

Louisiana Fellowship People

April-May-June 2013 Vol 20, No. 2
cbfla.org

Rooted in Love,
Growing in Joy
Spring Conference May 17-18

You received Christ Jesus, the Master; now live him. You're deeply rooted in him...let your living spill over into thanksgiving. *Colossians 2:6-7 The Message*



New National Coordinator Suzii Paynter speaks at Friday dinner and at concluding lunch on Saturday.

Spring Conference - Broadmoor Baptist, Baton Rouge

Friday May 17

9:00-2:00 – LaPlace – Disaster Relief Opportunity
4:30 – Coordinating Council & Pre-conference Business Meeting
6:00 – Registration & Fellowship
6:30 – Conference begins with Banquet featuring Suzii Paynter

Saturday May 18

8:00 – Complimentary Continental Breakfast
8:30 – Rotating Small Group Sessions:
* Global Missions with Romany * Together for Hope
* Disaster Response * Missional Church Now
12:00 – Lunch featuring Suzii Paynter

REGISTER On-Line Here .



Winds of the Spirit

Reid Doster, CBF-LA Coordinator

What Kind of Tracks?



Perhaps you've not yet run across this attention grabbing, thought provoking parody that would make even Elijah proud! Read carefully, and do not assume you already know what it says:

One night I had a wondrous dream, two sets of footprints there were seen.

My Lord and I walked hand and hand, and left our footprints in the sand.

But, as I watched our tracks progress, suddenly to my great distress

Only one set of footprints I did see and wondered where my Lord's might be.

So, I asked Him why, when I needed Him most, I would be abandoned by the Lord of Hosts?

He said, "My precious child, I thought you knew. That was when I carried you."

But then some stranger prints appeared, so I asked the Lord, "What have we here?"

Those prints are large and round and neat, but Lord they are too big for feet."

"My child," He said in somber tones, "For miles I carried you alone.

I challenged you to walk in faith, but often you refused and made me wait.

THE LEAST OF THESE – they needed care, but you were selfish and wouldn't share.

You disobeyed, you would not grow. The walk of faith, you would not know.

So, I got tired. I'd had enough, and dropped you hard, right on your duff.

For there comes a time when you can't just ride. Yes, there comes a time when you must decide.

Either rise and take a courageous stand, or just leave your butt-prints in the sand."

By the way, if you feel this parody is a bit indelicate, consider certain confrontations uttered by Elijah (e.g. 1Kings 18:25) and later by Jesus, whom some people apparently thought might be Elijah reincarnated!

I remember one of those times when I, too, got dropped hard on my duff. Stuck in the sand, staring at my navel, ruminating about how messed up the world is, I wallowed in a pathetic sense of inadequacy to make any real difference. That's when something like a movie started running in my head: I pictured Jesus walking away from me and, glancing over His shoulder, whispering, "I want you to stop whining. Seriously. STOP." My first instinct was self-defense: "But, Lord, what more can You ask? I mean, I really do believe in You!" But, suddenly, some words from James made my bubble burst: "You believe in God? Good

for you! Even the demons believe in God ... and they shudder (James 2:18-20)." I blurted: "You mean there's more?" His response: "Reid, some of your friends figured that out a long time ago."

So, I started poking around and learned there really is more. For example, our CBF Louisiana Treasurer, Kenny Crump, is passionate about the KAIROS prison ministry. Also, he and Shirley have been to China eleven times to teach English in various settings.

Church for the Highlands, Shreveport, has installed a very low-fee ATM machine in their facility to combat the greed of gougers and sharks preying upon the poor in their neighborhood. They recently provided a micro-loan for a lady who is starting a hair salon in the church facility, with a sliding fee-scale!



Monica Grant, Church for the Highlands Member, started hair salon "Monica's Mane Ministry" through a micro-loan from the church. Here she cuts the hair of CFTH Pastor and CBF-LA Moderator John Henson.

Kind folks from Broadmoor Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, recently helped distribute food in LaPlace, while Hurricane Isaac's floodwaters were still receding. Emmanuel Baptist Church, Alexandria, each year hosts The Pilgrimage to Bethlehem, which offers a guided tour through a replica of Bethlehem and a live re-enactment of key events surrounding Jesus' birth. Last Christmas, this one event attracted over 3,000 visitors and Emmanuel is already gearing up for this year's event. The commitment of so many is truly awe-inspiring.

An enthusiastic group from Mulberry Baptist Church, Houma, has been to Timonette, Haiti, four times to help construct a new village, with its own micro-economy, for survivors of the 2010 magnitude 7.0 earthquake that killed hundreds of thousands and left as many homeless. This past January, they took with them a dentist and a nurse.

Haynes Avenue Baptist Church has repeatedly transported groups to Lake Providence to assist with book bag distribution and other acts of kindness expressed through our Together for Hope mission. New Life Community Church, Alexandria, is supporting a work in Mexico. I worshipped this past Sunday at St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church and was handed their 2013 Mission Action Committee Calendar. How awesome! Throughout the year, they are gathering and sharing food, paper and plastic products, hygiene items, school supplies, clothing and gifts for "the least of these."

So many have discovered there is MORE, but what about you? Maybe it boils down to this --- when you come to the end of your earthly journey and look behind you, what kind of tracks do you want to see?

In His Love, *Reid*



It's finally Spring here in Lake Providence! Check out Together for Hope - Louisiana Facebook to see pictures of the spring flowers blooming at the Mission House. It's amazing what God can create without any help from us!



Also amazing is the love and care the youth from Church for the Highlands and the WMU group from Shades Crest Baptist Church (Birmingham, AL) recently demonstrated here in Lake Providence! Church for the Highlands sent some of their youth and adults to put a HUGE dent in the "Punch List" for the Mission House. The women from Shades Crest put together 300 goodie bags to encourage reading for all of our Kindergarten, First grade, and Second grade students. They even provided gifts for the teachers to celebrate all their hard work thus far this school year!



Missionary Jenny Hodge recently visited Shreveport to speak to groups from First Baptist, Haynes Ave. Baptist and Church for the Highlands.

Want to get involved with Together for Hope -

Louisiana? We have many options, but consider these two first! Our first item is supporting and joining in on the fun of Bags of Hope 2013! Bags of Hope is the annual school supply for the students of East Carroll and Tensas Parish. This event is made possible by the generous support and donations from local community members and churches, AS WELL as you all Fellowship of Louisiana folks! Please begin praying how you and your congregation can partner with us in providing needed school supplies to our wonderful students.

Our second option is considering becoming a member of the Together for Hope - Louisiana's Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will be instrumental in supporting and engaging in the work of Together for Hope - Louisiana by advising and planning with the Together for Hope - Louisiana's Missionary regarding activities and initiatives, particularly those involving Fellowship churches! Members will accomplish this by: attending a once a year in-person meeting and monthly conference call/emails with Missionary, praying for Together for Hope - Louisiana and our Missionary, committing annually to bringing a group (any size – 2 or more) from your church to East Carroll/Tensas Parish, and assisting in resource development for Together for Hope - Louisiana initiatives and activities. We will have more information to share about the Advisory Committee and its vital work at the Fellowship's Spring Conference May 17th - 18th!

Destination Lake Providence

Our mission house is now an excellent choice for youth, adult and family retreats/mission trips as the Church for the Highlands youth group learned on a two night stay at Spring break.

This group worked hard painting, with time for playing, eating and sharing in devotionals together.

See them at right, painting and panning for the camera, above, testing out the new garden box, and far right roasting marshmallows.

Contact Jenny to schedule your group at: 318-418-5133 or hodgejv@gmail.com.



The Fellowship

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Louisiana

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cbfla.org

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**Together for
Hope Hot Sauce**
2 for \$10, \$60 per
case. We deliver!

Bottled right in Lake Providence, it
tastes great, helps the local
economy and supports our
Together for Hope work.
Contact Jenny or Kyle.



Volunteer Opportunity in LaPlace - Disaster Relief

May 17, 9AM-2PM

in conjunction with
CBF-LA
Spring Conference

Sign up at cbfla.org or
contact Reid at:
985-778-6049 or
reid.cbflouisiana@gmail.com

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John Henson, Moderator; Terry Ellis, Moderator-Elect;

Chris Thacker, Past Moderator and National CBF Representative

CBF-LA Receipts	Jan-March	Fiscal Year 7-1-12 to 6-30-13
Undesignated	\$13,717.19	\$53,773.63
Together for Hope	\$2,183.34	\$13,955.14
Missionary Fund	\$20,000	\$31,875.00
Other	\$30	\$5,000.00
TOTAL	\$35,930.53	\$104,603.77



Picture God's Love
Give to CBF-LA



I want to be part of something new God is doing through CBF-LA:

___ CBF-LA Ministry Budget \$ _____ ___ New Church Start \$ _____
___ Together for Hope Rural Poverty \$ _____ ___ Disaster Relief \$ _____
___ Hope (Missionary) Fund \$ _____ Other: _____ \$ _____

Your name (please print) _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Make checks payable to CBF of Louisiana, 2220 South Vienna Street, Ruston, LA 71270

You may also give on-line at cbfla.org.