



Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Louisiana

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A Word from Terry Ellis, CBF-LA Moderator

On behalf of CBF-LA, I received this morning, Reid Doster's resignation. As you can tell by his words, Reid is gracious and hopeful. I am personally grateful for his friendship. Professionally, we are all grateful for his many years of leadership of CBF-LA. Thank you Reid for the grace you brought to us. You were called and gifted. God will bless and use you in the next chapters of your ministry. We love you and Penny, and pray for God's every grace in your lives.

As for the way forward, we approach this transition time with a steady

faith and bright hope. In consultation with officers and moderators past and incoming, I have asked Kyle Kelley to serve as our interim coordinator. He has agreed to do this as we all seek God's wisdom about our vision for the future. Kyle has encouraged us to have everything on the table, and I agree. Soon he will be calling a meeting of council members to begin this process of discernment.

I ask all of you to pray sincerely for God's will. I'm sure God wants us to have a spirit of kindness, patience, hope, and joy.

Dr. Terry Ellis
Pastor, Broadmoor Baptist Church

Reid Doster's Resignation Letter



October 7, 2014

Dr. Terry Ellis, Pastor
Broadmoor Baptist Church
9755 Goodwood Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70815-4597

Dear Terry,

Thank you again for your leadership as Moderator for CBF Louisiana.

The time has come for me to step aside from my own role as Coordinator.

I am, therefore, submitting my resignation, effective immediately.

I love all of the people within our fellowship and am grateful for the

opportunity to have served.

Penny and I just celebrated our 31st anniversary and are looking forward to having more time for one another, and the grandchildren!

My other work is being blessed beyond any expectation and I am feeling quite fulfilled professionally.

As one chapter closes another opens, and it is very good.

I cherish your friendship toward us, with its never-ending waves of grace.

Warmest personal regards,
Reid
G. Reid Doster, DMin., LPC, LMFT

Dr. Burt Burleson Addresses Stagg-Tolbert Forum



In a celebration of our unique calling and spiritual journey, Dr. Burt Burleson led us at the Stagg-Tolbert Forum October 4 to claim the goodness of God in the peculiar people called Baptist. We give you just a taste in the following excerpt...

It has been a time of awakening. All these rivers crisscrossing... all these denominational streams flowing into one another colliding and colluding. It's been a frustrating but fascinating and fulfilling time in the

Church.

And we were floating along in our Baptist river... and it seemed like over night... we were floating along next to some folks who came from other places...

Reformed rivers...

Contemplative creeks...

Liturgical worship waterways...

Streams of Social Justice...

These folks had not been floating with us back in the day... back when we got on buses and went to Glorieta. It wasn't just that things were changing in Baptist life because of a political power move by more conservative Baptists... things were changing everywhere in the Church.

The ecclesial boundaries were coming down.

To mix my metaphors again... You've probably heard Phyllis Tickle say that every 500 years the Church has a yard sale. Think about it....

The days of the early church era giving way to the Holy Roman empire in about 500.

Then the Great Schism between East and West around 1000.

Then the reformation about 500 years later.

And now this... we're in another yard sale...

a Post-modern yard sale.

And you know how it is with a yard sale. You start throwing out lots of junk... or stuff you don't need, you get rid of... (Sunday Night Church, Revivals, Being at church all the time, envelopes to check off, certain ways of preaching...) you sort of pawn off or put out for the garbage truck... things that you once appreciated but just aren't you anymore.

And then too, you find old valuables in the attic that you didn't even know belonged to you. "Wow... I didn't know... how could we have lost this along the way?"

That's what's happened in this era of quick ecclesial change... many of us found ourselves in the Church's attic and we've found things that we wanted and needed and for which we have longed.

So... we've been holding these antiques... these gifts that weren't a part of who we were and we've been so glad to have found them.... so blessed... It has been for us salvation.

[Read the transcript of Dr. Burlison's full presentation here.](#)

CBF Global Missions Coordinator Coming to LA October 25



Steven Porter

Steven Porter will be speaking at Broadmoor-Baton Rouge on Saturday morning October 25 by a joint invitation of Broadmoor and University Baptist Churches. University is providing lunch at 11:00. Steven will speak from 11:30 to 12:30 followed by Q & A.

Porter is a strategic and innovative former missionary and former director of Touching Miami with Love, one of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's flagship urban ministries.

He holds ordination in the National Baptist Convention (USA) and has taught courses at Truett Seminary on the history and theology of Christian mission, including one titled Evangelism: A Contextual Approach.

While in Miami, Porter served as a chaplain in a federal prison and a street pastor for a homeless congregation. He was pastor of Downtown Mission, Central Baptist Church, in Miami from 1998 to 2005. In his leadership at Touching Miami with Love, Porter focused the organization on its core strengths - ministry to the homeless community and families at risk in the Overtown neighborhood. Part of the decision to narrow the ministry's focus also included a concern to identify more closely with their neighbors - to be the presence of Christ in that community. Consequently, Touching Miami with Love relocated from downtown to a new ministry center in the heart of Overtown, which opened doors for expanded advocacy and community organizing.

Internationally, Porter has developed a passion for building relationships with Christians from the Global South, having served three stints as an international student, leading an international student ministry in Miami and participating in the work of the Baptist World Alliance and the International Association of Mission Studies. In 2010, he was the recipient of a Henry Luce Foundation Research Grant for work at Gadajah

Mada University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

We especially want to encourage mission leaders/committees from CBF churches to stay afterwards for a meeting with Steven.

[Please register here](#) or at cbfla.org and reserve your meal.

Learn more about Steven Porter and watch introductory video [here](#).

Contact Us:

Our Administrative Office address is:
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Louisiana
935 Linden Street
Shreveport, LA 71104

For mail in contributions:
Our Finance Office (offerings & bills) address is:
CBF-LA Financial Office
c/o Sabra Hicks
520 Olive Street
Shreveport, LA 71104

Interim Coordinator: Kyle Kelley
318-780-4127 cbflouisiana@gmail.com

Together for Hope Missionary/Coordinator: Jenny Hodge
318-418-5133
hodgejv@gmail.com
122 Scarborough Street
Lake Providence, LA 71254