Fountain Pines Dedication

“It’s been a blessing to see how the Lott Carey family is willing to meet the needs of others and respond in a time of crisis.”

Dr. J. Michael Sanders, Pastor, Fountain Baptist Church, Summit, N.J.

This is the story of how something amazing came to be and how dynamic collaborations continue to spread the gospel through the Word... and action. God’s promise of help in a troubled time became real on April 17, 2010, when the Fountain Pines Baptist Camp in Colfax, Louisiana, was dedicated. It was a weekend of praise and celebration.

Here’s how a testimony of faith and work was born.
When the waters of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita receded, they left a residue of human suffering that stretched across the Gulf Coast region; they left misery in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas; and they left many questioning why they were targeted for such tragedy.

But a loving God stayed true to His word and did not forsake the people. And even today, hope continues and through its mission partners and people of faith throughout the region, Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention is Helping People Rise Again, which is one of its primary mission statements.

Today, Lott Carey’s vision of helping people rise again and of investing resources in the Gulf Region has a unique expression in collaboration with the Fountain Baptist Church in Summit, N.J., through The Fountain Project – a multi-layered strategy to deal with the economic, social, and spiritual needs of Gulf communities. This inspired work was started when a church more than a thousand miles away from the devastated areas took on resurrection for its life and witness.

Fountain Baptist Church raised a million dollars in 18 months to initiate this breakthrough ministry because, as one minister put it, “we could hear their cry, we could feel their pain.”

An unprecedented alliance now exists to ensure that the funds raised by Fountain Baptist reach people in need and support projects that will foster economic and spiritual growth in the area. Lott Carey administered the Fountain gift and partners in the region implemented the programs. Fountain is already paying dividends through a variety of innovative projects:

- Food, clothing, counseling and housing for thousands in affected areas
- Educational scholarships and job skills for evacuees
- Consultation with pastors and grants to churches that are helping their congregations cope with the aftershocks of the disaster

“We are the downstream; the Lord laid His hands on us, glory, and give God the glory.”
And on April 17, 2010, hundreds of believers from around the nation gathered in Colfax, La., to dedicate the Fountain Pines Baptist Camp (FPBC), a 23-acre campus about 175 miles north of the Gulf.

The site has gone from ruin to renewal under the spirited guidance of the Reverend Samuel C. Tolbert Jr., president of the Louisiana Home and Foreign Missions Baptist State Convention (LHFMBSC) and Pastor of Greater Saint Mary Missionary Baptist Church in Lake Charles, La.

The compound will host a variety of activities and programs for adults and youth—from retreats to training to special programs—and includes dormitories, bath houses, office space and a house for a resident manager. And in case of other hurricanes, the site will be used as a staging area for response and recovery and escape.

---

The Rev. Dr. J. Michael Sanders, Pastor, Fountain Baptist Church, Summit, N.J.
Excerpt from Dedication Sermon at Fountain Pines Baptist Camp, Colfax, Louisiana, April 17, 2010

...pointed toward the Lord. He that is mightily is gone on before. He has stood in the need of a ladder to accomplish his task. The Lord was prepared to receive and did receive him, and the Lord is prepared to send a ladder to this man, if he will let that ladder be used. And the Holy Spirit is mighty in the earth to bless the Saints, if they will ask, believe and receive. It is, in the first place, the blessing for the weak. How many millions of poor, broken,下来的 whom the Lord picked up. We are the weak whom the Almighty empowered. We are the untouchables whom ands on. I don’t know how you feel about it, but somebody ought to say, thank you. Somebody needs to give God the the praise. Somebody should lift up holy hands and cry out. Hallelujah. This is the day that the Lord hath made; we glad in it.”
“What really helped us get to where we are today – the energy and the interest and the investment of volunteers. The things that we’ve experienced and endured and the blessings we’ve received have brought us to this day. We now have a facility that will position us to respond better to natural disasters and be able to host some important and strategic meetings for young people and others in our churches across the state.”

The Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert Jr.
President, Louisiana Home and
Foreign Missions Baptist State Convention
Pastor, Greater Saint Mary Missionary Baptist Church
Lake Charles, La.

The Dedication Celebration was a chorus of praise and thanksgiving as church officials joined together for worship:

- The Rev. Albert Sykes, Renovation Coordinator for the camp, delivered the invocation
- Colfax Mayor Gerald Hamilton and the Rev. Darwan T. Lazard, General Secretary of the LHFMBSC, offered greetings
- The Mt. Hermon Baptist Church Praise Team of Lena, La., provided musical selections
- The Rev. Solomon Shorter, Vice President-at-Large of LHFMBSC, lead the Litany of Dedication
- Dr. Sanders delivered the Dedication Sermon

“They know that the business of the church is to touch people with the transforming love of Christ,” says Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Lott Carey. “They know that our business is not to accumulate things for ourselves but to be vehicles through which God can distribute to others so that none go without.”

Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention

202.543.3200
220 I Street NE, Suite 220,
Washington DC 20002-4389
Web Site: http://www.LottCarey.org
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/user/LottCareyTV