

Stagg-Tolbert Biblical Forum

September 17- University Baptist in Baton Rouge



Bill Leonard comes to Louisiana!

A favorite of many across our Fellowship, Bill Leonard is a preacher, scholar and church historian with the gift of humor, clarity and inspiration.

Give your brain some exercise, and your heart some nourishment. Get more details and [REGISTER NOW ON LINE HERE](#)

Louisiana
Fellowship
People

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Faces of Hope

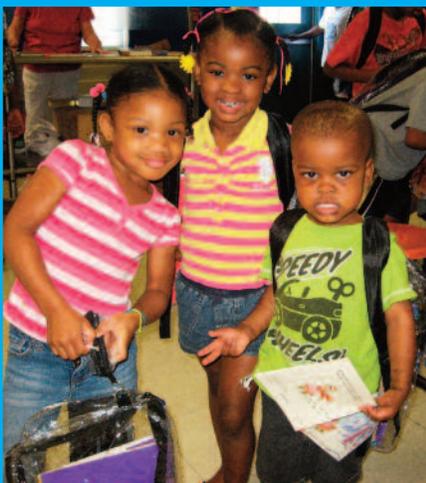


Faces sometimes tell it all. See it in the group hug at left by youth from Haynes Avenue Baptist Church, Shreveport. See it in the families below who were grateful recipients. There was joy, grace, yes...and hope all around at Bags of Hope this year.

God's love was shared as 1,030 back packs with school supplies were handed out to students in need in Lake Providence and another 400 or so went to students in Tensas thanks to combined efforts of CBF churches around the state as well as local churches, merchants and individuals. Over 30 volunteers including local teachers were in the thick of it.

It has been an exhilarating three months as the Together for Hope ministry has grown in activities and our mission house is shaping up to be the inviting haven of love that honors Christ.

Learn more about Bags of Hope, Camp, Football Clinic, etc and ways you can help at our website [here](#).



Called by God. Yes, ma'am, we are!

by Stephanie Vance, CBF-LA Missionary

Whew! This Spring and Summer has been a whirlwind of activity, prayer, preparation, and good old volunteerism at its best in Lake Providence. Groups from Alabama and all over Louisiana have been partnering with our local folks to meet the needs of this great community.

One of the folks we partnered with is Ms Annie Bailey. Ms Annie has spent most of her adult life taking care of people, including fostering over 50 children over the years and working in the high school cafeteria for 35 of those years. A few years ago, she lost a leg due to a chronic condition and has lost a lot of her independence. In June, the young people of Pulaski Heights Baptist Church of Little Rock painted her house as part of their week of ministry.

They weren't able to replace some siding on her house that had softened over the years. Enter Motorcycles on Mission from First Baptist Church of Madison, AL. Three men, along with my parents, replaced the siding and painted that corner of the house. They also spent a little time strengthening a handrail and securing her wheelchair ramp. Her response was that all of those who worked on her house were "angels from God." I assured her that these were regular folks and she came back with a statement that often is said about the work we do in our communities. She said that we were called by God. Yes, ma'am, we are!

We are called to work in the heat playing kickball with kids from the neighborhood as Pulaski Heights' young people did. We are called to drive three hours to lead high school football players in our third annual football clinic like the coaches and players from Arkansas Baptist College and to cook and serve hamburgers like Glenn Dixon from Lake Providence and the Kelley family from Shreveport.

We are called to take time out of our hectic days to give local businesses the opportunity to donate time, money and supplies for our 9th annual Bags of Hope book bag drive, just as the members of the local East Carroll Book Bag Committee did this Spring. They raised over \$3,000 for the students of East Carroll Parish.

We are called to spend a week of summer vacation to help a lone minister to buy, count, and sort school supplies, including 12,000 pencils, 3,000 pens, 1,800 spiral notebooks (you get the picture), just like the youth and adults from Haynes Avenue Baptist Church from Shreveport. There were over 30 volunteers from Broadmoor Baptist in Baton Rouge, Haynes Ave and Church for the Highlands in Shreveport, Temple Baptist in Ruston and thanks Reid Doster for also making the trek from South Louisiana!

We are called to be the ministers of God in all of these ways and many more. Thank you all for answering the call through your prayers, gifts, your presence and your hard work!



Stephanie teaches craft at recreation camp.



Shop talk at Lake Providence football clinic

Hope Fund 2012



Our goal: \$45,000

God has called us to a great work in Lake Providence. Invest now to move this work into the future.

Consider a line item in your church budget, make an individual pledge for the coming year. Give online [here](#) or contact us at cbflouisiana@gmail.com or 985-778-6049.



Winds of the Spirit

Reid Doster, CBF-LA Coordinator

We are looking for at least one person in each of our CBF-affiliated churches who is willing to keep up-to-date on the plethora of rich resources, programs, activities and ministry opportunities offered through The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

If willing, you can function as an advocate for CBF within your local congregation. For example, you can suggest to your church's leaders that they:

- * Offer missions moments in worship, mentioning a prayer request from one of CBF's field personnel blogs.
- * Include CBF field personnel and their requests and birthdays in Wednesday night prayer meetings.
- * Volunteer your church as host for a state or regional CBF gathering.
- * Request CBF speakers for your church, for missions events or pulpit supply.
- * Include the CBF logo on your church's website or church sign.
- * Request an intern through the CBF Collegiate Congregational internship, or a Student.Go missions worker.
- * Encourage a mission trip to Lake Providence and spend a night or two in our Mission House.
- * Make CBF a line-item in your church's budget.

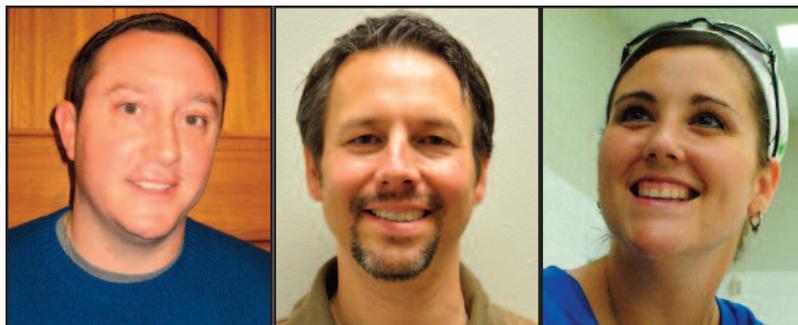
To get a better feel for the advocate role, there are six brief on-line videos describing what it means. These training videos are available by clicking [here](#), then enter the username "webmaster@ thefellowship.info" and password "thegreatestislove."



Ralph Blake

Randall Cope

Victor Dennis



Chris Thacker

John Henson

Shannon Rutherford

We are proud to recognize that our three new regional coordinating council members have also stepped forward both to serve as CBF Advocates in their local congregations and to help recruit at

least one advocate in each congregation in their region. These wonderful people are:

- * Ralph Blake, Church for the Highlands, Shreveport
- * Victor Dennis, Pineville Park Baptist Church, Pineville
- * Randall Cope, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Baton Rouge

What about you and your church? If you sense God's calling to fill this vital role in your congregation, first discuss it with your pastor and then call me at (985) 778-6049 or email me at reid.cbflouisiana@gmail.com.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Mike Massar and Griff Martin as new co-pastors of University Baptist Church, Baton Rouge. I met with Mike and Griff two weeks ago and sensed from them a sincere appreciation for The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. We are blessed to call them "family." To learn more about these fine pastors, click [here](#). Pray for them as they lay the foundation for years of compassionate ministry in Baton Rouge.

In His Love,
Reid



The Louisiana Fellowship welcomes Rev. Griff Martin, left, and Dr. Mike Massar, right, as the new Co-Pastors of University Baptist Church in Baton Rouge.

New Leadership Positions

A revised governance structure was approved at Spring Conference which resulted in the election of 3 regional members of the Coordinating Council. Pictured at left are Ralph Blake serving the northern region, Randall Cope for the southern region and Victor Dennis for the central region.

These three together with the officers comprise the Coordinating Council. Moving into the Moderator position is Chris Thacker, to the Moderator-Elect position is John Henson and to the position of Representative to CBF National is Shannon Rutherford.

Kenny Crump remains as treasurer. Ted Holmes was recognized for his 15 years as secretary and will soon be stepping down. The Council is seeking someone now for that position. Past Moderators are Larry Davis and Mike Anderson.

Biographical information on our leaders is at our website page "CBF-LA Leadership/Contact Us" [here](#).

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beautiful fellowship. A happy addition was the glad faces of youth who participated with us in several mission projects for the weekend including planting a garden at the VOA Veteran's home, throwing a party for the VOA and Community Renewal afterschool programs, and pitching in to help Dress for Success for women entering the work force.



Veterans' Garden still thrives



Spring Conference report, pictures and recordings of faith stories are on-line [here](#).

Spring Conference 2011 was held at our new start **Church for the Highlands** in Shreveport. More than doubling attendance from last year, we celebrated our deep gladness in Christ which propels us to the world's deep hunger. We heard from community partners in ministry, listened to moving faith stories of our peers and drank in

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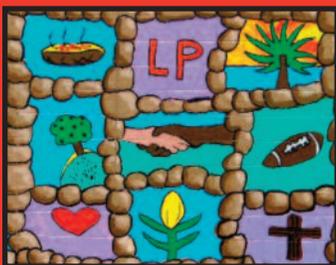
Stephanie Vance, Together for Hope Missionary

318-418-4075 sthepny@gmail.com

Chris Thacker, Moderator; John Henson, Moderator Elect

Larry Davis, Past Moderator; Shannon Rutherford, National CBF Rep.

CBF-LA Receipts	July 1 - Aug 6	Fiscal Year 7-1-11 to 6-30-12
Undesignated	\$6,090.03	\$6,090.03
Together for Hope	\$12,223.28	\$12,223.28
Missionary Fund	\$500.00	\$500.00
Other	\$10	\$10
TOTAL	\$18,823.31	\$18,823.31



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 \$ _____
 ___ 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 www.cbfla.org.