From the Coast to the Mountains
Happiness Retreat Ministry
Celebrates 40 years

Fort Caswell
On Aug 15-17, 1974, The Baptist State Convention of NC started it’s first ministry event for Special Ministries, Happiness Retreat. This first camp was at the Baptist Assembly, Fort Caswell, NC. With Maurice Cooper and the help of Doris Morgan, they had about 60 total attendance.
NC Baptist Assembly -
Fort Caswell Aug 14-16, 1975
Doris Morgan was Camp Director.
This year William (Bill) Voorhes and Puppet Joey was introduced as worship leaders.
Second year was as successful as the first and the camp grew.
Aug 12-14, 1976
NC Baptist Assembly - Fort Caswell

Happiness Retreat
“Celebrate Our Country”
with the theme
Bicentennial 1776-1976.
Doris Morgan was camp director and
William Voorhes was the camp pastor.
Aug 15-17, 1977
Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC
The camp moved to Caraway RA
Camp at Caraway near Asheboro, NC

Near setting brought more camper. Theme for this year “God's World” Doris Morgan was Camp Director Maurice Cooper was Camp Pastor
Aug 14-16, 1978
Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC
The camp is at Caraway RA
Camp again
near Asheboro, NC
This year is the first time for
Talent Show Special Ministries.
Doris Morgan was Camp Director
Maurice Cooper was Camp Pastor
Aug 13-15, 1979
NC Baptist Assembly - Caswell
Theme “Oh, How He Loves You and Me! “

Camp Director—Tom Roberts
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes

Back to Caswell!
Patsy Koutsogeorgas and Neal Peyton attend first time
Aug 20-22, 1980
Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC
The camp is Caraway RA Camp near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Tom Roberts
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes

81 campers 21 staff
Aug 17-19, 1981
Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC
The camp is Caraway RA Camp near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Tom Roberts
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes

Theme “In Christ Shall all be made Alive “
(preprinted bulletin)
78 campers
Aug 16-18, 1982
Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC
The camp is Caraway RA Camp near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Susan Reed
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
80 campers

Western Happiness Retreat began this year at Camp Truitt
Western Happiness Retreat began this year at Camp Truitt in Hayesville. Currently this is still a Western Happiness. It is usually the first weekend of June. About 100 campers and chaperones attend. Lester Evans is the camp director.
More pictures
Western Happiness Retreat at Camp Truitt
Need a ride up and down the mountain
Aug 15-17, 1983
Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC
The camp is Caraway RA Camp near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Susan Reed
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Aug 13-15, 1984
NC Baptist Assembly - Caswell
Camp Director—Susan Reed
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes

120 campers, 30 faculty
50 chaperones

Gene Nabi attends, nice story submitted to Biblical Recorder
### 1984 Happiness Retreat Faculty

**Group #1**  
Barbara Combs, Leader  
Charlotte Fletcher  
Nancy Hudson  

**Group #2**  
Patsy Koutsogeorgas, Leader  
Tony Voorhes  
Dawn Garrison  

**Group #3**  
Tom Roberts, Leader  
Doris Morgan  
Gwen Tyndall  

**Group #4**  
Frances Arnett, Leader  
Gaynelle Bryan  
Debbie Overton  

**Group #5**  
Patsy Adcock, Leader  
Rennie Adcock  
Christi Rogers  

**Group #6**  
Mike Bradshaw, Leader  
Jody Block  
Patsy Collins  
Jackie Davis  
Rose Forrest  
John Voorhes  

**Group #7**  
Fori McLean, Leader  
Bruce Pistole  
Cindy Taylor  

**Group #8**  
Marie Willis, Leader  
John Totten  
Patricia Wyckoff  

**Group #9**  
Dorothy Powers, Leader  
Ron Huber  
Thelma Lewis  

**Group for Parents & Teachers**  
Gene Nabi  
Sunday School Board  
Nashville, Tennessee  

**Vesper Services**  
Bill Voorhes  
New Bern  

**Music Leader**  
Rennie Adcock  
Gastonia  

**Special Music**  
Spirit Singers  
Caswell Center, Kinston  
Ben Ramsaur, Director  
Ron Cyr, Chaplain  

**Lisa Caudle**  
Raleigh  

**Martha Arnold**  
Raleigh  

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Aug 13-15, 1984  
NC Baptist Assembly - Caswell  
Camp Director—Susan Reed  
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes  
Staff for 1984
Aug 19-23, 1985
Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC
The camp is Caraway RA Camp near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Susan Reed
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Theme “Jesus, Our Special Friend”
HR 1 - 151 people Hr 2 - 96
First time to have 2 retreats, perhaps the first T shirt
From this year forward Camp is held at
Caraway Conference Center
Aug 18-22, 1986
Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC
The camp is Caraway RA Camp
near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Tom Roberts
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Cost $49 per person
Aug 17-21, 1987
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC
near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Bill Voorhes
Camp Pastor—Bill Voorhes
HR 1 - 145 people HR 2 - 134
Some stayed in cabins and some stayed in the conference center
Aug 15-19, 1988
Caraway conference Center,
Sophia, NC
near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—William Voorhes
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Theme “Jesus Helps Me”
HR 1 - 136 people HR 2 - 106
138 campers 104 others
Aug 15-19, 1989
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC
near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—William Voorhes
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Music—Jim Burnett, music

Theme “God is Love”
HR 1 - 150 people HR 2 - 134
165 campers
Aug 13-17, 1990
Caraway Conference Center, Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—William Voorhes
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Music—Jim Burnett/Ben Ramsaur

Theme “Lifted by His Word”
HR 1 - 172 people HR 2 - 124

Group leaders: Eddie Brackett, Jim Burnett, Judy Dennis, Pat Hawkins, Ron Huber, Patsy Koutsogeorgas, Myra Robinson, Patsy Adcock.

First Time Brian Caldwell attended.
Worship and party in the old Gym
Aug 12-16, 1991
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC
near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—William Voorhes
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Theme “His Friends Forever”

HR 1 - 166  HR 2 - 164
Cost about $45 per person
Aug 10-14, 1992
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC
near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—William Voorhes
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Music—Ben Ramsaur music
Theme “Precious in His Sight”
HR 1 - 163  HR 2 - 165
Aug 9-13, 1993
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC
near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—William Voorhes
Camp Pastor—William Voorhes
Music—Tom Jordon

Theme—Happiness is in the Son

HR 1 - 213     HR 2 - 197

Long Time Friends
1994

Aug 8-12, 1994
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Betty Hill
Camp Pastor—Betty Hill

Theme—Footsteps of Jesus

HR 1 - 208    HR 2 - 232
Cost about $60 per person. First year did not use the camp side for sleeping. Used gym for party.
Aug 14-18, 1995
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC
Camp Director—Betty Hill
Camp Pastor—Marji and Roma
was a man (dressed like a clown) and woman who first sang

*I Am Somebody*

Theme—Jesus Helps Me
HR 1 - 220    HR 2 - 237
Aug 12-16, 1996
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Betty Hill
Camp Pastor—Tom Jordan

Theme “Go For the Goal With Christ”
HR1 - 221    HR 2 - 211
Cost about $65 per person
Looks like the first time used
LifeWay VBS Theme
Aug 11-15, 1997
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Betty Hill
Camp Pastor—Bill Vorhees

Theme “Good News Round Up”
HR 1 - 214   HR 2 - 229

Cost about $65 per person.

So many attended had to use
Mundo Vista rooms
Aug 8-14, 1998 (3 retreats)
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Betty Hill
Camp Pastor—Carlton McDaniels Sr.
Theme “Exploring Our Mission With Jesus”
HR 1 - 129; HR 2 - 186; HR 3 - 163
Cost about $65 per person
This is the year 3 retreats started.
Aug 7-13 1999 (3 retreats)
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor—Lester Evans,
Brian Caldwell.
Jim Burnett music
Theme”Mt Extreme -
Climbing to New Heights with Jesus”
HR 1 - 122; HR 2 - 218; HR - 3 130
Cost about $60 per person.
First year Donnie Wiltshire attended
Aug 5-11, 2000 (3 retreats)
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor—Bill Voorhes;
Band for the first time of Ben Ramsaur,
Brian Caldwell, Carlton McDaniel,
Jim Burnett
Theme “Good News Ocean Odyssey”
HR 1 - 150; HR 2 - 218; HR 3 - 174 = 542
Cost about $70 per person
2001

July 28-August 3, 2001
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor—Gene Nabi;
Music- Ben Ramsaur, Brian Caldwell,
Carlton McDaniel, Jim Burnett

Theme “Truth Trackers and the Secret of the Stone Tablets”
Total all three campes 496
Large article in the BR
Cost about $75 per person
2002

July 27-August 2, 2002
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor—Carlton McDaniels Sr.
Band—Ben Ramsaur, Brian Caldwell,
Carlton McDaniels,
Jim Burnett
Theme”Amazon Outfitters,
On expedition with the One True God”
Hr 1 - 215; HR2 - 170; HR 3 - 189 = 574
Cost about $80 per person
2003

July 26- August 1, 2000
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor Carlton McDaniel, Sr
Band—Ben Ramsaur,
Brian Caldwell,
Carlton McDaniel, Jim Burnett

Theme “The Great Kingdom Caper,
Cracking the Character Code”
HR 1 - 233; HR 2 - 193;
HR 3 - 183 = 609
Cost about $80 per person
July 24-July 30, 2004
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC
Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor—Carlton McDaniels, Sr
Band—Ben Ramsaur, Brian Caldwell,
Carlton McDaniel, Jim Burnett
Theme “Far-Out Far East Rickshaw Rally,
Racing to the Son”

HR 1 - 221; HR 2 - 208; HR 3 - 178 = 607
Cost about $85 per person
July 23 - July 29, 2005
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor—Lester Evans,
Brian Caldwell. Jim Burnett music

Theme “Happiness Road Trip,
Psalms 25:4 Which Way Do I Go?”

Hr 1 - 237; HR 2 - 235;
HR 3 - 204 = 676
Cost about $90 per person
2006

July 28 - August 6, 2006 (4 retreats)
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Worship led by Drama team
Music Happiness Band
Brian Caldwell, Brooks Bristow,
Craig Autry, Jeff Smith, Eric Vernon

Theme “Arctic Edge,
Where Adventure Meets Courage”
Total attendance 746
July 28 - August 6, 2007
Caraway Conference Center, Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor Donnie Wiltshire
Theme”Game Day Central, Where Heroes are Made”

Total attendance 760
Cost about $110 per person
July 25-August 3, 2008
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC
Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor—Donnie Wiltshire
Theme”Outrigger Islands,
Living God's Unshakeable Truth”
Total attendance 763
Cost about $115 per person
July 24-August 2, 2009
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC
Camp Director—Judy Autry
Camp Pastor—Chris Autry
Music Happiness Band

Theme “Boomerang Express,
It all Comes Back to Jesus”

Total attendance 691
Friends of Happiness began
Cost about $155 per person
Forgiven many times by Grace!

Born without the ability to speak

Severe mental retardation and autism

Not welcomed at other churches before

How Great is Our GOD!

God said, “I have a place for you!”

Let love to others lives more
2009

More...
2010

**Happiness Retreat**

July 23-August 1, 2010
Caraway Conference Center, Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC

Camp Director—Judy Autry
Pastor—Donnie Wiltshire
Music Happiness Band
Brian Caldwell, Brooks Bristow, Craig Autry, Jeff Smith, Eric Vernon

Theme “Saddle Ridge Ranch, Drivin' Home Answers”

Total attendance 683
Friends of Happiness made their first contribution Cost about $165 per person
July 22-July 31, 2011
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC
Camp Director—Judy Autry
Pastor—Steve Sumeral, Chris Autry, Brian Caldwell
Music Happiness Band
Brian Caldwell, Brooks Bristow, Craig Autry, Jeff Smith, Eric Vernon
Theme ”Big Apple Adventure, Where Faith and Life Connect”
Total attendance 682
Cost about $170 per person
July 20-July 29, 2012
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC
Camp Director—Judy Autry
Pastors—Steve Sumeral, Ken Tan
Music Happiness Band
Brian Caldwell, Brooks Bristow,
Craig Autry, Jeff Smith, Eric Vernon
Theme “Amazing Wonders Aviation,
Encountering God's Awesome Power”
Total attendance 685
Cost about $170 per person
July 19-28, 2013
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC
Camp Director—Judy Autry
Pastors—Neal Eller, Ken Tan

Music Happiness Band
Brian Caldwell, Brooks Bristow,
Craig Autry, Jeff Smith, Eric Vernon

Theme”Colossal Coaster World,
Facing Fear, Trusting God”
Total attendance 646
Worship past to present

1974 Worship Time

1982 Worship Time by the lake at Caraway

2002 Worship Time

We sing praises to God.

Present Happiness Retreat Band and Singers
More Worship past to present

We sing praises to God and share the word through Drama.
More photos

Spirit Desk and Interviews
More photos

Smiles and more smiles

Happiness Retreat

40 Years of
More photos
More photos

Friends and Family for Life.
Friends and Family for Life.
July 25-August 3, 2014
Caraway Conference Center,
Sophia, NC near Asheboro, NC
Camp Director—Judy Autry
Pastors—Donnie Wiltshire

Music Happiness Band
Brian Caldwell, Chris Thompson,
Craig Autry, Matt Lett, Eric Vernon

Theme”Agency 3D Discover, Decide, Defend”
Total attendance 680 for all

Donnie Wiltshire, Baptist State Convention Special Needs Consultant, Neal Peyton, Retired Special Ministries Consultant and wife JoAnn,
Celebrating 40 years of history.
The quilt was made by a lady from Charlotte for Cornerstone Baptist Church
Special Ministries class.
It is 25 of the shirts from the past Happiness Retreats.
2014

Mary Marks and Eric Vernon Staff accepted the Coldwater Challenge and raised $847 for Friends of Happiness
2014

Sam the Service for one of the young campers
First Night Worship—Looking back at 40 years of Happiness

Pastor—Rev. Donnie Wiltshire and
Special Guest Speakers:
Happiness Retreat 1—Dr. Brian Davis
Happiness Retreat 2—Dr Lynn Sasser
Happiness Retreat 3—Dr. Ken Tan
Happiness Retreat 4—Rev. Neal Peyton

Music Happiness Band
Worship Leader: Brian Caldwell, with Brooks Bristow, Craig Autry, Matt Lett, Eric Vernon, Chris Thompson
Singers: Scott Hurdt, Dale Harris, Jennifer Cook, Darlene Ponder
Drama Team: Frank Thompson and Hayli Ryan
Camp Director—Judy Autry