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Did you know you can sign up for Fellowship Enews to be sent to your email address? Go to cbfla.org, click on "E-news Sign-up" in the blue box.

Mark your calendar: National Assembly June 15-19 to be held in Dallas.

So, friends, every day do something that won't compute. Love the Lord. Love the world. Work for nothing. Take all that you have and be poor. Love someone who does not deserve it...

As soon as the generals and the politicians can predict the motions of your mind, lose it. Leave it as a sign to mark the false trail, the way you didn't go. Be like the fox

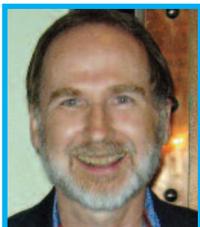
who makes more tracks than necessary, some in the wrong direction.

Practice resurrection.

- from Wendell Berry
Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front

At Work, Godspeed

by Kyle Kelley, CBF-LA Interim Coordinator



Godspeed - def.

1. An expression of goodwill when addressing someone, typically someone about to start a journey or a daring endeavor. Middle English phrase *God spede* ("may God cause you to succeed").

Your Coordinating Council is at work. Transition time in CBF-LA life does not mean treading water or aimlessly waiting around for something good to happen.

Soon you can expect an announcement from the Council about the next step in our journey.

Anyone out there share my pet sin of always being in a rush? Have you prayed with me, "God I want patience and I want it now!"

Listening is underrated. In our little upstart Church for the Highlands in Shreveport with its big heart and w-i-d-e diversity (we have considered stealing Austin's slogan - "keep CFTH weird"), we take a full 3 minutes every Sunday in worship for nothing but silence.

Three minutes may not sound like much, but in our

over-stimulated world, and a public worship service it can seem FOREVER. Minds can wander and yes, sometimes cell phones go off, but our young flock is learning to listen . . . to God.

In transition, we keep doing the things we know to do: pray, support the Together for Hope work, stay faithful to our calling in our unique patch of this earth.

We best be listening as well. . . to each other and to God. Part of our discerning together will be through listening sessions set up regionally for maximum local input. What are your dreams? To what is God calling us together?

The Coordinating Council is also looking to CBF national for input and starting to dialogue with our neighbor CBF Mississippi. They share many of our same passions and we have commonalities in our story. How might we partner together? At the General Assembly in Dallas in June, Louisiana and Mississippi will meet together in our state meeting time to listen and learn from each other.

Looking through a class darkly, it is good to slow down, be still. What is God's timing? Can we listen long enough to recognize a Kairos moment when it comes and have the humility to wait until there is a common, shared sense of direction? Let's indeed seek "God's speed" in this pilgrimage.

Spring in Lake Providence: Time for a Trip

by Jenny Hodge, Together for Hope Missionary / Community Practitioner



It's finally Spring Time here in Lake Providence! After a February, and early March, filled with sleet and snow, we are finally thawing out. Check out Together for Hope – Louisiana's Facebook page to see pictures of what snow looks like in Northeast Louisiana.

We are entering some exciting days for Together for Hope work in the Mississippi River Delta region. Not only is our site in Lake Providence (East Carroll) expanding our ministry programs, but we have a developing sister site in Mississippi. Lane Riley is the

Program Director for Delta Hands for Hope, a Together for Hope site, based in Shaw, Mississippi.

Delta Hands for Hope's focus is primarily on the supporting the wholistic development of youth and children in Shaw, with the hope to expand into programing around economic development. As these are similar areas to what we, Together for Hope – Louisiana, focus on, Lane and I are collaborating and partnering on several project and grant opportunities. We have found Suzii Paynter's message of "we're stronger together" to be true in the Mississippi River Delta!

Such a partnership opportunity was this past Mardi Gras season when Lane and I took some lovely young ladies, ages 14-17, on a cultural immersion trip to New Orleans. Thanks to the wonderful hospitality of Ms. Flora Blackstock and St. Charles



See TRIP on back

TRIP Continued

Avenue Baptist Church, our young ladies had an unforgettable trip! Not only did the girls fall in love with parades, po'boys, and urban living, but they were able to see the leadership of Reverend Elizabeth Mangham Lott and Associate Pastor Stephanie Little Coyne. Female leadership from the pulpit is not common in the Mississippi River Delta and the mothers of our young ladies were excited for their daughters to have that experience.



Such an experience, and more to come, would not have been possible for our young ladies without the partnership of Delta Hand for Hope and CBF affiliated congregations. Thank you all for your continued support for the ministry of Together for Hope!

Rachel Held Evans - Stagg-Tolbert Forum Speaker

Thanks to the generosity of St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church and the Mabel Palmer Lectures in partnership with the Stagg-Tolbert Forum, nationally recognized Christian author Rachel Held Evans will be coming to New Orleans. She will speak at the Forum **November 7** and preach in the Sunday morning service the next day at St. Charles Church. Author of 3 books, Evans is best known for her engaging blog, which garners over a quarter million visits each month. See rachelheldevans.com.



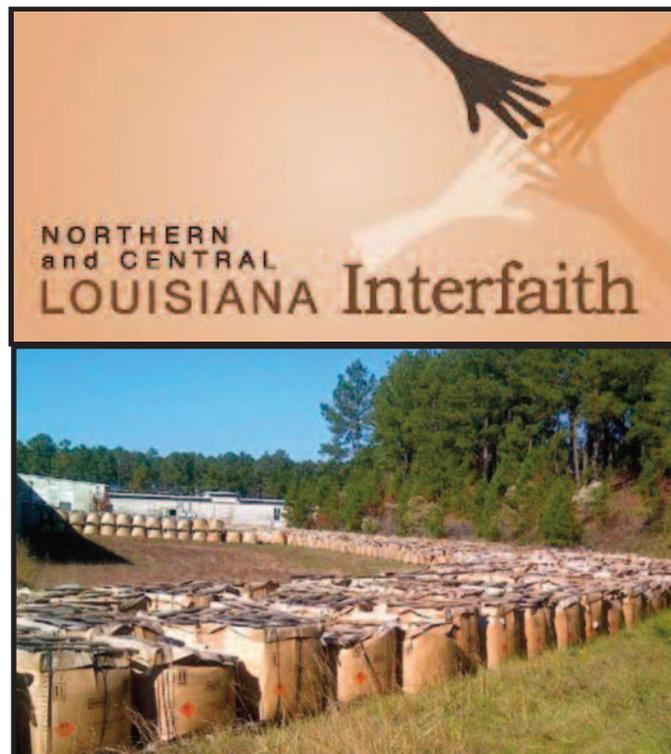
Interfaith Lends Its Voice to Cry for Justice and Safety at Camp Minden

Understanding the power of partnership is illustrated in our recent work with Interfaith who have supported the cry for safety and justice at the Camp Minden hazardous waste and explosive site in Northwest Louisiana.

Frances Kelley, a member at Church for the Highlands has organized an amazing array of citizens who are very diverse economically, politically, racially and across the faith spectrum to speak up for the common good.

When the state and EPA proposed to merely burn this dangerous material in open fires, Concerned Citizens organized with petitions, letters, meetings and an over 9,000 member facebook group.

"The Earth is the Lord's



and the fullness thereof" says the psalmist and we are commanded to steward well this marvelous creation we have been given.

National news outlets have noted the work which is still not over. Incompetence on many levels as well as criminal behavior has allowed the accumulation of 18 million tons of M6 explosive propellant, the largest stockpile anywhere in the country, which for months was left outside and exposed to the elements.

A real danger remains of massive explosion and/or serious environmental poisoning. Two of the best reports come from a Rachel Maddow clip and a New York Times article. Links to these are at cbfla.org.

Yet behind all this activity has been a core group of folks bathing the work in prayer.



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