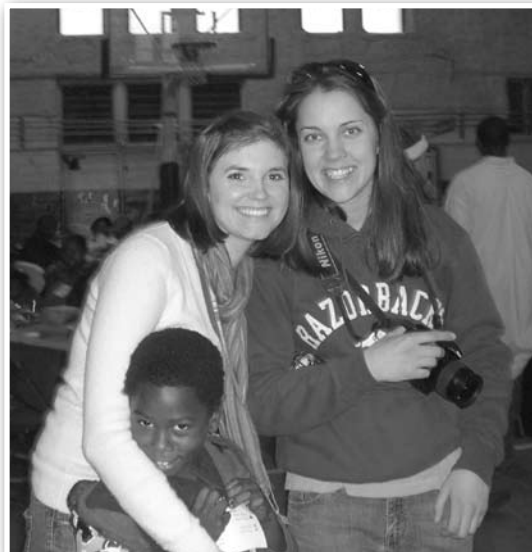
## 2009 DELTA CHRISTMAS IN HELENA

Ben & Leonora Newell, along with Catherine Bahn, are organizing the Delta 2009 Christmas in Helena event for Friday, December 5 from 5-7 p.m. at the Helena Community Center. You and a group from your church may attend the event, or you may collect the following items and send them to the Newells by December 4—hats, gloves, and coats for ages 1-12; Christmas gifts for ages 1-12 labeled for boy or girl with age; Christmas candy for the candy shop; age-appropriate children's books; Christmas book bags (100 decorated Christmas bags with 4 books and 1 Bible per bag); 75 Santa hats. Please email [bnewell22@gmail.com](mailto:bnewell22@gmail.com) for questions or to let Ben know what you are donating.



JV McKinney Photography

## CATHERINE BAHN, NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, TOGETHER FOR HOPE ARKANSAS



Together for Hope Arkansas, led by Ben & Leonora Newell, and CBF of Arkansas have hired Catherine Bahn as the new Assistant Director of Together for Hope Arkansas. Catherine has served as a CBF student.go intern in Helena and with Shane & Dianne McNary in Slovakia. Catherine is a graduate of Arkansas State University with a degree in journalism, where she was active at First Baptist, Jonesboro. Catherine will be assisting the Newells with their community development work in the Delta, and she will be directing the work during 2010 while the Newells are on off field assignment in North Carolina and Brazil. Pictured here are Catherine Bahn (right) with Mollie Palmer of Little Rock and a child at the Helena Community Center.

# 4 HOUSE RENOVATIONS IN 2 YEARS



*Within a two year time frame, Charles Ray, CBFAR's Special Projects Coordinator, has completed the renovation of four houses for Arkansas Baptist College. CBFAR leases the first renovation above from ABC for our office.*



*The second renovation is located at 1616 West 18th and is used as the Leadership House.*



*The third renovation is located at 1322 West 16th and is used as the General Educational Development Office.*



*The fourth renovation is located at 1519 Martin Luther King Drive and will be used as the Office of Student Services.*





ABC President Fitz Hill gives CBF Executive Coordinator Daniel Vestal an update on campus construction projects during Vestal's recent visit to the campus. Vestal toured the campus two years ago, shortly after Hill became President.



Dr. Randy Hyde, pastor of Pulaski Heights Baptist Church in Little Rock, stands in front of a duplex the church purchased for Arkansas Baptist College. The duplex, located just to the south of the college's fine arts building, is being renovated into a dorm for eight coed students. Arkansas Baptist college is funding the renovation. Charles Ray is supervising the renovation.



Dr. Chester Thompson, pastor of Zion Hill Baptist Church in Camden and CBFAR moderator, stands in front of a bus which his church gave to Arkansas Baptist College. Thompson is a former trustee of ABC.

Two major construction projects on the Arkansas Baptist College campus include the \$5 million renovation of Old Main, the college's historic building rebuilt in the 1890s after a fire. Joined to Old Main will be the new \$5 million Scholars College. CBFAR looks forward to hosting future events in Old Main.





Pat Riley (Left) and Sharon Northern, of the Little Rock Athletic Club, **donated tennis rackets and a case of balls for the All Church Challenge in Helena** this past summer. The Newells organized a **tennis clinic for children and teenagers** at the Helena City Park Tennis Courts.



Dr. Tad Rogers, pastor of First Baptist Trumann, stands with a young **teenager whom he taught to swim several years ago during the summer All Church Challenge**. This summer the young man worked at the pool as a life guard.



A crew puts new siding on the Helena Pool pump house. **This completed the third project at the city pool**—a new pool house, the conversion of the old pool house into a pavilion, and the pump house.

Read the Newells' Report of the **2009 All Church Challenge**, go to [www.cbfar.org](http://www.cbfar.org) and go to the middle of the home page under "Current News" and click on the report next to "Together for Hope."



Mission volunteers gather for a Wednesday evening worship at **New Light Missionary Baptist Church during the All Church Challenge** in July.



Ben Newell and a team of volunteers work on building the new **Gardens of Eden Market Place**. Located on the bypass in West Helena, the Market Place will house ten entrepreneurs—6 food-related and 4 product-related, including the Delta Jewels and Ed Wade Art Studio. Ed Wade is the pastor of New Light Missionary Baptist Church in Helena.





## Spring 2010 Mission Trip to Slovakia *Renovating the Cinobana Coffeehouse*

In partnership with Shane and Dianne McNary, \$11,000 has been raised toward the goal of \$15,000 to renovate the coffeehouse & church building for the Roma people in the village of Cinobana, Slovakia. A team of up to seven mission volunteers will travel to Cinobana April 27–May 7, 2010 to renovate the facility. The cost will be about \$2,000 per person. Email Ray Higgins ([rhiggins@cbfar.org](mailto:rhiggins@cbfar.org)) if you are interested in the trip or in giving to this cause.

# CBF Offering for GLOBAL MISSIONS

As we approach the time when we emphasize the offering for Global Missions, we are facing a crisis. Simply put, “Who do we bring home?” As Rob Nash, CBF Global Missions Coordinator, points out, “we have continued to cut budgets at a time when our work is beginning to make headway in so many places in the world.” One of the reoccurring questions heard across the country is, “why does CBF not have more missionaries?” The hard answer is that we can’t pay for the ones we have.

In Arkansas we proudly claim ties to Brenda Lisenby, Shane &

Dianne McNary, Ben & Leonora Newell, and Greg & Sue Smith. And now, Catherine Bahn. All these career personnel depend on our support. Who do we bring home? Or, who are you willing to pay to go?

Charles Ray,  
CBF National Coordinator For Disaster Response

Please go to [www.thefellowship.info/OGM](http://www.thefellowship.info/OGM) for more CBF Global Missions information, resources, stories, and videos.

## CBFAR GLOBAL MISSIONS PARTNERS

### BRENDA LISENBY China

To email Brenda:

[blisenby@thefellowship.info](mailto:blisenby@thefellowship.info)

To read about Brenda:

[http://www.thefellowship.info/  
Missions/Field-personnel/Lisenby](http://www.thefellowship.info/Missions/Field-personnel/Lisenby)

To read Brenda’s latest newsletter: go to [www.cbfar.org](http://www.cbfar.org) and go to the middle of the home page under “Current News” and click on her name next to “Global Missions.”

### SHANE & DIANNE MCNARY Slovakia

To email Shane:

[smcnary@thefellowship.info](mailto:smcnary@thefellowship.info)

To email Dianne:

[dmcnary@thefellowship.info](mailto:dmcnary@thefellowship.info)

To read about the McNarys:

[http://www.thefellowship.info/  
Missions/Field-personnel/McNary](http://www.thefellowship.info/Missions/Field-personnel/McNary)

To read the McNary’s latest newsletter: go to [www.cbfar.org](http://www.cbfar.org) and go to the middle of the home page under “Current News” and click on their name next to “Global Missions.”

### GREG & SUE SMITH Fredericksburg, VA

To email the smiths:

[gsmith@thefellowship.info](mailto:gsmith@thefellowship.info)

To read about the Smiths:

[http://www.thefellowship.info/  
Missions/Field-personnel/Smith](http://www.thefellowship.info/Missions/Field-personnel/Smith)

To read the Smiths latest blog: go to [www.cbfar.org](http://www.cbfar.org) and go to the middle of the home page under “Current News” and click on their name next to “Global Missions.”

## From the CBF Moderator

### Dr. Hal Bass



The parable of the talents instructs us regarding this moment for our CBF movement. Surely, we have been called on to do more than merely run in place. We face the joyful challenge of advancing our array of missions and ministries that model the message of Jesus Christ and share His Love in Arkansas, the Americas, and across our globe. Opportunities abound for individuals and congregations to connect with state and national office staffs and field personnel in *being the presence of Christ for a needy world*.

## From the CBFAR Moderator

### Dr. Chester Thompson



**Dr. Chester Thompson**, CBFAR Moderator, Pastor, Zion Hill Baptist Church, Camden (see his column below)

## The Value Of CBF Arkansas

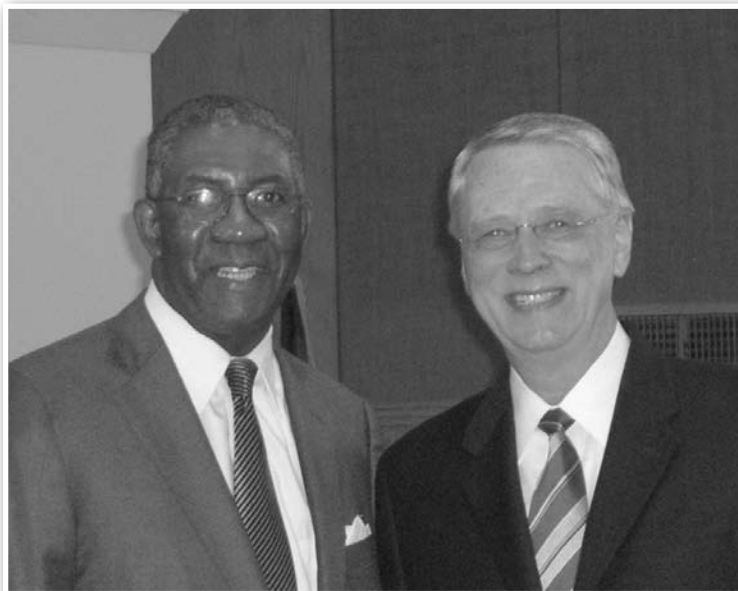
The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Arkansas occupies a very significant place in the landscape of Global Missions work around the world, as we carry out the vision of *"Being The Presence of Christ."* A few days ago while participating in a Strategic Visioning Summit with CBF Atlanta and field personnel from around the world, we were challenged to write down or sketch images that exemplified what we felt that God has in mind for the future of CBF. My dream consisted of individuals walking along with the many people groups of the world, empowering them and then releasing them to go forward and carry out what God has called them to do. I am convinced that CBF of Arkansas has a very prominent place in bringing this dream to reality as we develop strategic priorities to provide financial and human resources to keep the dream alive and growing.



**Brenda Lisenby**, one of CBF's field personnel in China and a CBFAR global missions partner, preached in October at Rolling Hills Baptist Church in Fayetteville where **Rev. Steve Sheely** is pastor. If you are interested in Brenda's ministry and supporting it, you may email her at [blisenby@thefellowship.info](mailto:blisenby@thefellowship.info).



CBF friends visit at the fellowship and information gathering featuring Daniel Vestal, Hal Bass and Catherine Bahn on October 16 at Second Baptist Church, Little Rock.



**Rev. Wendell Griffen**, pastor of New Millennium Church in Little Rock, welcomes **Daniel Vestal** during a Sunday morning worship service.

# 2010 CBF of Arkansas Spring Conference

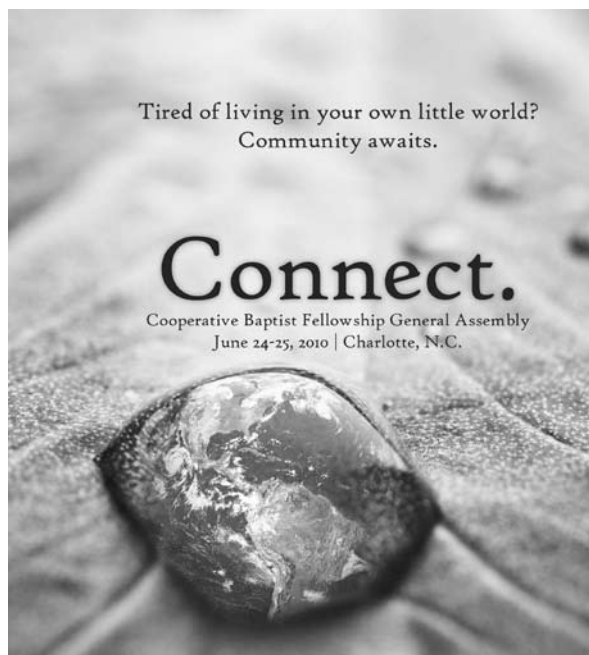
*Friday Evening & Saturday Morning*

**April 23-24**  
**In Helena, AR**



**Friday night Rally led by Dr. Fitz Hill, president Arkansas Baptist College**  
**Saturday morning tour of Helena and worship at New Light Missionary Baptist Church**

---



## 2010 CBF General Assembly Charlotte, North Carolina

**Thursday & Friday, June 24-25**

Go to [www.thefellowship.info](http://www.thefellowship.info) to Pre-register (no fee)  
and Make Your Hotel Reservation

## 2010 Summer All Church Challenge in Helena July 10-23

Plan now to participate in the community wide activities  
organized over this 2 week period.

Email Catherine Bahn, Assistant Director  
*Together for Hope Arkansas* ([cbahn1@gmail.com](mailto:cbahn1@gmail.com)).







Cooperative Baptist  
**FELLOWSHIP**  
of Arkansas  
1504 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive,  
Little Rock, AR 72202

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Keep in touch with **CBF of Arkansas**  
through our website: [www.cbfar.org](http://www.cbfar.org)

**Please send your email address to**  
[rhiggins@cbfar.org](mailto:rhiggins@cbfar.org) if you would like to be  
included in our email communications.

#### CBFAR Staff

*Dr. Ray Higgins, Coordinator*

*Dr. Tom Logue, Coordinator Emeritus*

*Charles Ray, National Disaster Response*

*Coordinator and CBFAR's*

*Special Projects Coordinator*

*Catherine Bahn, Assistant Director,*

*Together for Hope Arkansas*

*Chrystal Ball, Administrative Assistant*

#### CBFAR Officers

**Dr. Chester Thompson**, Camden—Moderator

**Rev. Carolyn Staley**, Little Rock—Moderator-Elect

**Kevin Heifner**, M.D., Little Rock—Past Moderator

**Norma Caldwell**, Pine Bluff—Recorder

**Rev. Steve Sheely**, Fayetteville—AR member of  
the CBF National Coordinating Council

**Dr. Chester Thompson**, Camden—member *Ethnic*  
*Network of the CBF Nat'l Coordinating Council*

Non-Profit  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Little Rock, AR  
Permit No. 1365

## Special Gifts to CBF of AR

In memory of **Dot Geurin** by Judy & Lane Strother

In memory of **Wilson & Margaret Deese** by Watson & Frances Light

In memory of **Louise Givens, Wendy Windham, Bobby Cook, Cathryn**

**Rogers Melton, & Dr. Charles Officer**, by Dr. Raouf & Rachel Halaby

In memory of all the **Civilian Casualties in the Gaza Strip** by Dr.

Raouf & Rachel Halaby

In honor of **Jamie Jones** by Dixie Ann Cole

In honor of **Jamie Jones** by Dr. Linda Selman

In honor of **Dr. Tom Logue** by Jim Caldwell

In honor of **Dr. Tom Logue** & Dr. Jamie Jones by Ray & Judy Higgins

In memory of **Ruth Carter** by Dr. Mel & Judy Fuller

In honor of **Tom Logue** by Rezy Mobarak

In memory of **Bart Lindsey & Wilson Deese** by Katie Jacks

In memory of **Wendy Wendham & Ruth Carter** by Lou Bradford

In honor of **Ray Higgins** by Carolyn McLeod

In memory of **Wendy Windham, Mrs. Frank Cole, Elizabeth Hight-**  
**ower, John Logue, Harry Trulove, Truett Goatcher, Lynn Heflin and**  
**Ira Hocut** by Ray & Judy Higgins

In memory of **John Logue** by Billy & Gwen Usery

In memory of **John Logue** by Dr. John & Barbara Wikman

In memory of **John Logue** by Lynn C. Heflin

In memory of **John Logue** by Dr. Boo & Mary Heflin

In memory of **John Logue** by Sharon Heflin

In memory of **John Logue** by Charlie & Sam Chaffin

In memory of **John Logue** by James & Ella Smalley

In honor of **Dr. Tom Logue** by Rita Spillyards

In memory of **Lynn Heflin** by Christina Spear

In memory of **Elizabeth Hightower, John Logue, Mrs. Frank Cole,**  
**Lynn Heflin and Ann Vining** by Dr. Raouf Halaby

In memory of **Lynn Heflin & Ira Hocut** by Dr. Alan & Janet Nye



Photo of Dr. Tom Logue (right), CBFAR Founding Coordinator, and Dr. Daniel Vestal, CBF Executive Coordinator, during a recent Little Rock visit.