

Georgia Connect

Newsletter for Georgia Baptist Conference of Deaf

September-October, 2011

GBCD Conference

“Oh, Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hands have made...”. That was just one of the songs performed by Ronaldo Feliciano at this year’s GBCD conference held at Norman Park, Ga. September 16-18. His performance was just part of the awesome praise and worship music which also included songs presented by Walter Moore, as well as the Deaf Baptist Fellowship Deaf Choir. If you were not able to be there, you missed a wonderful week-end of great preaching by Rev. Henry Deller, helpful workshops, fun fellowship and a chance to see old friends and make new ones. You also missed the chance to see some of the teens of JrGBCD, to enjoy their testimonies and see the GBCDkids having fun together and then performing their songs during Worship Service. Hopefully everyone will make plans to be at the 2012 Conference in Toccoa, Ga., which will continue the focus of the past three conferences, on “Harvest, How?” This series has been about following the Lord’s command to go into the “fields ready for harvest”, and pray for more workers to go.

Conference Speaker

Rev. Henry Deller was the special speaker for this year’s conference. Rev. Deller grew up in Pennsylvania, but in 1997 accepted the call to become the pastor of the Deaf for Jesus Ministries in Long Island, NY. He has served as a short term missionary to Romania. Rev. Deller’s messages followed the theme of this year’s conference: “Harvest, How? Go and Make Disciples”. We were encouraged to “examine our faith”; be sure that we are trusting God. If He calls us to “go”, we must trust Him to make the way clear and give us what we need to follow His call. We should “examine our works”; are we doing God’s will? The works we do must be by the power of the Holy Spirit who

lives in us when we ask Jesus to come into our heart, forgive our sin and become our Savior. We also need to “examine our commitment”; are we committed to obeying Jesus when He calls us to “go and make disciples”? Jesus has called all of His people to tell others about Him. When we witness to others and they accept Jesus, they become His disciples, who will then bring others to Christ. Maybe Jesus has asked you to be a witness for him in your neighborhood, in your church, or on the foreign mission field. One thing is sure: He calls all of His people to the “harvest”, and like our scripture verse for this year’s conference says: “...*go and make disciples* of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matt: 28:19 (NIV). Let’s be faithful to pray for our missionaries and follow His call to reach the unreached in Georgia and around the world with the Gospel of Christ.

Unreached Deaf in Georgia

A new group, led by Vernee Burris was formed at this year’s GBCD conference. The name of the new group is “GBCD Connect”, and their purpose is to find ways to reach out to Deaf in Georgia who don’t have access to a Deaf church, or other opportunities to be part of a Christian Deaf fellowship. Mrs. Burris took a map of Georgia and put markers on each place with known Deaf assemblies, and areas where people live who attended the conference. It was amazing (and sad) to see the large areas of Georgia, (and our close neighboring states) where there are no known activities for the Deaf, and may be unreached with the Good News of the Gospel. Mrs. Burris would appreciate any suggestions you may have to help with this outreach. Check out the GBCD Connect survey on the web.

Plans for GBCD 2012

The 2012 Conference will be held in Toccoa, Ga. Sept 14-16. We hope you will make plans to attend and enjoy another chance to fellowship together, experience great preaching and informative workshops. The theme for 2012 will be the last in the series of "Harvest, How". The title is "Harvest: Go...Serve". The scripture for the conference is: "He also gave apostles, prophets, missionaries, as well as pastors and teachers as gifts to His church. Their purpose is to prepare God's people, to serve, and to build up the body of Christ." Eph. 4:11-12. Be in prayer during the year that the 2012 conference will be a great success, with many Deaf attending for the first time.

Thoughts for Today



Has Jesus called you to "Go"? During this coming year let's seek His will, pay attention to and obey His call. It's easy to enjoy the conference, be inspired by the preaching, then go home to the stresses of our every day lives and lose the joy we felt during times of worship and praise. Let's remember how many people still don't know Jesus, and ask our Lord what He wants each of us to do to bring those people into a relationship with Him. *Remember that anything we do "for Jesus" depends on our having a personal relationship with Him. He will make us a disciple by the power of the Holy Spirit living in us, not by using our natural talents and skills; that would be too easy. He only asks us to do the things He gives us power to do. Don't worry about having what you need to follow His calling; if He calls, He will provide everything you need*

(Summarized and paraphrased from My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers)

GO...and live for Jesus!

2011 New York Mission Trip October 7th – 9th 2011

Hello my name is Laramie Burris. I am from Annistown Road Baptist Church and leading the mission team for New York. We are going to visit Long Island and work with Henry Deller's church for two days. The people who will be on team



are Heather Burris, Lois Hitchcock, Beth Rosenzweig, Terri Jackson, Teresa Jackson, Robert Jackson and Walter Moore. We really appreciate for your support through Carter Mission Fund! We have great opportunity for the three people (Heather, Teresa, Robert) who never been to mission trip before! This is really excited to see God invited

three new people to see and experience His work in their life at New York.

We will do evangelism during Apple Festival on October 8th. We really need your prayer support because we will have huge opportunity to meet about 2,000 deaf during that event! We are pretty sure we will face spiritual warfare with different religions such as Jehovah Witness, Mormon and Muslim. We will have three new people who never have mission experience before! These are the reason why we are depending on your prayer support!

On Sunday, we will lead all programs include children SS, adult SS and worship. I will teach SS and preach. Others will lead music, drama, activity, etc. We also need your prayer support because we are going to encourage our brothers and sisters to obey Jesus' Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). We hope their eyes will be open and understand what God desire for us to do while we are still alive on earth by sharing Good News to others in their community at New York.

Thank for your time read this and start praying for us from the day we leave Atlanta on October 7th at 7am and return home on Oct 10th at 9:30am. May the God of all grace and peace be with you.

His Servants,

2011 New York Mission Team

How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news! – Romans 10:15