

# Carbondale Bible Fellowship



September, 2003

Volume 2, Issue 2



## Celebration of Carbondale is a great success

Saturday, August 9, 2003 started as a relatively gloomy morning. It was a dark, cloudy day. With hopes of having a float in the parade, the weather did not look promising. However, the plans went forward and the missions team from First Baptist Church pulled together with the people of CBF to prepare for the parade. Approximately 500 balloons were blown up and attached to the float which was sitting in front of the ministry center. Just minutes before the parade line-up was to begin, the rain began to pour. It seemed as though the parade could not go on in such weather. Yet, the rain ceased and as CBF made its way to the parade line-up, the sun broke through the clouds.

What a sight it was to have the float filled with several hundred balloons! As the "church" rolled down the street, balloons were passed out to those who lined the streets. There were tags attached to every balloon inviting the recipient to the carnival at the train station following the parade.

During the parade, there were also individuals representing CBF along the parade route. Those individuals passed out cans of soda to all of the onlookers.

As the float rolled to a stop by the train station in Carbondale, the festivities had just begun. Carbondale Business Association was hosting a chicken barbeque. The train from Steamtown in Scranton had come to the station with 260 passengers. But, that was not all!! CBF was there hosting a free carnival. Activities included Go-Karts, a dunking tank, various games and free cotton candy and snow cones. It is estimated that there were six hundred or more people who visited our carnival that day. For several hours, our section was packed. (See some of the pictures on p. 2). Tickets were awarded at several of the games and activities. The tickets could be redeemed for prizes which included candy, goldfish, spin wheels, cars, bubbles, and fun dough. The people of the community were quite shocked to discover that everything was free.

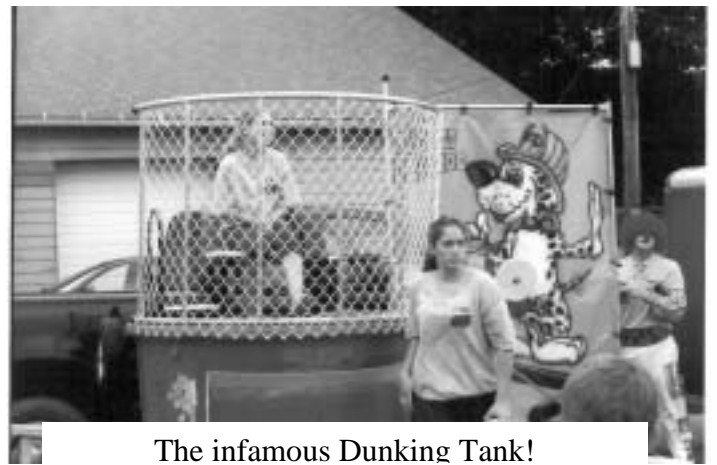
The day was certainly a success, and we look forward to seeing what God will allow us to do next year. We sincerely appreciate the help from Pastor Chad Chute and the teens from First Baptist Church of Marilla, NY, Pastor James Buchanan and his family, and Ken and Sharon Davis.

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Preparing the float at the ministry center



The infamous Dunking Tank!



Josh Pfeulb and Jessica Roof passing out balloons



Missy Rosler on one of the Go-Karts



The empty float toward the end of the parade



Another glimpse of the crowd



Just one glimpse of the crowd



Ruth Carpenter in the prize trailer

# TLC "lives out loud!"

**B**aptist Bible College's Teen Leadership Conference was held July 21<sup>st</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> and July 28<sup>th</sup>-August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003. The theme this year was "Live Out Loud," from Steven Curtis Chapman's hit song. Among the many workshops included this year, was a two-day survey workshop by Ken Davis for Project Jerusalem. CBF had the privilege of benefiting from this workshop as several teens came out to Carbondale to complete a door-to-door survey. The results are presented in this newsletter. Please take note that there are 282 results. Since this survey was completed between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m., several doors were unanswered. The teens probably knocked on several hundred doors aside from the ones where results were received. As you can see from the results, there are several needs in the community which CBF has the opportunity to meet. The survey was definitely a profitable experience. Several people requested follow-up. Of the 282 surveys completed, 39 people were interested in Bible Study, 21 people wanted to be contacted again, and 31 wanted the survey results. That gave us the opportunity to make contact with 91 households at least one more time. Please pray that CBF will be able to continue to follow up on these individuals.

## Question 1:

What do you think are some of the biggest needs in the area?

Jobs--New/Better/ Available Work	94
Things for kids to do	64
New Business/Industry	45
Clean City	29
Cops	28
Repair Roads	23
Other	20
Nothing	13
Culture	5
Elderly Help	5
Drugs/Crime	4
Entertainment	4
Parks	4
Education	3
Discipline in schools	2
Lower Taxes	1
Get rid of slum lords	1
Pool	1
Gardening	1

## Question 2:

Do you or your family regularly attend an area church?

No – 65

Yes – 217

## Question 3:

If yes, where do you attend?

St. Rose	81
Mt. Carmel	53
St. Michaels	15
Methodist	14
Baptist	8
Holy Trinity	7
Other	7
Assembly of God	6
N/A	5
Episcopal	4
Presbyterian	4
Catholic	2
St. Mary's	2
Covenant Reformed	1
Mainstream	1
Mormon	1
Russian Orthodox	1
St. Johns	1
St. Thomas	1
Worldwide Church of God	1



**Note:** Some of the results may total more than 282 since there may have been more than one response per question.

Carbondale Bible Fellowship is a church plant sponsored by First Baptist Church of Marilla, New York.

The church planting team consists of the following individuals:

Pastor & Mrs. James Schmidt,  
Dr. and Mrs. Rodney Decker,  
Mr. & Mrs. Nate Harmon, and  
Heather Stanquist

#### Question 4:

What do you think keeps some area people from attending church much?

Don't Know/You have to ask them.	82
Don't care about it	50
Time Conflict--Job/Schedule/ Too Busy	48
Lack of Faith	25
Conflict with Priest	22
Lazy	19
Poor Morals	11
Sick	11
Dissatisfied	10
Parents don't teach children to go	10
Boring	9
Church is after money	9
Transportation	8
Corrupt	5
Parking	4
Too much change	4
Compassion	3
No Nursery	2
Age	1
Music	1
They do attend	1
Weather	1

## Praise God for His Provision

Prior to the birth of James, Jr., the Schmidts realized finances would be tight upon his arrival. God saw fit to bless in mysterious ways by providing clothes and diapers beyond belief. All too quickly the excitement of His provision faded and Pastor James and Andrea encountered a time of discouragement. Finances were very tight and several options needed to be explored. What direction did God want them to go? Should they travel and raise support? That would be difficult with a Sunday service and James in Seminary full-time. Could CBF begin to help support them? That was an option about which to begin thinking. As the Schmidts sought and prayed about this, God has recently begun to open more options and several other areas of support are becoming available. Please pray with us that we will continue to trust the Lord in this area.



Marilla Missions Team 2003

## Current Praises and Prayer Requests:

Praise the Lord for a great outreach when Marilla was here in August.

The Schmidts have received some extra support money. There is a local church in Scranton that is planning to start sending monthly support.

Pray for the Mens' and Ladies' Evening Bible Studies. This is a smaller group format and allows for more intimate relationships. Significant decisions have been made at these meetings.

## Upcoming Events

- A few outreach dinners are planned for this fall/winter season.
- CBF will pass out cookie baskets at Christmas.
- Another Bible Study may form this fall.

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