



# Spreading Good News



*Celebrating 91 Years of Serving Those Whose Stewardship Lasts Forever*

Fall 2011

**The North Carolina Baptist Foundation, Inc.**

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## Twice Blessed

By Charles Fox, Central Area Manager

It has often been said that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. Recently I was able to hear a story proving that.

Tom and Mary Burgess, residents of Brookridge Baptist Retirement Community in Winston-Salem, after both having lost their first spouses, married in 1998. Mary relates that Tom was simply getting tired of eating at K&W Cafeteria day after day, so she agreed to marry him.

Tom, a native of High Point, retired in 1993 after nearly forty years in the elevator business. Following graduation from high school, he enlisted in the US Navy at seventeen years of age. During this time of World War II, Tom served on a minesweeper in several locations, including preparation for the Normandy invasion on D-Day, and also in the Pacific, clearing Tokyo Bay in anticipation of the bombs dropped on Japan. After his stint with the Navy, he attended NC State College, now NC State University, for a short while, dropping out to marry and raise a family. Tom also studied drafting and began work with Monarch Elevator in Greensboro. After ten years, he joined Dover Elevator which had recently acquired Monarch, working there for thirty years. Tom and his first wife raised three children, two daughters and a son and he now has two grand-daughters.

Mary Odom Burgess was born in Yadkin County, where she began her primary education. Mary is the last of nine children and lost her mother when she was in the first grade. Her father, a tobacco farmer and part-time minister, died when she was



Tom and Mary Burgess

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fourteen. A half-brother inherited the family farm where Mary lived and worked until leaving to attend college. She attended Mars Hill College for two years then transferred to Woman's College in Greensboro, now UNC Greensboro, graduating with a degree in education. She taught in the Greensboro City Schools for five years, taking some time off to rear four children. She returned to UNC Greensboro and earned a Masters in Counseling. She then worked in the Guilford County School system for twenty-two years.

While in Greensboro, Mary and her first husband worked with Piedmont Baptist Association

where they founded the International Student Fellowship. Her husband passed away in 1995 after having suffered several heart attacks.

Tom and Mary moved to Brookridge in 2008. Following a visit from their area manager in 2010, Mary established a charitable gift annuity that will eventually benefit Mars Hill College, Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, and Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina. She has also been a faithful investor in the Church Growth Investment Fund of North Carolina Baptist Financial Services, a subsidiary of the North Carolina Baptist Foundation. Both Tom and Mary Burgess are true examples of those who want to make a difference, giving back from their blessings. ☩



**M. Clay Warf**  
Executive Director

## All From Clay

For several years while I was pastoring in Durham, I had the privilege of serving as adjunct professor at Southeastern Seminary, teaching a course called "Formation in Ministry." It was also known as "supervised ministry" and was a course in the practice of ministry. It consisted of three parts: 1) classroom lecture, 2) a ministry place where the student was supervised, and 3) case studies.

One semester when I was teaching the course, I was also involved in revival services in our church. Our revival preacher was Dr. Carl Bates, pastor of First Baptist Church, Charlotte, and a mentor for me in ministry. With such a well-known and effective pastor at my disposal, I had Dr. Bates do my seminary class lecture that week. It was the best day of the semester, both for me and the students.

Following the class, Dr. Bates wanted to do some book shopping at Steven's Bookstore, and after about an hour of shopping, he came away with 5 used books, all on the topic of stewardship. Once he had paid for the books he handed them to me as a gift and said, "Clay, if you'll read these books, you'll have a wealth of good material for preaching on stewardship." And he was right!

Armed with such good resources, I proceeded to prepare and preach 5 consecutive sermons on stewardship. I learned that was not a good thing to do. Baptists can overdose on 5 consecutive

stewardship sermons, and some of my folks apparently did just that!

During the week after the 4th sermon, I had a funeral and following the graveside service, one of my good deacons approached me. He said, "Clay, I just want you to know how much I'm enjoying the sermon series you're doing on stewardship." I was delighted and responded, "Well, thank you, Wallace, I really appreciate that." Then Wallace said that awful 3 letter word, "But." He continued, "But some people are saying that you've said all you need to say on that subject and it's time for you to move on to something else." Now, I didn't respond very kindly to Wallace's effort to report to me the "talk in the halls," and I said to him, "Wallace, you go back and tell 'some people' that if they can endure it one more Sunday, I will be moving on to something else."

I learned from that experience that we are often very sensitive when it comes to someone talking about our money. As a pastor I got tired of talking about stewardship and obviously my people got tired of hearing about it. But we need to talk about it and hear about it because scripture tell us that God's desire to bless us is directly related to our willingness to give Him what is His!

The North Carolina Baptist Foundation is prepared to lead congregations in a focus on stewardship that we are calling, "Called to Be Stewards: Gearing Up to Give." Ideally, it involves 3 consecutive Sunday morning worship times and 2 Wednesday nights. The Sunday mornings are designed to be inspirational times centered on the preaching of the Word, while the Wednesday night sessions will focus more on the nuts and bolts of faithful stewardship. But we can always adjust to best meet the needs of a particular church.

If you'd be interested in discussing this possibility for your church, please give me or one of our area managers a call. ☎

## June 30, 2011 Investment Performance

	YTD as of 6/30/2011	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception*
<b>Growth Fund</b>	2.72%	19.51%	-1.77%	1.64%	4.48%
<b>Balanced Fund</b>	2.50%	13.59%	1.37%	3.08%	4.71%
<b>Income Fund</b>	2.67%	8.50%	4.13%	4.30%	3.82%
<b>Fixed Income Fund</b>	3.60%	5.34%	4.33%	4.98%	4.08%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Index</b>	6.02%	30.69%	3.33%	2.94%	
<b>MSCI EAFE (net)</b>	4.99%	30.39%	-1.77%	1.48%	
<b>BC Int G/C</b>	2.47%	3.77%	5.76%	6.09%	
<b>90-Day Tbills</b>	0.04%	0.11%	0.24%	1.68%	

During the second quarter, equity returns flattened in comparison to the first quarter. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 1.4%; the S&P 500 was up 0.1% and the NASDAQ was down 0.3%. Health Care was the best performing sector, up 7.9%. Energy and Financials lagged. Mid and large-cap companies outperformed small-cap. Growth and value are unusually close, but growth did fare slightly better than value. Most global equity markets were positive for the quarter, with the exception of emerging markets. MSCI EAFE Index was up 1.8%. Due to a strong Treasury rally, bond markets posted solid returns. The Barclay's Capital Intermediate Government Credit was up 2.1% for the quarter. (Graystone Consulting, "Capital Markets Overview." 2nd Quarter 2011).

Source: Consulting Group's Orion. The information above has been obtained by sources considered reliable. Past performance in no way guarantees future results.

\*Growth, Balanced and Income Pool inception is January 1, 2002. Fixed Income Pool inception is October 31, 1998.



**Russell Jones**

Managing Director  
North Carolina Baptist  
Financial Services

## Sure Foundation

Last July I met with Pastor Gary Combs, senior pastor of Wilson Community Church in Wilson. Over lunch at a local Chinese Buffet, we sketched out on the back of a napkin an action plan on how to help them with financing for a vacant building they wanted to buy and improve.

It just so happens that this building was a former multiplex movie theatre.

After lunch we visited the property. While the shell of the building was in excellent condition, the inside had the obvious signs of neglect. What Pastor Combs saw was an opportunity. The loan through NCBFS enabled Wilson Community to purchase the building and fund the improvements.

Just a few weeks ago I visited with Pastor Combs. We stopped at our "usual" Chinese Buffett, and after lunch, Pastor Combs took me on the grand tour. What an amazing transformation! The outside of the building was freshly painted, the parking lot re-stripped and the old movie billboards on the outside walls were reconditioned. What once advertised the latest movies was replaced by messages of hope and love. What a great idea! Inside is a lobby area with seating and a coffee shop. They converted the movie theatres into places of worship and ministry. They have a couple of other theatres that will be upgraded over time. It was amazing to see the use of the movie theatre theme incorporated into their ministry. The only message seen and

heard in this transformed theatre is the wonderful gospel story of our Savior. A building that had no life had been transformed into a beautiful beacon of light. Even their logo shines brightly in the Wilson night sky. The people are excited. They are using this building to reach out to their community.

While visiting with Pastor Combs, he told me about the tornados that struck Wilson a few weeks before. A hotel located only a few feet away was damaged. The blue tarps were still visible on the roof. The tornado was heading towards the church building. Seconds before the tornado reached the church, it made a hard left turn and only glanced the building. The church had just a little cosmetic damage. The tornado moved a construction dumpster full of debris up the parking lot beside the building about 30 feet. If the building had sustained a direct hit from the tornado the damage would have been massive.

*A building that had no life had been transformed into a beautiful beacon of light.*

Good fortune? I don't think so. As pastor Combs described the scene, it occurred to me that God's hand had pushed that tornado away from the building. Truly God spared that place of worship. Psalm 18:2 says, "The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Wilson Community is a testimony to God's protective hand. We welcome the opportunity to minister with you as you seek financing options for your next construction project. ☩

## January is Christian Estate-Planning Emphasis Time

Every church and association needs to promote and encourage the concept of Christian estate planning with its membership. The results of such a promotion will be positive in several different ways. First, individuals have the opportunity to remember the Lord's work through their Last Will and Testament and other planning documents. Without such a plan, nothing can be left to the church or other ministries. Second, surviving family members can be better cared for when a plan is in place. It is the loving thing to do. Third,

the individual preparing the plan becomes better organized by going through this satisfying process. This is a win-win-win opportunity.

The Baptist Foundation provides free promotional materials and speakers to help in this effort and sample packets are mailed to each church and association in early October. January is Make Your Will month in Baptist life so make sure your church starts 2012 off to a great start by contacting the Foundation for assistance. The theme for the 2012 emphasis is "An Ever-Flowing Fountain." ☩







**David Webb**

Western Area Manager

## Building Legacies Today

Twenty-seven years ago, my mother prepared her written testimony and gave it to me, along with many others, in a personal witnessing class I was teaching. I reviewed all those testimonies and gave them back, but I asked mother if I could keep hers. It quickly became a treasured possession and

even more so since her death in 2005.

Why am I sharing this with you? The answer is simple. I want it to serve as an encouragement for you to consider adding to your legal Last Will and Testament what I prefer to call the “real lasting legacy.” Our lives portray our legacy for those old enough to remember us. However, sometimes our grandchildren, great-grandchildren and future generations want to know what we valued in life.

An “ethical Will,” as I have heard some refer to it, is a statement of our beliefs, values and ideals that we want to leave behind for family and friends. It provides a way of conveying the personal wisdom and knowledge that has been drawn from a lifetime of experience. It is not a legal document but a document that can be attached to our Wills. It is usually a written statement, but some individuals may choose to convey their thoughts through a video or audio recording.

Here are some positive things you might consider including:

- Your personal faith in Jesus Christ and how your faith has influenced your life.
- Lessons that life has taught you and how those lessons impacted your life.
- Sometimes there are things that have been left unsaid during life and those personal messages of forgiveness, apology and reconciliation are needed.
- A message that will inspire those left behind and give them hope for the future.

It is important that we do all we can, even in our death, to pass on our beliefs and values as Christians. It is not a time to try and justify ourselves for past actions. It is not an opportunity to have the “last word.” It is a time to promote healing and encourage and challenge those in a positive way who are left behind.

Why don't you pick up a pen and begin. Reflect on it and re-write it several times. When you judge it to be what God would have you say, attach it to your Will. I can promise you that your family will be glad you did. ☩

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*An “ethical Will,” as I have heard some refer to it, is a statement of our beliefs, values and ideals that we want to leave behind for family and friends.*

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**Tom Denton**

Eastern Area Manager

## Reflections From the East

How much is a gallon jar of pennies worth? That's the question I asked myself recently when I left the home of one of our donors, Bill Lucas, of Oak Island. I first met Bill last year when his pastor, Rev. Charlie Carter, called me to come by and talk with

Bill about establishing an endowment in memory of his wife, who went home to be with her Lord in 2006. As a

result of that first visit, the William S. and Hazel W. Lucas Missions Endowment has been established to assist the Oak Island Baptist Church with mission support beyond the regular operating budget.

On this subsequent visit, I had given Bill one of the Foundation's small change purses, with the words imprinted, “Your change today can change tomorrow.” Seeing these words, Bill pointed to the gallon jar filled with pennies beside his chair and asked me, “Can you use this to help support missions?” I assured him that God can use any gift, great or small, to advance His Kingdom's work.



**Bill Overby**  
Director of Trust  
& Endowment  
Development

## Foundation Facts and Figures

January is historically Make Your Will Month in Southern Baptist life and is an important time of year for churches to give emphasis to the stewardship benefits of individuals having estate planning documents in place. The emphasis at the Baptist Foundation begins with the Last Will and Testament but is much larger than that. Each individual

also needs to have a Durable Power of Attorney, a Health Care Power of Attorney and a Living Will in place. These form the foundation of an individual's Christian estate plan and provide important directions regarding health and financial issues while living and at death. We preach it a lot at the Baptist Foundation and I don't hesitate to say it again. If you want to remember your church and other Christian ministries through your estate plan, then you need to take action and get your Will and other estate planning documents in place. By law, the State of North Carolina's plan of distribution becomes your Last Will and Testament if you do not execute your own document. North Carolina cannot make your church a part of that plan.

The theme for our Christian estate-planning emphasis in 2012 is "An Ever-Flowing Fountain." Picture in

*If you would like to have an ever-flowing fountain as part of your estate plan, let us know and we will be glad to provide assistance.*

your mind a large fountain with lots of fresh water flowing downward into a vast pool. That water is then re-circulated to the top of the fountain and begins its downward journey again and again. An endowment fund is just like that ever-flowing fountain. The water at the top of the fountain represents the gift that funded the endowment. The gift is invested and the annual earnings flow downward to the pool. The pool represents the many different Christian ministries that the endowment pays to each year. The magic in the endowment, like the re-circulating water pump, is that the original gift never goes away. The gift remains invested each and every year, and the earnings are sent to support the Lord's work.

If you would like to have "an ever-flowing fountain" as part of your estate plan, let us know and we will be glad to provide assistance. We can prepare the document, accept the endowment gift, manage the endowment on a permanent basis and distribute the earnings to your selected ministries in your name forever and forever. These endowments can be funded while living or at death through an estate plan. We are just a phone call away. ☩

When I returned home with the jar of pennies, my wife reminded me that I could take them to a local banking institution and use the free coin counter, which I did. Once counted, the machine printed out a receipt for me to take to the teller and retrieve the counted cash. Guess how much a gallon jar of pennies is worth.... \$54.38!

The donation has been added to the Lucas Endowment for Missions. However, there is an even greater value that comes from this gift of pennies. With time, that small donation will grow and continue to spread the Good News of salvation and restoration to generations to come. Bill Lucas has been saving pennies for a lifetime, and he assures me that he has other jars to

donate. I look forward to visiting with him again soon, not just for the pennies, but because of the inspiration I find from his generous and caring spirit.

So, instead of being discouraged in difficult economic times like these, "Count your blessings, name them one by one: Count your many blessings, see what God hath done" ....and is doing still! ☩

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*Guess how much a gallon jar of pennies is worth.... \$54.38!*

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# The NC Baptist Foundation, Inc.

## 2010 Annual Report



The North Carolina Baptist Foundation had another outstanding year in 2010. As the oldest of all the state Baptist foundations, we celebrated our 90th anniversary. We were founded by the Baptist State Convention in 1920 and continue to serve as the “trust agency” of the convention. Since our founding, we have been “All In” in our commitment “to serve North Carolina Baptists and others in generating an increased awareness of Christian estate stewardship principals as a means of financially undergirding Baptist churches, institutions and mission endeavors on a permanent basis.”

To that end, in 2010 our staff made some 184 presentations in Baptist churches and associations, institutions and agencies, as well as statewide Baptist senior adult conferences. We co-hosted Senior Adult Festivals at Campbell University, Chowan University and Mars Hill College, enabling us to further spread the word about the importance of Christian estate planning in supporting ministry in perpetuity. We did the same in sponsoring the 15th annual Noel Inspirational Retreat at Caraway Conference Center using as our theme, “Navigating Your Christian Estate Plan.” Once again we co-sponsored two events with the Baptist State Convention, the 36th annual NC Baptist Development Officers Conference and the 10th annual NC Baptist Heritage Award Luncheon.

For the year we established 43 new accounts that totaled \$2,606,849.96. In addition, we received another \$2,073,758.67 into existing accounts, for total receipts of \$4,680,608.63 in 2010. During the same period,

we distributed \$1,860,103.05 to individuals through charitable trusts and \$4,997,484.22 to charities, for a total distribution in 2010 of \$6,857,587.27. On the investment side, our Growth Fund was up 11.24%, our Balanced Fund was up 9.74 %, our Income Fund was up 9.47%, while our Fixed Income Fund was up 6.99%.

Our newest ministry, North Carolina Baptist Financial Services, also continues to thrive. Since its beginning in early 2009, more than 30 loans have closed totaling over \$18 million across 22 NC counties. The Church Growth Investment Fund, the investment arm of NCBFS that is the primary funding source of the loan ministry, has grown to over \$22 million. NCBFS has made loans to NC Baptist churches for expansion to include new sanctuaries, family life centers, educational buildings,

land purchase and major renovation projects. Plans are under way to add an IRA option to the current line of investment services now available through the Church Growth Investment Fund.

Because our Lord gave His all that all people could experience salvation in Him, so the North Carolina Baptist Foundation is committed

to helping all North Carolina Baptists share the Good News in perpetuity through good Christian estate planning. We also stand alongside our churches to partner with them in reaching people for Christ. Our commitment is to always be “All In” for the sake of our Savior and His call to salvation and faithfulness. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all NC Baptist Churches who support our ministry through the Cooperative Program. ☩



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**We Want to Hear From You!**

**Spreading Good News**

**Volume 27- Number 3**

The purpose of this publication is to provide accurate and authoritative information of general character only. The publisher is not engaged in rendering legal or tax advisory service. For advice and assistance in specific cases, the service of an attorney or other professional person should be obtained.

**Please send me:**

- Making Your Will Booklet
- Endowment Fund Information
- Charitable Trust Information
- Scholarship and Loan Information

**For churches:**

- Fund Management Information
- Seminar Information/Scheduling
- Senior Adult Program
- Church Loan Information

**Please contact me:**

- I need estate-planning assistance.
- I am interested in a Charitable Gift Annuity
- I am interested in the Church Growth Investment Fund

Name: Rev. Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Work Phone Email

Special Request



**Educational Assistance**

**Bullard Scholarship**

The Amos G. Bullard Scholarship Fund is for residents of North Carolina accepted for enrollment in an accredited college, university or seminary who are preparing for full-time Christian ministry and are members, or parents are members, of churches affiliated with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. If you meet the stated criteria, we encourage you to apply. Just complete the “clip and send” and return to our office and we will mail an application to you. For your convenience, you may also download the application online at [www.ncbaptistfoundation.org](http://www.ncbaptistfoundation.org). The deadline for submitting applications for the 2012-2013 school year is January 15, 2012.

**Student Loans**

The Baptist Foundation administers the Martha Watson Student Loan Fund, which provides assistance to students attending any institution of higher learning. These include seminaries, Baptist and non-Baptist colleges and universities and technical schools. Loan amounts vary. Currently, students attending Baptist institutions can receive up to \$5,000 per school year; those attending non-Baptist schools can receive up to \$2,500 per year.

Another loan fund administered by the Baptist Foundation

is the Luther H. Butler Student Loan Fund. This fund can provide loans to students attending one of the following Baptist schools: Campbell University, Chowan College, Gardner-Webb University, Mars Hill College, Meredith College or Wingate University. Students can receive up to \$12,000 per school year.

If you or someone you know needs information on loans for the 2012-2013 school year, please complete the “clip and send” and return to our office, and we will mail an application to the student. Be sure to include which school he or she plans to attend. For your convenience, you may also download the applications online at [www.ncbaptistfoundation.org](http://www.ncbaptistfoundation.org). The deadline for submitting applications is January 15, 2012. ☩







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**The North Carolina Baptist Foundation, Inc.**  
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**Meet Our Directors**



**Harold (Hal) E. Brown**  
 In 2011, we warmly welcome Hal Brown to the Foundation Board of Directors. He and Shirley, his wife of 57 years, reside in Cornelius and are members of Lake Norman Baptist Church. Hal and Shirley were high school sweethearts in Charlotte and have known each other since the age of ten. They have two daughters, one son and three grandchildren.

Hal was offered a full college baseball scholarship but did not accept it. He studied at William and Mary College, George Washington University and American University, a now closed independent Baptist seminary in Atlanta. After college, he played center field with the

New York Yankees minor league baseball team for two years in New York and Florida.

He enjoyed a 25-year career with General Electric Company, serving in supply and distribution. This career was interrupted by a six-year period of working for another company, but Hal came back to GE and retired in 1987 as a regional manager.

The highlight of Hal’s working career began five years ago when he was ordained as a minister and began his new full-time career as Minister of Pastoral Care at Lake Norman Baptist Church. Proud to have finally answered God’s call to serve full time in ministry, Hal says that while most people his age are “moaning and groaning, he is now blowing and growing.”

Although he still works full time, Hal enjoys fishing and playing golf when he can. We are excited to have Hal Brown on the Foundation Board of Directors and look forward to leaning on his experience gleaned through careers of business and ministry. ☩