

Louisiana Fellowship People

Dec-Jan 2010/11
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cbfla.org



Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.



Romany "Hearing" Jesus for the First Time

For many Romany people, the Bible is unapproachable. With an oral rather than a written culture, Roma often must rely on what they hear about Jesus.

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel Keith Holmes and Mary van Rheenen, a husband and wife team living in the Netherlands, create Christian films, children's cartoons and audio recordings of the Bible in major Romany languages. And for the first time many Romany adults and children — often referred to as Gypsies — are finding hope in the Good News that God loves them.

When you give to the CBF offering for global Missions, you help change lives around the world. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Offering for Global Missions is a part of God's ongoing work in the world.

More than 135 CBF Global Missions field personnel are serving among some of the most neglected people in the world, and your gifts are needed to fund these life-changing ministries. These field personnel — called by God and sent by you and other Fellowship

Baptists — are touching lives through their long-term presence.

They are sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and action. You can help. You can do something. You can help be the compassionate presence of Christ by giving to the CBF Offering. The CBF Offering provides the financial support for many field personnel and keeps them on the ministry fields of our world.

100 percent of your gift to the CBF Offering will go to help people hear and experience the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Missionary Keith Holmes, seen here dubbing Bible story, is from Baton Rouge and his home church is University Baptist.

**Give generously through
your church or at
www.thefellowship.info**

CBF *Offering for*
GLOBAL MISSIONS 



Shannon Rutherford



Stephanie Vance

CBF-LA Women Leaders to be Ordained

We celebrate the hand of God on two women leaders of our Fellowship who will be ordained to the Gospel ministry in coming weeks.

Shannon Rutherford, CBF-LA Moderator, and Minister to College Students at University Baptist Church - Baton Rouge will be ordained at University on December 12 at 5pm.

Stephanie Vance, CBF-LA Missionary in the Together for Hope Rural Poverty Initiative, will be ordained at Emmanuel Baptist in Alexandria on January 15 at 2pm.

What a gift God has graced us with in the lives and dedication of these servants.



Houses for Haiti

A Happy Progression: At the top you see two of the 1.3 million in Haiti who still sleep in make shift "tents."

The middle picture shows the rebuilding of an earthquake resistant house using recycled rubble, sweat equity, and the resilience and hope of a devastated people.

The bottom picture is a completed house built in a safe and culturally appropriate way made possible through the gifts of many.



Baptist General Convention of Texas approached CBF to take the lead in this effort in partnership with Fuller Center for Housing and Conscience International.

Together these partners have a goal to build 1,000 homes in the next 3 years at \$3,000 each. Charles Ray and our own Reid Doster have been in the middle of this effort. Already individuals and churches in Louisiana have come forward to sponsor the building of several houses.



Are our dreams and visions as large as God would ask of us? We believe every church in Louisiana has the resources with God's help to raise the purchase price to build at least one house.

For more info contact Reid Doster at reid.cbflouisiana@gmail.com or 985-778-6049. Learn more at www.haitihousingnetwork.com.

Christmas in Lake Providence

A quick notice for those who can respond:

We recently learned of an opportunity to help senior citizens and children of prisoners in our Together for Hope Rural Poverty ministry. The following items are needed:

1. Senior Citizens -- Lap throws, towels (all sizes) soap, lotion, shampoo, face tissue, socks, sugar free candy
2. Children of Prisoners -- (In cooperation with the Sheriff) Toys and bicycles new or gently used, local folks will refurbish as needed.

We have a fast approaching deadline DECEMBER 13 to get these to Lake Providence. Contact Stephanie 318-418-4075 or sthepny@gmail.com as soon as possible to arrange delivery. Money will be accepted to buy items locally. Make check out to CBF-LA with memo "Christmas Emphasis."





STEPHANIE HAS MOVED IN!

Our mission house in Lake Providence is now a reality. We were able to pay cash due to a major gift from the First Baptist Shreveport Missionary Housing Fund and 2 anonymous donors. Praise God!

Thanks to all who have helped with work days. Check the website cbfla.org for more scheduled work days and an updated list of supplies/items needed for the mission house.



Invite Stephanie Vance to come speak to your mission group or preach to your congregation. At right, Stephanie visits with Monica Corbett after preaching at Broadmoor-Baton Rouge November 28.

Stagg-Tolbert Forum A Word for Us



Bowing or saluting?

There is a difference Dr. Terry York, above, so ably showed us at the Forum in his topic "Render to Caesar, Render to God." Transcripts of his words are at www.cbfla.org.



Dr. Dan Gibbs, Minister of Music at Church for the Highlands, shared his talents at the Forum and, in business, Chris Thacker was selected Moderator Elect.

It is just over two months since Church for the Highlands had its first official worship service in Shreveport at the Highland (Community) Center. Our little flock is averaging around 60 weekly with new visitors every service. What an exhilarating ride and learning curve in discerning God's unique call for us.

Our mission is to "bless the Highland neighborhood," to be the presence of Christ. We feel graced to be part of the Volunteers of America vision at the Highland Center. It is a beehive of activity and outreach to the area. In many ways the community comes to us. Our realization early on about this place was that the only missing piece was a vibrant congregation, and by God's mercy we were issued that charge.

We have been discovering what God is already doing here and working alongside others in their efforts. In our

Church FOR the Highlands

by Kyle Kelley



Prayer Walk and Canvassing we have gained new appreciation of the treasures and travails of our community. We support and enhance (not compete with) other agencies and churches in our area. Crop Walk, Meals on Wheels, Pet Blessing, Dressed for Success, Lighthouse, Trunk or Treat, ESL Tutoring, Thanksgiving Blessing, Friendship House, children's choir, financial services -- are all ministries we are partnering in with others and the list grows.

Pastor John Henson states he doesn't place himself in the position of giving permission for new ministries, but rather does his best to keep up with the rest of us in discovering where the Spirit will lead us next. Two of the latest endeavors pictured here are the "extreme makeover" of the children's area at Friendship House on Creswell completed over Thanksgiving break and practice for the children's musical "Shobi Shares a Miracle" set for December 12.



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.

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Louisiana
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www.cbfla.org

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**Come celebrate 20 years
 of the Fellowship.
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 June 22-25 Tampa, Florida**

CBF-LA Receipts	October	Fiscal Year 7-1-10 to 6-30-11
Undesignated	\$4,717.76	\$17,579.73
Together for Hope	\$416.67	\$11,911.53
Church Start	-	\$53,715.00
Other	\$10	\$600
TOTAL	\$5,144.43	\$83,806.26

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In that region there were shepherds,
 keeping watch over their flock by night.

Keeping watch. In darkest night.
 Far from hearth and home,
 stumbling on slumbering hill.

Then an angel stood before them, and
 the glory of the LORD shone all around,
 and they were terrified.

As are we, in the face of torturing
 headlines and threatening news.

As are we, when our lives
 detour into tangled terrain.

But the angel said,

*Do not be afraid, for I am bringing
 good news of great joy for all people.*

Upon a watchtower I stand, O God,
 continually by day and through the night.
 Then comes the news: the Empire is
 imploding and its gods lie in tatters.

Bring water to the thirsty, meet the fugitive
 with bread. In the days to come, the bent
 bow will relax, and the drawn sword will
 find its rest.

Sing choirs of angels. Sing in exultation!

**Oh Messenger of Mercy,
 draw near to our secret fear
 with joyful triumphant news
 of release from our grief.**

- Ken Sehested

inspired by Luke 2:8-15 & Lamentations 21:8-9, 14-15