

cbf *Forming Together*

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Louisiana

April 2018 cbfla.org

Providence Calls

Spring Hands-On Missions and Worship Event

April 21 - Lake Providence

Come to beautiful Lake Providence for a special state wide hands-on mission and worship event. The last time we gathered as a state in Lake Providence was 2009. It was a most memorable time combining mission projects, worship, food and fun. Let's do it again!

The Together for Hope ministry led by Dr. Marc Boswell has inspired, challenged and brought us together in a passion for Kingdom work. God has blessed our work. In a community with considerable economic and social challenges, we have found God at work in the lives of people with great hope and resilience.

Our gathering this year will give opportunity to continue and celebrate that work in a special way. There will be mission projects, tours, updates, and stories of the ongoing work that will culminate in a time of worship.

See the new Learning Center, the Mission House and the special work at the Louisiana Delta Community College in Lake Providence. The official meeting time of our event will be from 10-2, at the College with opportunities for additional work for those who might wish to come early or stay late.

The Community College is local asset with great promise for economic development and a career path out of poverty. Through Marc's work at the College and the Learning

Center, 12 students have completed the GED with 3 more only lacking one test and more on the way.

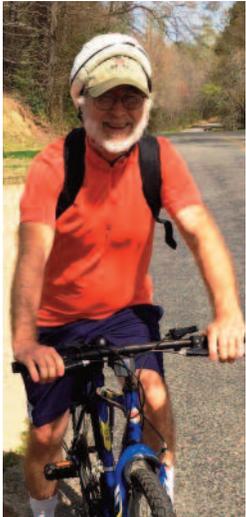
Though the college is a beacon of hope, the campus has suffered from state budget constraints which have severely limited the upkeep of the campus.

Our mission projects will focus on the college, beautification inside and out, organization and cleanup. There will be projects for varying skill, energy and interest levels. There is a task for everyone. So come help us give a boost to this marvelous work.

Marc is arranging for a reasonably priced catered lunch, but will need an accurate count of folks early for both the meal and to adequately plan mission projects. The more we have signed up, the more we can plan, and there is plenty to do. Hotel and other information will be posted on the website. We can design your mission project based on the time you have whether you come early on Friday, or make it a day trip. We can adjust to your arrival and departure times based on where you are coming from. But **please register early, by April 10th if possible.**

Register now at cbfla.org

Can Old Guys Ride Bikes ?



Help?!?

Kenny snapped this picture of Kyle while the duo trained in rural Webster Parish. The wives request special and persistent prayer.

Civil Rides is a 3-day 200 mile bike ride April 4-6, from the steps of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, to Jackson, MS. It follows in the footsteps of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to raise awareness around persistent rural poverty in America and advocate for racial justice and healing.



This fund raiser for Together for Hope will include 2 bike riders from Louisiana - Kenny Crump and Kyle Kelley. Each rider has a minimum goal of raising \$1500. To sponsor Kenny or Kyle, go to

civilrides.com, click on "help the ride," then "sponsor a rider" where you can select the rider's name in the drop down window and make a secure donation for as little as \$10.

At the website you can also sign up to volunteer or enter to ride in the last 11 miles and be part of the final trek in. This will be a poignant, meaningful time as the ride begins at the Lorraine Motel where Dr. King was slain and will occur on the 50th anniversary of the assassination.

"Smiling Pure Silver"



Latest prayer letter from Holmes/van Rheenen at cbfla.org



Louisiana native **Keith Holmes** and his wife **Mary van Rheenen** are CBF field personnel to the Roma.



Greetings from Lake Providence

by Marc Boswell, CBF-LA Together for Hope Director

Mark your calendars: Lake Providence is hosting its first "Levee Festival and 5K" on Saturday, October 6. We need CBF Louisiana folks to be involved either by: 1) signing up to

run/walk, or 2) serving as a volunteer, helping with set-up, logistics, and break down. We'll need lots of volunteers and runners, so please plan to make the trip to Lake Providence to participate in a fun-filled Saturday!

There will also be a one mile fun run for

younger children. The run will begin in the morning, while the downtown will have arts and craft vendors, food trucks, and live music. Lake Providence's Downtown Revitalization Committee is hosting the event in order to raise money to continue beautification/development efforts for the town. We'll be launching a website in latter April where you can sign up for the race and to get more general information about the event.

In addition to helping plan this event, I'm continuing to teach GED courses, along with coordinating a basic literacy course, computer literacy, and beginner's math classes. I've also been able to work with high school students recently, helping them think through certain college and career options after they graduate. It's been reported that only two or three local high school students actually enrolled and began college from last year's graduating class.

I'm looking forward to CBF Louisiana coming up on April 21 for our gathering and a time to volunteer at the community college. We'll be working to take care of some greatly needed beautification projects on campus, which the state budget will not allow to be remedied. If you plan to come up on Friday, take advantage of the hotel options in Tallulah, Vicksburg, or nearby Oak Grove. Blessings!



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