



## JOIN US FOR THE 2012 CELEBRATION

CLARENCE JORDAN SYMPOSIUM  
September 28-29

Join us as we take a look at the lasting impact Clarence and the Cotton Patch theology has had on our church and our world.

RENOVATION BLITZ BUILD  
October 1-26

We've built 190 houses in Sumter County and given birth to 2 outstanding organizations that build and renovate housing around the world. We're inviting individuals and groups to help us give our buildings a little TLC. We'll also work with the local Habitat and Fuller Center groups on service projects in our wider community.

KOINONIA FAMILY REUNION  
October 26-28

We're 70! God's hand of protection has allowed us to see our 70th anniversary, and we want to celebrate God's goodness. We invite all former Koinonians, future Koinonians, wannabe Koinonians, visitors past and present, and fellow intentional community friends to join us for a weekend of fellowship, fun, and celebration.

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# CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY



BY LENNY JORDAN

WHEN ASKED WHY I AGREED to chair the month-long 2012 Celebration, with its three major events and several smaller events, I smile and say, "Bren Dubay." It's true that Bren is a charmingly persuasive person, but the abiding reason I'm chairing the Celebration is because of how happy and encouraged I am at what I've seen happening at the farm in the past eight years. Under Bren's leadership, Koinonia Farm has returned to its roots as an intentional community and is thriving.

Over the years, though, the question of whether Koinonia could or should survive as a community has come up many times. Following the violence and the need to send families out of harm's way, membership dwindled to just three families, but the foundation on which Martin England and Daddy founded Koinonia was not one based on numbers. From the beginning, the number of families or the size of the community was not the intention of their "intentional" community.

Many people, both friend and foe, for different reasons tried to get Daddy to "give up." Giving up was not in his vocabulary, or for that matter in his understanding of Christianity. Was he discouraged at times? Sure he was. Who wouldn't be discouraged when faced with a hostile environment and few people left to carry the load after we had to send so many people away.

Some folks believe that in the late 60s when Koinonia Farm became Koinonia Partners that somehow Daddy had moved on from the idea of intentional community.

Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, the way he explained the partnership concept was very much in keeping with his early belief in community. Communal life was a way for the church to live in partnership not just with man, but with God — a partnership always reaching out as best its numbers would allow to a larger community.

During the early years of Koinonia Partners, there was much discussion as to how to structure and merge the ideas of community and partnership. Sadly, Daddy passed away before it was resolved; however, Koinonia and the Fund for Humanity realized, as did Millard Fuller, that Habitat for Humanity was not

*"With the return to intentional community in 2005, Koinonia is back on a course that would make Daddy feel right at home."*

an intentional community. The dream for Habitat and the ideas held by those following in Daddy's footsteps were out of step with one another. Fortunately, Koinonia was in a position at that time to support the beginning years of Habitat both spiritually and financially. I am thankful that Habitat's roots in the Koinonia Partnership Housing movement led to the good work that fine

organization is doing all over the world today.

But since that time and even today, there are those who say Daddy turned away from community. Some think Koinonia should not exist or at least it should not exist as an intentional community. My mother addressed this on multiple occasions during her lifetime and now it's my turn. I emphatically add my voice to hers, "Clarence Jordan never gave up on community."

He explored other options during a particularly hard time: he considered taking a teaching position, wrote a letter or two about selling the farm and starting over somewhere else and thought briefly about moving to Atlanta to be nearer the airport so he could get to his many speaking engagements more easily. But he always

*"Some folks believe that in the late 60s when Koinonia Farm became Koinonia Partners that somehow Daddy had moved on from the idea of intentional community. Nothing could be further from the truth."*

came back to the idea that however small or whatever direction he felt led by God, that it would involve living in the way the early church lived — in intentional community. He always returned to the notion of the "koinonia" and this place called Koinonia. Giving up on community was something that was non-negotiable for him, even in the hardest, darkest days in Koinonia's history.

During the late 80s, Koinonia began to drift away from intentional community.

In the mid-90s, it formally changed its structure from the communal model to a non-profit business model. Through this period of drift that ultimately led to the abandonment of intentional community, Koinonia was at greater risk of failure than at any point during the violence and boycott of the 50s and 60s.

With the return to intentional community in 2005, Koinonia is back on a course that would make Daddy feel right at home. It has even reclaimed its original name: Koinonia Farm.

The Jordan family is rejoicing at what's happening at Koinonia. I hope you will join us during the 2012 Celebration and rejoice with us.



L-R: Lenny Jordan, Greg Wittkamper, Charles Browne, and David Wittkamper

## Koinonia Farm 2012 Celebration

REGISTRATION ON PAGE 7. LEARN MORE AND REGISTER ONLINE: [WWW.KOINONIA2012CELEBRATION.ORG](http://WWW.KOINONIA2012CELEBRATION.ORG)



CLARENCE JORDAN SYMPOSIUM

SEE PAGE 4



RENOVATION BLITZ BUILD

SEE PAGE 5



KOINONIA FAMILY REUNION

SEE PAGE 6

Koinonia Farm  
1324 GA Hwy 49 South  
Americus, GA 31719



# A POWERFUL INFLUENCE

BY LENNY JORDAN

WHENEVER THE MEMBERS OF KOINONIA FARM consider committing to a project, they use these discerning questions, "Is it educational? Does it contribute to sustaining land, people and resources? Will we be able to maintain or increase our commitment to welcoming others?" There's no question that the 2012 Celebration meets all three requirements: Education, sustainability and hospitality.

Celebrating Koinonia Farm's 70th and my parent's 100th birthdays begins with an educational powerhouse: The Clarence Jordan Symposium. It is an event Koinonia is already considering repeating in the future.

This year's chairman Kirk Lyman-Barner has done a tremendous job lining up an array of thinkers and doers from wide-ranging fields. What these scholars, authors, artists, farmers, activists and intentional community leaders have in common is that Clarence Jordan has had a powerful influence on their thinking.

Fed by his understanding of Jesus' teaching and how the early church lived, my father committed himself to a way of life and lived out that way at Koinonia Farm. An intelligent man, he used his knowledge of Greek to mine the New Testament and used his knowledge of farming to nurture and heal the land.

DADDY'S IMPACT HAS BEEN FAR GREATER THAN GREEK OR AGRICULTURE, THOUGH. People from all walks of life, all around the globe have been touched by his life, through his traveling, writings, speaking engagements, and welcoming visitors to the community he co-founded.

He and his fellow community members sought to live a way of life that embodied peacemaking, simplicity, radical sharing and the brotherhood/sisterhood of all people. They strove to live the Sermon on the Mount and to demonstrate the way of Jesus as an alternative to materialism, militarism, and racism.

*"Fed by his understanding of Jesus' teaching and how the early church lived, my father committed himself to a way of life and lived out that way at Koinonia Farm."*

MUCH HAS BEEN BORN OUT OF THIS DEMONSTRATION PLOT: Agricultural advancements, racial reconciliation, affordable housing, stage plays, a Cotton Patch version of the Gospels, other intentional communities, books on a variety of subjects, and more. Much has been born out of Koinonia's efforts to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, visit prisoners and the sick, and bury the dead. Most of these topics and many others will be discussed at the upcoming Symposium. Whether it be a keynote address or in one of the seminar sessions, expect what you hear to impact your thinking.

The Symposium is the most logistically complicated of the three major events of the 2012 Celebration and Koinonia is very grateful for all the support received. The Fuller Center for Housing is the major supporter of the event, allowing—among many other things—Kirk, Director of Fuller Center U.S. Field Operations, to devote considerable time to chairing it.

Habitat for Humanity International is also a supporter, doing much behind the scenes work especially in communications and publications. Another supporter is Georgia Southwestern State University's Theatre, Communications and Media Arts Department. Through its sponsored programs project, the department has made possible the Friday night use of the Rylander Theatre. The department is also producing Dennis Hassell's "The Glory Man," a recent play about Clarence Jordan and Koinonia Farm. Their performance on Saturday evening, September 29 is the closing event of the Symposium weekend.

YOU CAN BECOME A SUPPORTER, TOO, by reserving a seat. Reserve online at [www.koinonia2012celebration.org](http://www.koinonia2012celebration.org) or give us a call at 229-924-0391. **The number of participants at this year's Symposium will help Koinonia decide how often to repeat the event.** The community's 75th birthday isn't that far away. Let's have a sell out crowd for the 70th and get busy planning the next Clarence Jordan Symposium.

## BUILDINGS GOING UP

BY BREN DUBAY

KOINONIA IS A HUB OF ACTIVITY these days preparing for the 2012 Celebration. When we first had the idea to celebrate our 70th and Clarence and Florence's 100th birthdays, the plan included the completion of several capital projects prior to the fall events. Then came the economic downturn. The projects won't be completed by the celebration, but there is progress to share. The good news is that even though donations may be at lower amount than planned, people have continued to contribute so the work has continued, too.

Thanks to all who have contributed to move these projects this far along. We still have a long way to go and need many more of you to join in the effort. Please contact Lenny Jordan at [lenny@koinoniapartners.org](mailto:lenny@koinoniapartners.org) or Bren Dubay at [dubay@koinoniapartners.org](mailto:dubay@koinoniapartners.org). We'd love to provide you with more details.



Pictured here is the porch that will wrap around the new addition to the dining hall. The porch, siding and roof will be in place by the fall. Once the addition is complete,

we'll move on to renovating the guesthouse and former dining hall. The building will be used as our central education center, which will include a new dining hall, kitchen, library, a renovated guesthouse and meeting space.



Thanks to the Fuller Center for Housing, local Habitat Affiliate New Horizons, Wells Fargo and the generosity of many individuals, the foundation is ready and the walls and roof will go up shortly on a new eight-bedroom house, which will be home to Koinonia interns. The internship program is a thriving ministry here. In addition to serving as their home, the house's common area will be perfect for intern classes, study sessions and meetings.



We have plans for renovating the Welcome Center Building, too, but won't begin until the above projects are completed. Pictured is the architect's idea of a new entrance. Though nice to have a new entry, what is most exciting is that our museum and archives will be moved from an old converted chicken coop into a newly renovated space. Hundreds of visitors are drawn to Koinonia each year by our important story. What a delight it will be to welcome them to this new space replete with upgraded museum exhibits.

### HOSPITALITY: A TRADITION THROUGH THE GENERATIONS

Since the day Clarence Jordan and Martin England first set foot on the land at Koinonia, one tradition has remained. Regardless of race, creed, class or profession, hospitality has been extended to all who enter. Sometimes the giving is easy, when people enter as new friends excited to learn about this alternative way of life. Other times people come to us down on their luck, and though we pray that our witness will bring about new life, we can merely offer a warm meal and a bed for a night or two. Either way, we strive to recognize the presence of Christ in each interaction, and we often marvel at the way the Spirit moves us with every new face that comes our way.

Whether in a group or on your own, whether single or with your entire family, we invite you to come and see what the Spirit has in store for you. To schedule a visit, contact us at [hospitality@koinoniapartners.org](mailto:hospitality@koinoniapartners.org).



FROM THE KOINONIA ARCHIVES...

PEACE & BROTHERHOOD

Delivered 5/19/63 at the Annual Meeting of the Baptist  
Peace Fellowship

BY CLARENCE JORDAN

MAN WILL NOT GIVE UP WAR UNTIL HE FINDS SOME BETTER IDEA WITH WHICH TO REPLACE IT. Most of us are convinced now that we must relinquish war, but we do not know what will take its place. War has been, to some extent, an answer for man’s problems. He has found it, however crude and however unsatisfactory, at least some answer to his problems. But what was originally a rabbit which we had by the tail has now become a bear, and we can neither hold on to war nor can we relinquish it.

It could be that the struggle for brotherhood will give us some clue to the answer of the urge toward peace. For in the struggle for brotherhood, men have laid hold upon an idea to achieve this goal which has not been violent. It has been non-violent. So that the by-product of the racial struggle in the world today might turn out to be the chief contribution.

Now, non-violence is not a new idea. It’s at least as old as Jesus’ time, for Josephus tells us in his history of the Jews that Caiaphas, the high priest at the time of Jesus, was an advocate of non-violence. Now at this time Judea was occupied by the military forces of Rome. Caiaphas, the high priest, still insisted that Judea was a theocracy, and that he was God’s vicar on earth. Now when Pilate was sent to Judea to be governor, he quartered his crack cavalry troops in the Jewish temple.

When Caiaphas asked that the troops be removed, ruthless old Pilate reminded Caiaphas that it was he who was governor, and not the high priest. Then Caiaphas hit upon a rather interesting solution to his problem. There was

no law against parading without a license in Judea, and there was no law against praying. So Caiaphas went out and got some of his very best ministerial students who had tremendous voices, and invited them to a prayer meeting just outside of Pilate’s window. Now the Hebrews were not noted then for silent prayer, and they prayed for Pilate at the top of their voices all at the same time, and not in unison.

All night long this prayer meeting went on, and after three days of that prayer meeting, Pilate decided he would visit his good friend Herod up in Caesarea. Caiaphas followed him on foot, and as he went he gathered some more fine loyal preachers to accompany him up

to Caesarea for a renewal of the prayer pilgrimage.

After Herod quickly sent him back to Judea, Pilate summoned Caiaphas and told him that to get his people together and go down to the city hall, where he would address them. So they went down to the market place and while they were down there, Pilate gave the word to all of his crack troops to surround them.

Pilate then went to the market place and said to them, “Now listen, I’ve got this place surrounded with my troops, and I want you all to beat it on home or I’m going to murder the last one of you.”

Caiaphas laid down on the pavement, and when he did, all the rest of them went limp and bared their throats and said, “It were better that we were dead than that the house of God be profaned.” And when you’ve got 4,000 preachers, all unarmed, laying out there on the concrete with their necks bared, saying, “Go ahead and slit our throats,” no Roman governor could trample that kind of Roman justice in the dust. So finally Pilate said, “Okay fellas, you all have got me. Go on home, and I’ll take my troops out.”

Now, that was just one incident which Josephus relates. Caiaphas used it two other times to convince Pilate that non-violence was a rather powerful weapon.

Mr. Gandhi developed it even beyond the idea of a weapon. He developed it to the point of a way of life. Now the Negroes in the South today have laid

“As Christians, we must move beyond the realm of non-violence, which is only a very important part of a higher objective.”

hold upon it, and I do not think, by and large, the movement is characterized by a commitment to non-violence as a way of life. I think it is being used mainly very much like Caiaphas used it—as a tool to accomplish an objective.

However, it seems to me that as Christians, we must move beyond the realm of non-violence, which is only a very important part of a higher objective. We at Koinonia have committed ourselves to non-violence, and we have had quite a good bit of experience in just the negative aspects of it. We have yet, I think, to move on into the deeper levels of it where it becomes a real redemptive force in the lives of people.



A BRIEF REFLECTION:  
ON FRIENDSHIP

BY BREN DUBAY

IN A PLAY I WROTE, the central character, Jamie O’Hanlon, refuses to use the word “friend.” She, also, never speaks the word “love.” To her, both words have become empty of meaning — spoken frequently, but rarely beyond the superficial and shallow. Of course, if you know anything about dramatic writing, the play has to be about friendship and the deep, abiding love that can come with it. It is.

Someone told me that a recent study showed that the average close relationship lasts seven years. What does “close” mean in the context of this study? How does this vision of friendship square with “There is no greater love than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends (John 15:13)?” To me, there is something longer than seven years in that verse.

Friendship is never far from my mind since coming to Koinonia. People have laid down their lives for each other here — sometimes literally, sometimes not quite so dramatic but moving nonetheless. No matter the ups and downs of this place, no matter the comings and goings of people, friendship has left a profound mark. I imagine that much of the joy during the Celebration this fall will come from seeing friends reunite. There will be tears, memories, laughter, stories and, perhaps the most precious

of all, time given to one another.

“The ‘doing’ for one another is meaningful, but it is the ‘being’ with one another that has brought us ever closer together.”

Last fall, after many years of no contact, Koinonia and the Bruderhof were reunited. It has been like finding long lost friends, long lost family. Our two communities have a history together spanning almost 60 years — when they came from Paraguay (via Germany then England; learn their story at [www.bruderhof.org](http://www.bruderhof.org)) to explore moving to the United States, Koinonia served as a place of welcome and support. When Koinonia suffered persecution in the 50s and 60s, the Bruderhof offered help and refuge.

Today we are in relationship again and walk as friends. Last November, we began visiting one another, sending members to stay several nights to several months, all pitching in to do whatever is needed. The “doing” for one another is meaningful, but it is the “being” with one another that has brought us ever closer together. The relationships deepen through our conversations, questions, cards, letters and we are being shaped and transformed by our mutual encouragement of one another.

Surely, the kind of friendship that Jesus spoke of lasts for more than seven years. The beauty, too, of this scriptural portrayal rests in the hope that friends who drift apart, lose contact can come together again. Renewal is possible. Reuniting and recommitting are possible. Laying down one’s life for our friends is our calling.

I hope many of you plan to come home this fall. Friends will be waiting.

DID YOU MISS US? Due to time and budget constraints, we missed the last edition of “Koinonia Farm Chronicle.” You can help make sure we never miss another issue. Sponsor our bi-annual newspaper for just \$10.

Also, please consider becoming a monthly customer and/or donor. We could meet our annual budget if each household donates or purchases just \$35 each year. Now imagine if each household donated or purchased \$35 per month—we could dramatically increase our ministry efforts and take care of much needed improvements, too!

Won't you partner with us?

I/we pledge to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ one time / monthly (please circle one)

I/we donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to sponsor “Koinonia Farm Chronicle”

Name Phone Number / E-mail

Street Address City State Zip

Credit card information, if applicable, check one: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Number Expiration Date

# Koinonia Farm 2012 Celebration

## CLARENCE JORDAN SYMPOSIUM SEPTEMBER 28-29



SKETCH BY  
GREG JOENS

To register or to find out more, please go online to [www.koinonia2012celebration.org](http://www.koinonia2012celebration.org), follow Koinonia Farm on Facebook, or call us at 229 924-0391. Discounts available. See web site for more details.

### KEYNOTE PRESENTERS:

**PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER** | 39th president of the United States, from the small farming town of Plains, Ga., just 15 minutes from Koinonia Farm. President Carter will deliver opening remarks.

**JOYCE HOLLYDAY** | Author, Co-founder and co-pastor of Circle of Mercy, an ecumenical congregation in Asheville, N.C. Served for 15 years as Associate Editor of “Sojourners” magazine.

**SHANE CLAIBORNE** | Co-founder of The Simple Way, an intentional Christian community located in the inner city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania that has helped to birth and connect radical faith communities around the world.

**CHARLES MARSH** | Professor of Religious Studies, Director of The Project on Lived Theology at the UVA, a research community that seeks to understand the social consequences of religious beliefs. Graduate of Harvard Divinity School and the UVA.

**JONATHAN WILSON-HARTGROVE** | Graduate of Eastern University and Duke Divinity School. Associate Minister at the historically black St. Johns Baptist Church. Lives at the Rutba House, a new monastic community in Durham, NC.

**PHILIP GULLEY** | Pastor at Fairfield Friends Meeting near Indianapolis. Television host, author of 17 books.

PLUS: A special performance of “Cotton Patch Gospel” by Tom Key

### SEMINAR SESSIONS

#### SESSION 1, 10:50 - 11:50 AM

- ARTS & STORY TELLING**  
“Humor and Story Telling,” Tom Key
- CHURCH & SOCIETY**  
Philip Gulley | Greg Wittkamper | Joe Gatlin  
Lorena Barnum Saabs | Greg Carey | Tim Downs
- CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**  
Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove & Shane Claiborne  
David Hooker
- FAIR TRADE, STEWARDSHIP & AGRICULTURE**  
Trip Pomeroy & Bill Harris, Jr

#### SESSION 2, 2:10 - 3 PM

- ARTS & STORYTELLING**  
Al Staggs | Dallas Lee
- CHURCH & SOCIETY**  
Nora Tisdale | David Snell | Ronnie McBrayer | Bill Carlson
- CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**  
Ann Coble | Don Mosley | Linda Fuller | Dolphus Weary
- FAIR TRADE, STEWARDSHIP & AGRICULTURE**  
Wayne Weiseman

### SCHEDULE

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2012

- Rylander Theater
- 5:30 pm Dinner with the Carters at Windsor Hotel
  - 7:15 pm Opening Remarks, President Jimmy Carter
  - 7:30 pm Clarence Jordan Impersonation | Al Staggs
  - 8:00 pm *Cotton Patch Gospel Musical* | Tom Key

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2012

- Georgia Southwestern State University
- 9:00 am Welcome, Bren Dubay | Koinonia Farm
  - 9:10 am “*Spittin’ Image of the Almighty*” - Joyce Hollyday | United Church of Christ Historian
  - 9:50 am “*Tearing Down Walls*” - Shane Claiborne | The Simple Way
  - 10:50 am Seminar Session 1\*
  - 12:00 pm Lunch | BOOKSTORE OPEN
  - 1:30 pm “*At Work in the Fields of the Lord: Clarence Jordan as a Prophet of Radical Ordinairiness*” - Charles Marsh | Center for Lived Theology
  - 2:10 pm Seminar Session 2\*
  - 3:25 pm “*The Kingdom is Like Kudzu: Koinonia and a New Monasticism in America*” - Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove | Rutba House
  - 3:55 pm *Community Conversation* - Vincent Harding, Moderator | Civil Rights Historian, Activist
  - 5:05 pm “*On the Road with Clarence Jordan: A Quaker’s Journey Toward Universalism*” - Philip Gulley | Quaker Minister
  - 5:35-6:30 pm BOOKSTORE OPEN
  - 8:00 pm *The Glory Man*, play by Dennis Hassell
- \*See Seminar Sessions, left.

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

- 10:00 am President Carter teaches Sunday School at Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains. Photos with the Carters after Worship.
- 11:00 am Ronnie McBrayer @ Fellowship Baptist  
Dolphus Weary @ First Presbyterian
- 2, 4 pm Group tours at Koinonia Farm
- 6:00 pm Gathered Worship at Koinonia Farm, includes potluck dinner

### PURCHASE AN AD IN THE UPCOMING 2012 CELEBRATION PROGRAM!

Want to write a Happy Birthday message? Want to write a special greeting to a friend who was once at Koinonia or is now? Want to honor or write in memoriam of someone? Want to write something nice about one of our Symposium speakers? Want to advertise your business or organization?

Whether it be a full-page, half-page, 1/4 page or 1/8 page ad, be creative, have fun and support a worthy cause. Funds raised through this endeavor go to support our many worthwhile projects .

Koinonia extends a very special thanks to Habitat for Humanity International, which has agreed to print the programs. Rah for Habitat! E-mail [info@koinoniapartners](mailto:info@koinoniapartners) or call 229 924-0391 for more information.

Full-page ad	\$170	1/4 page ad	\$70
Half-page ad	\$100	1/8 page ad	\$35



## RENOVATION BLITZ BUILD, OCTOBER 1-26

### GRAB A HAMMER AND COME ON OVER

It's a Koinonia story we love to share —

*One rainy Christmas Day, Clarence Jordan was found out in the orchard planting pecan trees.*

*"What in the world are you doing out here, Clarence?" someone asked. "It's Christmas Day, it's raining and you'll never benefit from those trees. It takes 25 years for them to produce anything."*

*Clarence replied, "I'm planting them for the people that are coming after me."*

It's in this same spirit that we've included the Renovation Blitz Build as a part of the 2012 Celebration. We are building for those who are coming after us. The Jordans and the Englands started this experiment in Christian living during World War II, when materials were being rationed. Many of our structures were built with these rationed materials. We've done the best we can through the years to keep them up and functional, but if our buildings are going to be around another 70 years for those future generations, we've got some work to do.

Here's how the blitz works: individuals, groups or crews from various organizations sponsor projects and, where possible, do the actual work under the supervision of a Koinonia community member. Visit our Web site [www.koinonia2012celebration.org](http://www.koinonia2012celebration.org) and follow the links to the 2012 Renovation Blitz projects. Choose the one(s) that you'd like to sponsor then fill out the form. If you don't have access to a computer, give us a call at 229-924-0391 and request a list of renovation projects and a registration form. We'd be happy to send them.

Koinonia started the partnership housing movement in the late 60s, ultimately building 192 houses for folks in Sumter County. Koinonia birthed giants like Habitat for Humanity and The Fuller Center for Housing. Those two fine organizations are building and renovating homes around the world. Though we have built or inspired others to build many homes across the globe, few have been built or renovated at the farm..

So come alone or bring a crew to the Renovation Blitz Build. The plan is to complete as many projects as possible starting October 1 through October 26, 2012. But if those dates don't fit your schedule, we'd be happy to work with you to find other suitable dates. These projects will be ongoing until we get them all sponsored and completed. See you at the farm!

### Enough to Share

During the 2012 Celebration's Renovation Blitz Build, we plan to work on several projects in the wider community as well as some on the farm. We're partnering with the local Fuller Center Covenant Partner and the local New Horizons Habitat affiliate for these community projects. We'll schedule time for helping them on the fine work they are doing in Sumter County. If you'd like to bring a crew or come to work on one of their projects with us, please keep an eye on our Web site for the list of partner projects. These plans should be finalized by early September.

Second, we have our eye on several projects in the two neighborhoods Koinonia built on its farmland back in the 60s and 70s. The dream is to complete an outdoor basketball court and put in playground equipment in the park in each. If you have an interest in helping with the work and/or donating funds, please contact us at [contributions@koinoniapartners.org](mailto:contributions@koinoniapartners.org).

## PROJECT LIST

Building / Parcel	Short Description	Estimated Donation
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#### JUBILEE HOUSE

Remove siding and replace with cement board	\$1,950
Replace 2nd floor outside stairs and landing	\$1,500 (\$750 per staircase)
Insulate Building Shell (walls, attic)	\$3,500
Replace composition roof with metal roof	\$3,200
Replace windows	\$5,000 (\$200 per window)
Paint exterior	\$1,200
<i>Siding/Insulation/Paint Section</i>	<i>\$975/section if divided among 6 crews</i>

#### ATKINSON HOUSE

Insulate building shell (walls, attics)	\$1,700
Replace composition roof with metal roof	\$600
Replace windows	\$1,800 (\$200 per window)
Replace flooring	\$2,500
Paint Exterior	\$500
<i>Insulation/Paint Section</i>	<i>\$550/section if divided among 4 crews</i>

#### DUPLEX

Replace composition roof with metal roof	\$2,000
Install attic fan chamber between units	\$3,000
Alma Jackson Unit Replace windows	\$1,800 (\$200 per window)
Con & Ora Browne Unit Replace windows	\$1,600 (\$200 per window)

#### BAKERY

Replace windows	\$3,200 (\$200 per window)
Replace composition roof with metal roof	\$6,500
Paint exterior	\$650

#### WELCOME CENTER

Replace windows	\$2,200 (\$200 per window)
Paint exterior	\$1,370

Let the painting begin! Part of the renovation effort includes painting Koinonia buildings, and we've started early in preparation for the 2012 Celebration.

We're seeking a sponsor for each building. With your tax-deductible donation, we'll purchase the paint and supplies needed for the work. Do you, your church or organization have some extra time over the summer to help us paint? If not, the sound of swishing paintbrushes is sure to fill the air during the Renovation Blitz Build October 1-26. Come join us before, during and after!

Below is the list of our buildings with the estimated cost for each. We've even listed them in order of priority for painting.

Bakery	\$650
**Welcome Center	\$1,370
**Pecan Plants 1, 2 & 3	\$4,110
Maintenance/Box Barn	\$635
Sunny Acres	\$485
Egg House	\$365
Frances Warren House	\$335
Koinonia Community	\$3,650
Outreach Center (includes gutter & fascia repairs)	
Chapel	\$485
Jubilee House	to be determined after repairs & new siding completed
Guest House	to be determined after completion
FUNDED Wittkamper House	\$360
FUNDED Coffee House	\$335
FUNDED Florence's House	\$475
FUNDED Alma Jackson/	\$485
Con Browne Duplex	
FUNDED Green House	\$335

\*\* Your donation will be used to bring in painters with special skills and equipment for painting metal buildings.



# Koinonia Farm 2012 Celebration

## KOINONIA FAMILY REUNION, OCTOBER 26-28

### FESTIVITIES INCLUDE

**Friday:** Opening dinner @ 5:30, learn about Koinonia today. After dinner, the Magnificent Remarkable...Talent Show!

**Saturday:** Breakfast, Devotions. Farm tour. Lunch on Picnic Hill. Volleyball. Visit museum. Dinner @ 5:30. Phil Kaufmann performs "Cotton Patch Gospel."

**Sunday:** Fellowship. Potluck Gathered Worship @ 6 p.m.

WHAT'S THE PLAN? THE PLAN IS SIMPLE: food, fun, singing, storytelling, memory sharing, laughter, volleyball, tours, a rousing performance of "Cotton Patch Gospel Musical" and even farm chores if you want. For all who have lived at, visited or have always wanted to visit Koinonia, you're invited to our 70th Family Reunion! We'll kick everything off with DINNER AT 5:30 P.M. AND WILL INCLUDE CURRENT COMMUNITY MEMBERS SHARING ABOUT KOINONIA TODAY.

Come prepared to show off your talent because AFTER CLEAN UP, THE MAGNIFICENT REMARKABLE AMAZING VERY FUN KOINONIA TALENT SHOW BEGINS. We've seen pictures and heard stories about the talent that has passed through this place. Dust off your guitars, warm up your voices, rehearse your acts and come on over.

Saturday begins with CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST FOLLOWED BY DEVOTIONS. Then VISIT WITH FRIENDS, MAKE NEW ONES, TAKE A FARM TOUR, VISIT THE PECAN PLANTS TO SEE THE IMPROVEMENTS MADE, OR IF YOU WANT, EVEN JOIN A WORK DETAIL. You'll quickly remember how much there is to do on the farm! Weather permitting we'll have LUNCH ON PICNIC HILL. You can count on a ROUSING GAME OF VOLLEYBALL after lunch. We've been practicing and some of us think we're pretty darn good (we haven't come to consensus about this yet). We promise not to run the score up on you too high. The afternoon is for FELLOWSHIP, VISITING THE WELCOME CENTER STORE, SPENDING TIME AT THE MUSEUM EXHIBIT OR RESTING. After DINNER AT 5:30, PHILLIP KAUFMANN PERFORMS HIS ONE-MAN SHOW OF "COTTON PATCH GOSPEL MUSICAL" where he plays all the characters and all the instruments.

There are no Sunday activities planned except for our usual GATHERED WORSHIP AND POTLUCK MEAL AT 6:00 P.M. Grab a dish and come on over! It will be a quiet day around the farm as the month-long 2012 Celebration comes to a close. Plenty of time for quiet walks and long conversations. You are welcome.

After more than a decade (1993-2005) with no communal members, Koinonia has returned to the original vision. As Stewards, we feel called by God to this way of life and have entered a covenant to serve God and his people through this place called Koinonia Farm. We continue to grow into this call and responsibility. What a privilege it will be to meet those who have gone before us and to learn from you. COME HOME EVEN FOR JUST AWHILE. We know we will benefit from your wisdom.



Koinonia Archives



Carol Brink



Koinonia Archives

## COMING HOME



Amanda Moore



Carol Brink

### A Special Thank You...

More than 30 Habitat Affiliates and Fuller Center for Housing Covenant Partners have contributed to the 2012 Celebration. In response to a letter appeal from the Celebration's Chair, Lenny Jordan, earlier this year, almost \$20,000 has been raised. Thank you!

Many of these Affiliates and Covenant Partners plan to send representatives to one or more of the fall events. You can join them, too. Register today!

For you Affiliates and Covenant Partners who have not contributed or made your plans to travel "home" for the Celebration, it is not too late. Contact Lenny with any questions at [lenny@koinoniapartners.org](mailto:lenny@koinoniapartners.org).

## THE KOINONIA LEGACY

BY LENNY JORDAN

THIS SPRING, I WAS PRIVILEGED to attend Koinonia's annual Covenant Worship Ceremony. It's a beautiful annual event in the community's life. The purpose of the service is to welcome new Novices—those beginning a final period of discernment toward full membership, to affirm the Partners who play an important role in the everyday life of the community and for the Stewards to renew the covenant they entered into when becoming full members.

The evening before the service, I met with a young person who, after almost five years, was to become a Novice the next day. I appreciated what she shared about the time it had taken before she was ready for this step. Her issue was not one of willingness to participate in the daily life, or working endless hours, but of commitment.

Her thoughts that night and the ones in this follow-up email, underscore the importance of commitment. She writes,

*"My years at Koinonia have been very life-giving for me. From my very first*

*weeks here, I've been so completely and totally involved in every aspect of our life. My worry is that I've been so involved that I haven't taken the time to discern what it would be like to be committed here for life. I don't want to commit to the people, to the place, to our neighbors and friends, then leave in a few years and never come back. In my opinion, that's been one of the biggest struggles for this community ...people come through, get really close to the people who live here, become good friends with our neighbors and learn about their joys and struggles, then leave and abandon the friendships.*

*Now granted, ...my culture is very different from most of the people coming through Koinonia, but I do feel like it's important that I not continue this cycle. The thing that was special about your parents, in my opinion, is that they didn't leave. Violence didn't drive them away. Hard labor didn't drive them away. Rejection and scorn didn't drive them away. Lofty ideas didn't drive them away.*

*And, to be honest, death didn't really drive them away either. Their spirits remain alive in this place. Their memory lives on in us and in the many people they impacted through their lives. That's the life I want to demonstrate...a life of "rootedness." So whether it's here or in a different place, I feel it's important to be rooted where God wants to plant me. Not that I won't travel, spend time in other places, etc., but in order to demonstrate rootedness as a way of life, you have to develop deep roots that will stand the tests of confusion and struggle. That takes commitment to a people and a place."*

If you've been reading the news from Koinonia, you'll recognize the person who wrote this is Amanda Moore, Koinonia's newest Novice. Congratulations are in order! Maybe even a party.

Not all of us can make the kind of

*"Koinonia needs each of you to commit to seeing that the legacy Koinonia has built over these last 70 years is sustained in the coming years."*

commitment she is discerning, but Koinonia needs each of you to commit to seeing that the legacy Koinonia has built over these last 70 years is sustained in the coming years. And there is no better time than during the 2012 Celebration!

Come back to the farm and celebrate Koinonia's legacy with us in September and October. If you can't make it, please pass the invitation along to your friends who spent time at Koinonia. Join us on the Koinonia Family Facebook page and reconnect with some of those long-lost friends. You've never been here before? Well, you're invited, too. Come on over and meet your family.

See you this fall!



## PHIL KAUFMANN

ARTICLES BY MATT GUNDLACH

## MEET THE ARTISTS

Since 1942, Koinonia Farm has existed to feed the hungry—whether literally through food production, or by nourishing hungry souls through loving community. It is fitting then that musician Phil Kaufmann chose the “Cotton Patch Gospel” musical as a means to share the gospel and fight hunger. Sponsored by his local congregation Willow Springs Mennonite Church in Tiskilwa, Illinois, Kaufmann started the CPG Food Project. Through this project, he has performed over 30 shows and raised over \$43,000 for local food programs and global hunger organizations “Why Hunger” and “Mennonite Central Committee.”

With a long and varied background in music and theater, Kaufmann had wanted to perform “Cotton Patch Gospel” since he first saw it in 1984. He got that chance when a local theater group put on a production in 2000. While enjoying playing one of the musical parts, he also wanted to one day play the main role, and after a long brainstorm, he found a way to make it happen. With his talent on multiple instruments and a little help from video technology, Kaufmann acts while the band plays on.

We’re pleased that Kaufmann will close our Koinonia Family Reunion this October with a performance of the one-man musical. He’ll be bringing the CPG Project back to its roots, just as we will be welcoming many a past Koinonian who will be coming back to their roots. We hope that you will join us to be fed by the fellowship and by play, song, and laughter.

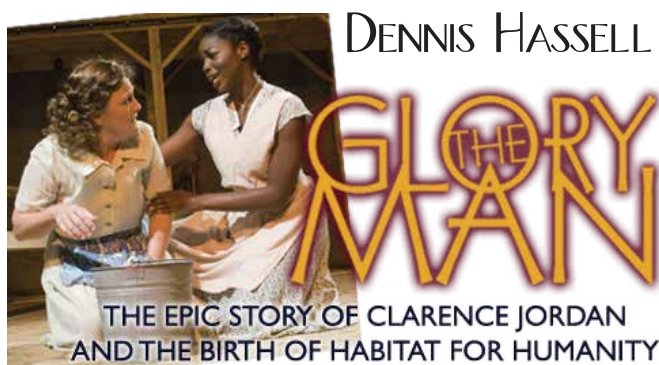
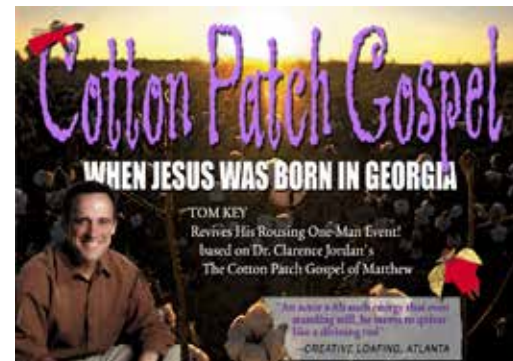
## TOM KEY

We’re pleased to announce that Tom Key will bring the “Cotton Patch Gospel” back home to Americus, Georgia, with his one-man show that started it all. Join us for this treat on the opening night of the 2012 Celebration’s Clarence Jordan Symposium, Friday September 28 at the Rylander Theater.

Since 1995, Tom has been Executive Artistic Director of the acclaimed Theatrical Outfit at The Balzer Theater at Herren’s in Atlanta, a professional company giving dramatic voice to the themes of spirituality, race and community in the American South.

For three decades, he has been in demand across the country as a performer, and has solidified a place as one of Atlanta, and the South’s, most prominent actors. His performances, direction, and script adaptations have covered a wide variety of authors, including Leonard Bernstein, C.S. Lewis, Walker Percy, and Truman Capote, and he’s won critical acclaim from The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times and The Chicago Tribune.

Yet most of us know him from the award-winning “Cotton Patch Gospel Musical” which he co-wrote with Russell Trezy, adapting Clarence Jordan’s “Cotton Patch Versions of Matthew and John.” Harry Chapin’s music and lyrics set the tone for an upbeat, spiritual story that leaves you tapping your toes and singing with a Southern drawl.



## DENNIS HASSELL

Following the Symposium, there will be a performance of “The Glory Man” by Dennis Hassell. Don’t miss this stage production being performed by Georgia Southwestern State University. The play received its professional premiere at Lambs’ Players Theatre in San Diego, CA thrilling audiences and critics alike.

The play follows Clarence and Florence Jordan and their experiment in radical discipleship. As seems to befit a story about Clarence and Koinonia, Hassell includes plenty of humor and song, including several moving spirituals and gospel renditions. Tickets available now on our Web site for \$25. Capacity is only 250 people.

## AL STAGGS

Clarence Jordan’s preaching often confronted the dark realities of materialism,

violence and segregation, but he also included humor and dramatic monologue as cultural contextualization to connect with listeners. Today, dramatist Al Staggs carries on this legacy, another Baptist minister whose vocation is a call to peace and justice.

While working as a parish minister, he wrote and performed a one-person play depicting Dietrich Bonhoeffer in his German prison cell. Later he served as a hospital chaplain, allowing him more freedom to perform, but finally Al left the pastoral ministry for a full-time ministry through performance. His one-man plays continue to bring characterizations of great voices for justice from our past to life—including Oscar Romero, Thomas Merton, and Clarence Jordan—allowing their words to continue to speak to issues today.

His uncanny impersonation in “Clarence Jordan and the God Movement” has brought Clarence’s teachings to new audiences. Mastering the nuances of tone, mannerisms, and humor, evoking memories from those who knew him best, including Clarence’s children. This September, Al will bring his entertaining and inspiring talent to the 2012 Celebration, and enact Clarence’s words and character on the opening night of the Clarence Jordan Symposium, making Clarence himself one of the weekend’s first speakers. You’re invited.

CUT ME OUT

MAIL ME IN!

\* Online Registration available at [www.koinonia2012celebration.org](http://www.koinonia2012celebration.org).

I would like to register for:

- ☐ Clarence Jordan Symposium  
☐ Renovation Blitz Build  
☐ Koinonia Family Reunion

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\* List additional registrants in “Notes” below.

\* If registering 10 or more, please call.

### CLARENCE JORDAN SYMPOSIUM, see p. 4

#### Full Weekend

Adult \$195  
 Student \$150

#### Additional Options

☐ “Glory Man” ticket \$25  
☐ I would like a vegetarian meal

#### Seminar Sessions

Session 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Session 2 \_\_\_\_\_

### RENOVATION BLITZ BUILD, see p. 5

Price \_\_\_\_\_ Project \_\_\_\_\_

### KOINONIA FAMILY REUNION, see p. 6

Adult \$70  
 (No charge for children) Dates / Years at Koinonia \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT

Extra Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Registration Fees** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Check / MO (Payable to Koinonia Farm)  
☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ Discover  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### HOUSING

Housing costs are additional. We’d love to have as many of you as possible stay with us. We’re taking reservations until we’re full.

Visit our 2012 Web site to request housing and to see a list of area hotels.

### NOTES

REGISTRATION FORM



## IN A NUTSHELL: THE STORY OF KOINONIA

Koinonia, Greek for loving community, was founded in 1942 to be a “demonstration plot for the Kingdom of God,” sharing resources, work, and prayer much like the early Christian example found in the Book of Acts.

Our most deeply held beliefs are drawn from Jesus' teachings—peacemaking, radical sharing, and brother/sisterhood among people. In the 1950s and 60s, Koinonia was fiercely reviled by many for these beliefs. Enduring violence and rejection even from local churches, Koinonia survived only by God's faithful protection. Our mail-order pecan business brought us through years of local boycott, and it remains our main source of income today.

Koinonia is also a haven of down-to-earth theology. Founding member Clarence Jordan was a farmer and a Greek scholar. He penned the “Cotton Patch Version” into South Georgia vernacular, seeking to place the New Testament scripture in the ‘here and now’ of his day. His books and lively sermons are still beloved today, and his version of Matthew continues to be produced on stage as the “Cotton Patch Gospel” Musical.

Our life of service has taken various forms through the years. In the early days, we extended friendship to our neighbors, mostly Black sharecroppers and tenant farmers. Partnership Housing, which later became Habitat for Humanity, was born here to help neighbors afford decent, simple homes.

Our current works include sustainable agriculture, local ministries, internship program, educational offerings and, as always, welcoming people to walk with us on this journey.

Come join our story!

## REGENERATIVE GRASSLANDS: BEARING HEALTHY SOILS AGAIN

BY SARAH PRENDERGAST

IN 2008, WHEN WE RECOMMITTED to SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, we had our work cut out for us in the pasture fields. The land was in need of healing. Three years ago we converted these 80-acres to an intensively managed pasture system for grass-fed beef cattle. Through Permaculture Design and Holistic Management practices, we are restoring the natural balance of this field.

Establishing ponds and swales along the keylines allows us to passively irrigate and mitigate erosion at the same time. Many volunteer pecan seedlings have sprouted, and we have planted hundreds of other trees. One pond site is well-established and is home to thousands of happy frogs.

We've also seen a vast increase in the number of bird species around the field, including blue herons, migratory

Canadian geese, and even a bald eagle.

We have come so far, but still have a long way to go in order to demonstrate biological solutions for our farming neighbors in the South. We still need to establish better drought-tolerant, warm season grasses, especially as we head into our sixth straight year of summer drought conditions.

In addition to cover cropping and mob grazing, we have also begun applying compost tea, a concentrated extract of high-quality compost that raises the content of organic matter and beneficial microorganisms in the soil.

This year we are partnering with the Fuller Center for Housing to offer a unique way to support a greener planet. You can help, too! You have two options: Sponsor our Regenerative Grasslands project or sponsor tree plantings in La Florida, Peru.

By sponsoring an acre of pasture, a few shade trees, or an application of compost tea, you can help us restore Koinonia soil to good health and you can work to eliminate your carbon footprint in the process. It is estimated that an acre of grass can sequester 80-170 tons of carbon dioxide per year when it is part of an intensively managed, regenerative system.

Offset your carbon footprint and help us heal the Koinonia land:

Sponsor an acre of grass for \$20

Sponsor the establishment of three pasture trees for \$12

Fund a year of compost tea applications for \$240

If you'd like to take part in this program, visit [www.koinonia2012celebration.org/](http://www.koinonia2012celebration.org/) symposium to learn more. Be sure to note your donation is for “Carbon Offset.”

## YUM!

BY KAT MOURNIGHAN

TWICE A DAY WE GATHER AT THE COFFEE HOUSE for fellowship and a short break. As we pass by the bakery, delightful aromas escape through the windows, filling the air and teasing our senses. It's a sure sign that a delicious treat awaits us. No wonder Geneva Brown, our baker, is one of the most popular people around the farm.

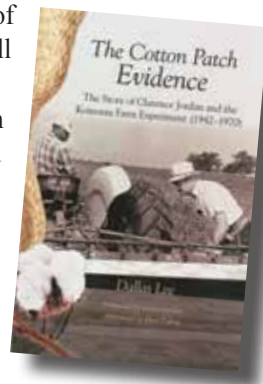
We hope you enjoy our goodies as much as we do! This year we've added some new items to our catalog and increased our Fair Trade items. We're a proud supporter of the Fair Trade movement and an advocate for the social justice it promotes. And, of course, remember that you'll find more than food in our catalog. We sell books, CDs, DVDs, crafts and more.

If you haven't already heard, we published a reprint of “The Cotton Patch Evidence,” with a new forward by Lenny Jordan and an afterword by our director Bren Dubay.

If you enjoy receiving our goodies, we hope you'll consider helping us grow our business. The busier we are throughout the year, the more resources we have to support the good work we do. One way you can help is to suggest our products to friends and associates. Help grow the number of businesses who give Koinonia gifts to their clients by asking them to contact Kat Mournighan at 229-924-0391 or [kat@koinoniapartners.org](mailto:kat@koinoniapartners.org).

You can also help by ordering from Koinonia all year-round. Our goodies are just as yummy in July as they are in December. To help motivate you, we're offering a special discount for all orders placed before September. Go online or give us a call today and use the discount code “2012newspaper” to get a 15% discount on your order.

One more exciting bit of news to share — our new Web site and Online store goes into operation by late-fall. It will be easier to navigate and prettier as well. Give it a try this fall, let us know what you think. And, of course, restock your Koinonia goodie supply again before the busy season.



READ MORE.

ARTICLES, PHOTOS,  
AND MORE AVAILABLE  
ON OUR FACEBOOK  
PAGE.

JOIN THE  
CONVERSATION!



/Koinoniafarm  
@KoinoniaFarm

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PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



## COME WALK WITH US



There are two ways to come and walk with us for a while: As a visitor, or a seasonal intern. The seasonal internship is a spiritually formative, structured program lasting roughly three months and introducing the individual to the prayer, work, study, service, and fellowship of the community. It is also the first step in our process to membership.

Seasonal interns who desire a longer period of spiritual formation in the community may petition to become a community intern. This is a one-year commitment.

After the one-year internship, by invitation and affirmation of the community, a community intern may become a first-year novice, or exploring member. This first year is to discern whether one is being called long-term to this way of

life in the koinonia.

After completing this first year, a person may be invited to become a provisional member, or a novice. The novitiate is a final period of time to discern full membership in the koinonia and lasts for a minimum of two years.

When ready, the person may be invited to pass from provisional membership to full membership, becoming a steward. A steward enters into a covenant that promises a life-long commitment.

There are also non-communal members called partners. Partners support and actively participate in Koinonia's mission and vision in a role more focused on the work of the farm.