

## UPCOMING DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

**January 24, 2009—Florida District Convention**

**February 07, 2009—South Georgia District Convention**

**March 07, 2009—North Georgia District Convention**

## Message

from the

Assistant Editor

Please make a note of these dates and please submit articles. The more we hear from our local churches, the more we can be informed on what is going on throughout our region. Pastors, please remember to appoint a local reporter to send articles in for your local church. You can email me the article, mail it to me, or even give me a call if you need to. Whatever is easier for you will work for me. Do not forget that you can view **The Shepherd's Voice** from 2005 up until now online on our Region's web site at <http://www.tcogflga.org>. Also check out the new Prison Ministry webpage located at <http://www.tcoggspteam.org>.

Tony Conner—Assistant Editor

To submit articles or subscribe to **The Shepherd's Voice**, send them to Tony Conner at:  
**41 Greatwood Drive, White, GA 30184 or [theshepherdsvoice@tcogflga.org](mailto:theshepherdsvoice@tcogflga.org)**

Two copies of **The Shepherd's Voice** are sent to each pastor. If you want to be sent extra copies, there will be an annual charge of \$4.00 per extra copy. Of course you may make your own copies, print it from our web site or **The Shepherd's Voice** may be sent directly to a home for an annual subscription rate of \$8.00.

Merry Christmas! Here are the deadlines to submit articles for the coming new year:

**January 20th, March 20th, May 20th, July 20th, September 20th, and November 20th.** All articles and announcements should be submitted by email or by mail by these dates to get the paper out on time. Please mark your calendars.



And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. John 10:16

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## "SACRIFICE"

**Jerry W. Campbell—Regional Overseer**

*"I beseech you therefore, brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1*

My wife and I have been privileged and blessed to travel and visit each local church within the Region in the past 3 1/2 months. The reception from every pastor and member has been overwhelming. While traveling from church to church including missions, one dominant thing stood out. The level of personal sacrifice from both ministry and member as spoken of in Romans 12:1 was inspiring and encouraging. Sacrifice and zeal will perform great things for us all in the upcoming new year. I am convinced that 2009 will be the year of divine intervention and growth. Let's continue to labor together with sacrificial love for the head of The Church and one another and expect a great outpouring of God's blessings and power!

God Bless You and Keep You  
Jerry W. Campbell  
Regional Overseer

"Merry Christmas" to every member and friend of The Church of God in Florida and Georgia. Our prayer is that the Lord bless your special Christmas services and your family gatherings while celebrating the reason for this blessed season...the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

We love and appreciate each and every one!

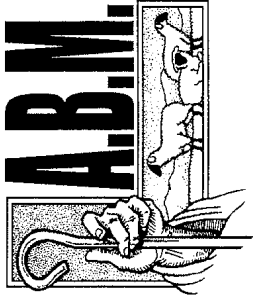
Brother and Sister Campbell



Victory Leaders Band

**The Youth Convention will be held on  
April 3-4, 2009 at  
The Church of God in Millen, GA  
(625 Hwy 25 North – Millen, GA 30442)  
The Guest Speaker will be Bro. Ray D. Dupree**

***My Love, Your Love, HIS Love***



I John 4:12 "...If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us."

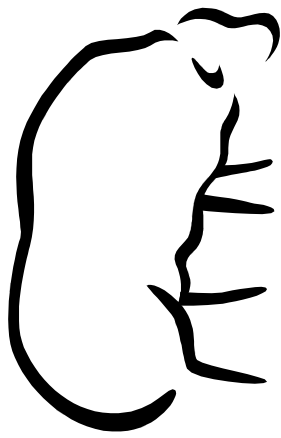
I was recently asked why I continue to attend a church that is so very small. This person wanted to know how I could possibly get what I needed when there were so few and obviously not enough to share the work load. I had to be honest and tell them the work can get grueling and the burdens heavy, but love keeps us together. The kind of love we feel is not just superficial love that mortal man can dish out when he is feeling kind and being loved in return. Instead, it is the love of God that reaches past emotions and conditions.

This is the love people really need to experience in our world today. Even within our ranks, people are calling out for the kind of love we can only give after we have tapped into the very heart of God. I read a book several years ago that talked about the fact that people register and read love in different ways. What demonstrates love to one may not be as evident to another. While that can be very true, I submit that the reality of all humanity is that each one can be touched when divine, agape love is freely given. There is no force on earth that can stop it when it pierces the deepest place in the heart of a broken individual.

This is why we must love through it all. We must make every effort to touch this lost world and our fellow saints in The Church of God with His perfect love. Don't just rely on your own brand of love. It may fail you when things are hard. My love may leave me resentful and alone when everything gets tough. His love will never fail us. I love you and I want you to know I love you, but I want your love for me and my love for you to be more than what we can manufacture based on our emotions. I pray that The Church of God in this region and beyond can demonstrate with great passion and liberty the perfect love of God.

My love can be temporal. Your love can be conditional, but His love is perfect. Let the God that dwells in our hearts, perfect His love in us.

In His Service,  
Allene Cox  
Regional ABM Coordinator

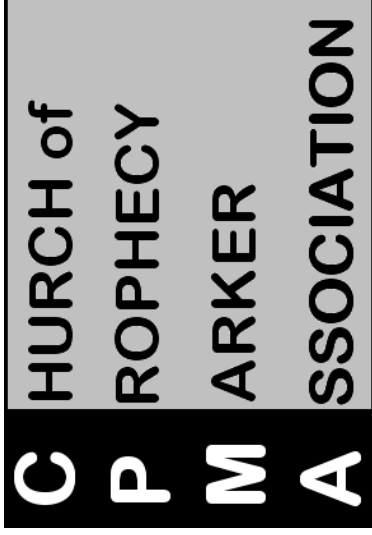


*The following is a retraction to the last article written for the CPMA department. The general theme was changed after the printing of the last Shepherd's Voice. Please make note of this. Each local pastor and/or leader has received a new CPMA bulletin for display at the local churches. Thank you.*

***Every Man Perfect in Christ Jesus***

Col. 1:28 "Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:"

You and I cannot reach perfection of our own merits. We are human beings that are incapable of attaining perfection in any area of life without the grace, mercy and power of God. There is a world full of depressed, anxiety ridden, stressed and misplaced people who have tried to attain perfection in some avenue of life, only to find that there is no peace when they've done only to find that there is no doubt filled with the names and stories of those who have tried to achieve perfection in medicine, science, the arts, or even biblical theology only to have their lives end with great regret. It is a sad account indeed to be burdened with the feelings of inadequacy and failure after one has given all of their finances, energy and ambitions. Many make enormous sacrifices to reach this utopia. Some of the sacrifices included precious time with family and loved ones.



all they can possibly do. History books and biographies are no doubt filled with the names and stories of those who have tried to achieve perfection in medicine, science, the arts, or even biblical theology only to have their lives end with great regret. It is a sad account indeed to be burdened with the feelings of inadequacy and failure after one has given all of their finances, energy and ambitions. Many make enormous sacrifices to reach this utopia. Some of the sacrifices included precious time with family and loved ones.

When I hear people talk about the perfection of The Church of God, I often hear in their voices the subtle hint of abandon as if they too are destined for failure. I want to submit to you as we embrace this year's theme, The Church of God has more than human ingenuity on her side. The Church of God is not planning to reach perfection on her own recognizance. See many of those in the history books preserver and succeed at their chosen fields. Many of our modern conveniences are the result of the continued efforts of people against all odds and adversity. The Church of God is and will continue to be the success story to beat them all. She will reach perfection through the power of the blood of the Lamb. She has access to the same abundant empowerment that was present on the day of Pentecost. The body of Christ will be perfect and entire by the grace and to the glory of God.

He has not placed on us anything we cannot bear. He has already established the way for us to obtain the perfection he requires. It is all written and divinely revealed as we continue to seek the perfect will of the Father. It is an awesome task, but if we have the means and the desire to accomplish it, we will present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

My hopes are that we can begin our push to 100% in CPMA region wide. If you would like special mention when your church reaches 100%, then please mark your reports accordingly and I will gladly make this honorable mention.

God bless you as you labor in the work of perfection!  
James R. Cox  
Regional CPMA Coordinator

## The Grace of God

I want to encourage each of our local BTI representatives to begin another BTI correspondence course in your local services this year. If you have completed the Christology course, the readers would be pleased to hear any testimonies you may have to share about the study in your local church. The Grace of God is the course I have chosen to propel our region into deeper study of the Word of God. The following is a summary of the lessons from the course, I think you will find it most interesting.

- Lesson 1** The Grace of God
- Lesson 2** Grace is Not an Excuse for Carnality
- Lesson 3** Starving Grace Because of a Lack of Knowledge
- Lesson 4** Suffering by the Grace of God and the Knowledge of God
- Lesson 5** Redeeming the Time by Grace and Knowledge
- Lesson 6** The Living Word as Lively Stones
- Lesson 7** The Inner Man Must be Renewed Day by Day
- Lesson 8** Beauty of Holiness
- Lesson 9** Fighting the Christian War

Please take the opportunity to either copy the booklet given to your pastor or order books from headquarters to complete this course. I believe you will find it practical and helpful for you and all in your Bible study.

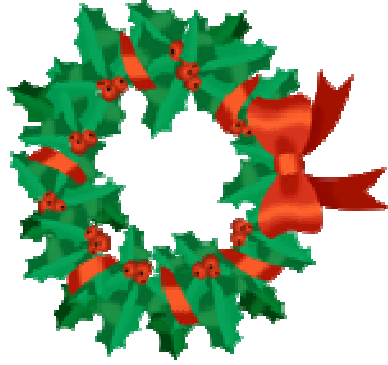
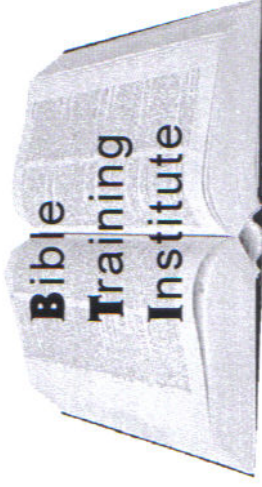
The theme of BTI is *That We May Know Him*. "...but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits." Daniel 11:32b I am eager to be a part of God's grand plan in these last days. I am not dreading the return of the Lord as one that has no hope. Instead, we are to be ready to participate in the exploits that strength that is characteristic of the true bride of Christ.

It is with great regret that I must report that we will not be conducting a regional BTI school for 1<sup>st</sup> term this year.

I was informed that the committee felt there were too many general activities taking place to permit another project such as this. I know many were hoping, as was I, that we could provide the school more economically and locally in the hopes of reaching more with the much needed teaching for the organization, doctrinal and business practices of The Church of God.

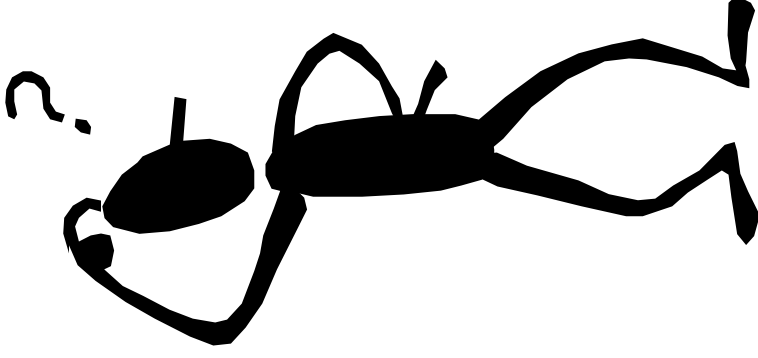
Please keep this in your prayers and don't let it be a hindrance to your correspondence studies. We will continue to request this service and hope that in time, we will be able to provide this educational tool. In the meantime, we should work with what we have on hand in our correspondence courses and grow in our knowledge of Him that we can truly stand in these turbulent times in His strength and accomplish the exploits bringing glory and honor to our most worthy Lord and Savior.

God bless you and the work of BTI!  
James R. Cox  
Regional BTI Coordinator



## Who's Who?

Each Shepherd's Voice will feature questions about someone. You have the opportunity to win a prize if you can figure out who it is and then call or send Sis. Allene Cox your guess with your personal testimony as well. Only one person can win per publication so, whoever contacts Sis. Allene Cox first will be the winner. What will you win? You will receive by mail a gift card and the satisfaction of knowing you are getting to know your spiritual siblings better. Don't assume someone has called or contacted Sis. Allene Cox before you. It would amaze us to know how little we really know about one another. If the person being featured is not revealed, the hints for that person will be continued until someone guesses correctly. Don't hesitate! Get involved! You may be the next featured person or the next winner! You can contact Sis. Allene Cox by phone at 478-982-8209. READY???? Here are the hints.....



**Loves to play drums and cares for flowers and plants**

**She's someone's daughter and to several- an Aunt**

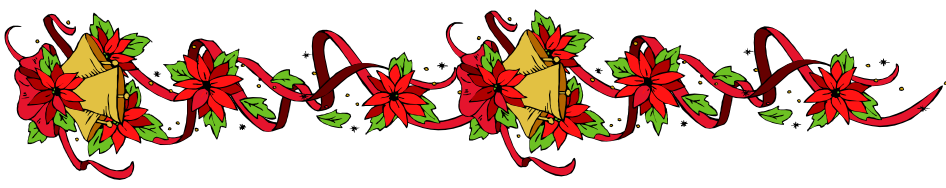
**Giving her time for camp and local youth**

**With red hair, she preaches and will not spare the truth!**

Ask around and you'll soon discover you know this person like no other!

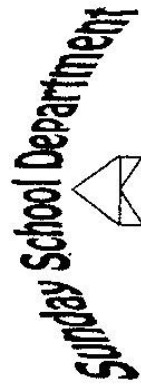
The Winner from our last series of questions was Jerry Cox from Palatka, Florida. He won a \$10 gift card with his correct answer of Brother Ed Matthews! We appreciate Bro. Cox's participation. We also love Brother Matthews. God bless you all for all you've done to help us get to know one another better! Now, you can be the next winner! Just make a guess as soon as you get your Shepherd's Voice. Thank you to all who have participated!

**This game has gathered quite a lot of interest since it first began. Last time, I received 24 calls to make guesses. This time I was honored to talk to 36 people by phone or email who wanted to get into the game. It is great!**



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## “We Got Good JUNK!”



Have you ever gone shopping across the border in Mexico? I remember when I was a young teenager and my family went to Mexico with my uncle. I was walking through the “tiendas” (shopping district) of a very dirty and yet culturally rich, Tijuana. On every side “hawkers” were standing at the doors of the shops, trying to lure my parents and uncle away from a competitor and into their shop. I thought one “hawker” had the best line of all. He said, “Hey, senior, come inside my store, we got good junk.” My mom replied, “I’ll bet that’s the truth!”

Along that same line, Chapter 9 of Proverbs gives us a picture of two women calling out to the people in the streets. In this case, the women are inviting them to come into their houses. Like the hawkers in Tijuana, each woman is calling out an advertisement of what they have to offer.

One offers understanding, wisdom, instruction and teaching. She has broken the bread and has access to the ‘wine’ of the word. She understands what it means to fear the Lord and holiness unto perfection. She offers the truth.

The other offers junk and will give it freely to whoever will enter and partake. She has stolen waters that are murky with deceit and manipulation. She teaches indeed, but instructs that one can have bread (the word) in secret or by private interpretation and not be accountable to wisdom and the fear of God. She has other guests there as well that lie and waits to deceive. They are from the deepest hell and wish to kill all who may enter her portals.

I believe The Church of God has an obligation to stand as the bride of Christ and declare with wisdom and understanding the Divine nature of the Holy Bible. I feel we are called to be a beacon of hope and truth to all who will enter and sit at the table of His Word.

If we are going to rescue the lost in this critical hour, we must rise to this standard. Let us not be entrapped ourselves by the distorted words of others. Be prepared and be wise in our Sunday Schools. Let us not serve tainted milk or meat from our tables.



Proclaiming the Truth!

Allene Cox

Regional Sunday School Coordinator

# LAMB'S CORNER

Christmas Coloring page for the children

