



Christwood residents Bill Cousins, Tom McMurry, Ruth Fischer, Sarah Jané, Chuck Caraway, Marion Johannsson, Ralph Pass, John and Cathy Parmley, Harrie Hayden, and Don Lindquist pack boxes of groceries headed for Delacroix residents.

Christwood residents launch "Delacroix-To-Go" project

The residents of Christwood Retirement Community in Covington launched a project this summer, "Delacroix-To-Go," to help the residents of Delacroix Island rebuild their coastal community.

Delacroix is a small fishing village located south of New Orleans in St. Bernard Parish that was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The village was populated by generations of fishermen and trappers as well as many recreational fishermen who enjoyed their camps and fishing the area waters. All but four structures in the town were destroyed by the hurricane.

Christwood resident Theo Harvey has been a longtime recreational fisherman of Delacroix. With volunteer assistance and financial support from other Christwood residents and staff, Harvey organized the project, "Delacroix-To-Go," preparing boxes of everyday staples for delivery to the families of the island. Every other week Christwood residents load SUVs for a road trip to Delacroix. To date, they have made several trips with boxes for each returning Delacroix family filled with essential dry goods such as coffee, cans of creamy red beans,

rice, quick grits, fresh fruit, boxed milk, paper towels and other items.

Dozens of Christwood residents participate by packing boxes and/or sponsoring families with monetary contributions. The Delacroix Islanders have no nearby shopping facilities and limited resources, so Christwood residents hope this initiative will help speed the Delacroix residents' transition to a normal way of life.

In addition, Harvey enlisted the help of Home Depot to provide materials to construct an air-conditioned shed that will serve as a washateria in Delacroix. Christwood has furnished two new washers and dryers for the building. The building will be open to the residents for self-serve laundry service and will be run by the civil parish of St. Bernard. This has been a cooperative effort of private citizens, local business, and parish officials.

Donations are welcome and tax deductible. Checks may be made payable to "Christwood." Include "Delacroix Island" in the memo line and mail to: 100 Christwood Blvd., Covington, LA 70433 ATTN: Delacroix.

Grace Church Gala to support St. Francisville service needs

"Time for Talent" is a unique gala on Saturday, Oct. 28, at Grace Episcopal Church in St. Francisville. The fall evening will be festive with good company, refreshments, and entertainment plus opportunities to share its blessings by helping others.

The gala will start at 5 p.m. in Bishop Jackson Parish Hall, next door to the church. Guests can enjoy cocktail party fare and a live band while browsing sale donations from members of Grace Church. They can bid on Silent Auction items, shop the Patisserie for delicious goodies for their kitchens, and buy fabulous clothing at fabulous prices from the Second Hand Rose Boutique.

Then, at 7 p.m. the auctioneer will excite the crowd with competitive bidding on more treasures — an overnight fishing trip, a turkey-hunting trip, piano lessons, a necklace and coffee table book, a stay at a bed and breakfast cottage, a hand-crafted quilt, framed Audubon prints, an 8-foot cypress

table, paintings and pottery by local artists, a professional vocalist for a special occasion, and many more items.

Visitors are requested to bring cash checks to purchase from the auction, boutique, and patisserie. Complimentary cocktail party dishes will be served from 5-7 p.m. until the live auction begins. A cash bar serving soft drinks, wine and beer is open from 5-9 p.m.

"Time for Talent" will support local charities. Proceeds have been dedicated for St. Francisville Food Bank/Clothes Closet, Young Life in West Feliciana, victims of last year's hurricanes, and to provide program special opportunities for spiritual enrichment for our community.

For more information, contact Chai Dixon Dixie Blue at 225.635.0036 or e-mail kblue25707@aol.com. Grace Episcopal Church is located on Ferdinand Street in St. Francisville, across from the courthouse.

Episcopal Church Women's 5th Annual Great Bake Sale

Nov. 5, 2006

Sponsored by the ECW of the Diocese of Louisiana



All proceeds this year are designated for Katrina Relief.



CHURCHWORK

OUR VISION: The Diocese of Louisiana is one church, faithful to our Lord Jesus, united in mission, reaching out through service and proclamation to all for whom Christ died. We live in joyous expectation of God's transforming power, compassion and mercy in our lives. **OUR MISSION:** The Diocese of Louisiana is by grace, a vital community, reborn in the wake of tragedy, forging a new and prophetic environment of healing, trust and empowerment as servants of Jesus Christ.

Church of All Souls opens its (garage) doors in the lower Ninth Ward

Ann Ball and Ben Jenkins
diocesan communications

In the lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans, an area still reeling from the effects of Hurricane Katrina, a new sign of hope has appeared. The Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana and the Church of the Annunciation in New Orleans have launched a parochial Mission Station, the Church of All Souls, to minister to the many working class families who are trying to return to their homes -- where some have lived for generations.

Located downriver from the Industrial Canal, the lower Ninth Ward received between four to 20 feet of floodwater following Katrina. The Rev. Shola Falodun, an Anglican priest from Nigeria who came to this country to be a missionary to African Anglicans, began assisting with the relief work in the diocese immediately after the hurricane. He helped deliver supplies through the diocesan Mobile Ministry Respite Unit that carried necessary items to the lower Ninth Ward on a scheduled basis several days a week.

During that time, Fr. Falodun met with the rector of the Church of the Annunciation, the Rev. Jerry Kramer, who was also carrying out an effective relief ministry in the Broadmoor area of the city where his church is located on South Claiborne Avenue. The two priests tended to the people's many material and spiritual needs during the early months following the storm and have continued their work providing goods and services.

Through the daily contact in the Ninth Ward, Fr. Falodun knew that this was the place the Lord was leading him to begin a



The Rev. Shola Falodun preaches a sermon for the Church of All Souls in the lower Ninth Ward, New Orleans, on Sept. 13.



Members of the Church of All Souls in the lower Ninth Ward, New Orleans, sit on chairs on the sidewalk and lean on cars as the priest preaches from a parishioner's garage as the congregation continues its prayers for an adequate church building in the area. (PHOTOS BY BEN JENKINS)

congregation. He approached the diocese with the prospect of a church planting and received its blessing.

The new congregation is named the Church of All Souls and holds services at 5458 N. Rampart St. just around the corner from where the Mobile Unit parks each day. The church name was chosen by Fr. Falodun to honor the new souls who will be coming to worship and those souls who were lost in Katrina's waters. Fr. Kramer mentors Falodun's new ministry at All Souls under the supervision of the Canon to the Ordinary E. Mark Stevenson.

The ministry is supported by the Bishop's Annual Mission Appeal. The diocesan Execu-

tive Board and Standing Committee are both enthusiastic about the church's presence in this area of New Orleans. The members of the Church of the Annunciation support the mission station through prayer, program funding and volunteer work.

The church is temporarily housed in the garage of parishioner James Lemann. Few homes are occupied on the street. But the isolation does not dampen the spirit of this fledgling community.

First diocesan visit made to All Souls

On Sept. 13, the Church of All Souls welcomed its first diocesan visitors from the bishop's office at their 6 p.m. service. Canon

Stevenson brought his official greetings from Bishop Charles Jenkins. Stevenson was accompanied by the bishop's three-member communication team. The diocesan visitors joined the All Souls' congregation in fellowship for their barbecue dinner prepared by Leila Green which preceded the service.

The worship began with guitar music by Lynn Magnuson and solos offered by members of All Souls. Falodun walked through the group gathered on the sidewalk "blessing" them with sprays of mosquito repellent as the waning daylight brought out the uninvited insects.

A broad smile crossed Falodun's face as he welcomed the worshippers to the service and declared that "God will never fail us!" -- sweeping his hand across the yard to take in all the items the church had at its disposal: tables, chairs, barbecue pits, food and beverage. *Continued on page three*

Jericho Road places more homes in Central City, N. O.

Denise Estopinal
Jericho Rd. Episcopal Housing Initiative

The Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative has been assigned its first 50 designated adjudicated properties under the City of New

Orleans Targeted Neighborhood Development Program.

According to Brad Powers, executive director of the Jericho Episcopal Housing Initiative, this is another important step in achieving Jericho Road's mission to rebuild affordable housing for returning New Orleanians.

Powers said, "We are pleased that the city saw value in our approach to focus on tightly clustered areas for development. These properties near neighborhood churches and businesses will foster our continuing neighborhood and community partnerships throughout Central City. The properties are located in the Philip-Magnolia Street

area where we have placed our first modular homes, as well as on Sixth, Seventh, Dryades and South Saratoga Streets and Dryades and Danneel Streets."

Jericho Road is among 22 non-profit and for profit developer applicants that won approval for the city's housing development program.

The program is intended for developers with the capacity to achieve large-scale mixed income redevelopment projects. The specific number of properties allocated to each developer is based upon its application score but targets entities that are capable of developing 100-plus properties.

Jericho Road is a partnership of the Diocese of Louisiana and Episcopal Relief and Development. ERD provided the initial funding totaling \$2.3 million which will be used for administrative management, property acquisition and construction. The funding from ERD, combined with planned financing from the Whitney Community Development Corporation will result in an investment in the New Orleans Central City neighborhood of over \$20 million.

For information about this affordable housing call Brad Powers at 504.377.1957.

ANOTHER HOME
by JERICHO ROAD

The Central City
Neighborhood of New Orleans
2409, 2428 & 2432 Philip Street

FEATURES

- + 1,100 square feet
- + 3 Bedrooms
- + 2 Bathrooms
- + Central A/C
- + Large Front Porch
- + Appliances Included
- + Tall Kitchen Cabinets
- + Carpeted Bedrooms
- + Landscaped

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Clinton Global Initiative makes commitment to New Orleans Broadmoor neighborhood

Ann M. Ball, editor

The Church of the Annunciation is a major partner in the strategic redevelopment of the Broadmoor neighborhood in the very heart of New Orleans. Its partnership with several community-based organizations and corporations eager to assist in rebuilding this vital area of the city has sparked interest from the Clinton Global Initiative which met Sept. 20-22 in New York.

A "commitment announcement" was made by Walter Shorenstein, Douglas Ahlers, Walter Isaacson, and the Carnegie Corporation of New York "for local leadership and leverage resources and expertise" in support of the redevelopment plan created by the residents of New Orleans' Broadmoor neighborhood.

The Clinton Global Initiative's goal in focusing on one neighborhood is to prove that a network of private and public partners can successfully come together "to solve a major social problem."

The major players are: Broadmoor Development Corporation, New Orleans Broadmoor Improvement Association (BIA), New Orleans Conference Board, Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative, Center for Business and Government, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (with the Coca-Cola Company, General Motors and Chevron), Digitas Inc., The Church of the Annunciation, Mayor Gavin Newsom of the City & County of San Francisco, PlanReady, Inc. of Morgan Hill, California, and Shell Exploration & Production Company.

The initiative will:

- bring resources to the rebuilding process, including financial support, in-kind services, materials and professional expertise;
- develop supportive partnerships with the Broadmoor community to promote civic engagement and advance the redevelopment process;
- foster cross-sector relationships that leverage resources, skills and learning from both the public and private sectors;
- build and strengthen local leadership

capacity through workshops and an annual leadership forum and

- share lessons learned with other post-disaster communities in New Orleans and beyond.

The Broadmoor neighborhood historically has been one of the most diverse in New Orleans. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Broadmoor was flooded to a depth of eight feet and its future seemed uncertain at best. Through the efforts of the Broadmoor Improvement Association, hundreds of neighborhood residents joined together to revive and rebuild their community.

The BIA has met at the Church of the Annunciation for its planning meetings and continues to use its facilities as a base of operations for rebuilding in the neighborhood.

"Annunciation has nursed BIA since its beginning," reported Rusty Berridge a BIA volunteer and now staff member at Annunciation. "It has been an integral part on the recovery effort in this area."

Church parishioner and Executive Director of the Broadmoor Development Corporation Hal Roark was pleased to learn of the CGI announcement.

"I'm happy that the Broadmoor Improvement Association was one of the programs to garner attention at Clinton's prestigious Global Initiative conference held in New York," Roark said. "The CGI is a private gathering of the world's movers and shakers, from the for-profit and non-profit worlds, focused on supporting best practice models around the world - and Broadmoor made the cut. We are deeply honored to be chosen and supported."

"There are 73 planning neighborhoods in New Orleans and Broadmoor is one of the first three to complete its comprehensive plan," said the Rev. Jerry Kramer, O.P., rector of the Church of the Annunciation.

The broad scope and detailed recommendations of Broadmoor's redevelopment plan serve as a model not only for Broadmoor but for other New Orleans neighborhoods as they seek to rebuild. The focus now is on implementation.



[L-R] Recent ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) workshop attendees are: (Seated:) Crystal Richard, Marilyn Harris, Susan Berger-deRada, Becky Roniger (STOPS trainer), Linda King, Deacon Phil Wild of Christ Church, Covington; (Standing:) Dian Lusher (STOPS trainer), Elaine Lane, Lisa Murray, Martha Dardenne, Mary Fattet, Linda Hartdegen, Cheri Webster, and Deacon Lydia Hopkins of St. George's, New Orleans.

Joint venture begins between STOPS and Christ Church, Covington

LaVondra Dobbs,
Christ Church, Covington

Through a congregational ministry initiative supported financially by the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, a joint venture has been created between Christ Church, Covington, and the St. Tammany Outreach for the Prevention of Suicide (STOPS) to offer several programs, two of which provide free counseling. The first program is entitled "Stepping Stones" which is a children's support group for children ages 6-11 who need assistance in dealing with issues of loss, grief, or Katrina/hurricane issues. Weekly sessions with a licensed counselor are offered on Wednesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Mandeville.

For adults, post-Katrina related counseling now is available at Christ Church, Slidell, and Christ Church, Covington. This counseling is for individuals, couples, families and groups. All counseling is at no-cost and is provided by licensed counselors. This short-term psychotherapy is not meant to replace any current counseling one may be receiving.

Other programs offered through this grant include Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), Survivor's of Suicide (SOS) support groups, and LOSS teams which work closely with the coroner's office and family members.

For more information about any of these programs, call STOPS at 985.237.5506.



The Rev. John C. Bauerschmidt, rector of Christ Church, Covington, and Phyllis Chandler, president of STOPS in Covington.

Church of All Souls in Ninth Ward

- Continued from page one

ages, microphones, speakers, AV, musical instruments, even the use of a sno-ball truck. "Look how much we have here after only two months," he said. "All we need to start this church is already here."

He reminded them that the reason they were gathered was "to be together in prayer." And he urged them to continue to pray for a building for them to use as a house of worship. He called on members of the congregation to share their testimonies or songs.

Falodun's sisters had come for the service, Both are choir members and sang a short song of praise together.

Elder James Lemann offered "thanks to God that we are here today." "I love to see everyone come together," he added.

Leila Green remarked, "when I bless ya'll with hot food, God blesses me."

Canon Stevenson shared his own reflection on the occasion, likening it to one of his favorite Scripture passages - when Mary discovered from the angel that she was to give birth to the Savior. "She knew something powerful was coming into the world," Stevenson said. "Here we are at the start of a new and powerful beginning. My soul blesses the Lord with you here tonight."

Jerome Richardson closed the service with a moving rendition of Amazing Grace as members of the congregation and visitors joined in the singing.



Members of the All Souls congregation listen as Fr. Shola makes announcements at their worship service on Sept. 12.

[BEN JENKINS PHOTO]

The congregation stayed long after the food was put away to enjoy music and fellowship on the long desolate corridor of North Rampart Street, made bright this night by the presence of the Holy Spirit-filled members of All Souls.

The people of the diocese are welcome to visit and worship with this newest congregation in the diocese. Services are held every Wednesday with dinner at 6 p.m. followed by praise worship and Bible study. On Sunday, morning worship is at 11 a.m. with a potluck lunch afterwards.

Diocesan Altar Guild annual meeting features speaker Archdeacon McManis of the Office of Disaster Response

The Diocesan Altar Guild will hold its annual meeting at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center, Wednesday, Nov. 8, with featured speaker, Archdeacon Dennis McManis, director of operations for the diocesan Office of Disaster Response.

He will give a presentation about the ongoing and expanding work of this vital ministry in New Orleans and the surrounding metropolitan area.

Archdeacon McManis came to Louisiana from Florida as interim for the Office of Disaster Response following Hurricane Katrina. He has been working with the program since September of 2005 and became co-director with Dr. Courtney Cowart, director of strategy and mission.

The annual meeting will also feature two local Altar Guild speakers.

St. James, Baton Rouge, Altar Guild member

Ruth Martinusen, will give an informative talk on the herbs and flowers in the Bible.

Grace Memorial, Hammond, parishioner JoAnn Ziller will lead a workshop on the making of fair linens.

The Rev. Mark Holland, rector of St. James, Baton, Rouge, will celebrate Holy Eucharist for the annual meeting in the conference center's Chapel of the Holy Cross.

Time will be set aside during the meeting for the burning of unusable linens and vestments. If your church has such liturgical items, bring them to the conference center for their proper disposal. Fr. Holland will officiate at the Liturgy of the Burning.

The cost for the DAG annual meeting is \$20 which includes lunch. Registration forms have been sent to each congregation. Forms with checks should be returned to the conference center.

It's Pumpkin Patch time!

St Augustine's Church, Metairie

St. Augustine's Church at 3412 Haring Road in Metairie is the granddaddy of all Episcopal pumpkin patches in the diocese. Their patch will run from Oct. 13-31. One of their big drawing cards each year is pumpkin bread, so stop by for a baked loaf in addition to Mother Nature's "raw" version.

St Martin's Church, Metairie

St Martin's Church at 2216 Metairie Road in Metairie is holding its annual pumpkin patch with

all sizes of pumpkins, decorative pumpkins, Indian corn and gourds available. The patch runs from Oct. 9-31, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., every day. School groups are encouraged. Contact Lisa Milligan for details, 504.832.1622 or call the church at 504.835.7357.

All Saints Church, Ponchatoula

All Saints, Ponchatoula, is partnering with Grace Memorial Church in Hammond to hold its own Pumpkin Patch this October.



Kids pick out a pumpkin at one of the many patches in the diocese.

All proceeds from the pumpkin patch will go to help fund the Youth Service Bureau which is a mainstay for troubled youth in St. Tammany civil parish. Mrs. Sharleen Juneau is coordinator for All Saints' pumpkin patch.

Grace Memorial, Hammond

Grace Memorial Church has been involved in its outreach project for about ten years, with Grace parishioner Bill Travis as chairperson. The fund raising from Grace Memorial's Pumpkin Patch is extremely successful, augmented by a

matching grant program.

St. Francis, Denham Springs

St. Francis, Denham Springs hosts a large pumpkin patch each year with story-telling, hay stacks and picture-taking as part of the fun from now until Halloween.

St. Matthew's, Houma

St. Matthew's, Houma, has begun its third annual pumpkin patch as part of the school's seasonal offering. (See page nine for details.)

Halloween fun in New Orleans

St. Paul's School

St. Paul's Episcopal School at Canal Blvd. and Harrison Ave. in Lakeview, New Orleans, is hosting an afternoon of Halloween fun for children ages 3 to 13 and their parents.

Come trick or treat in the classrooms, perform "weird science" experiments with the award-winning Science Olympiad team, paint a pumpkin for Halloween, and hear the music students perform. And, at the same time, get to know a little bit more about St. Paul's School as it celebrates 45 years of service to the children of greater New Orleans.

The event will be held on the school's campus, 6249 Canal Blvd. Come by anytime

between 4-6 p.m., on Sunday, Oct. 29 and don't forget to wear your Halloween costume.

Holy Comforter Picnic

The Chapel of the Holy Comforter, New Orleans, has a new twist on Halloween since so many houses in Gentilly are vacant.

The chapel is hosting a pre-Halloween Picnic on the chapel's spacious grounds near Lake Pontchartrain on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 2-4 p.m. Families are encouraged to bring a blanket and stake out their territory on the chapel lawn. Kids will go trick or treating "from blanket to blanket" according to the Holy Comforter's Chaplain Roger Allen.



ECW Devotions Chair Gloria McKenzie of St. Luke's, Baton Rouge, reads a meditation to the fall board meeting of the diocesan Episcopal Church Women which was held at St. Martin's Church, Metairie, Sept. 29.

(EDITOR PHOTO)

ECW funds two worthy causes at fall board meeting in Metairie

In addition to their usual agenda, the diocesan Episcopal Church Women took on two new causes at their fall board meeting held at St. Martin's Church in Metairie, Sept. 29. Diocesan ECW President Sharon Edmon of St. Luke's, Baton Rouge presided at the meeting.

Diocesan Altar Guild Directress Carolyn Douglas of Grace, St. Francisville, advised the board that the Altar Guild was struggling financially and needed extra financial support to carry out its work. She pointed out that the Altar Guild had never received pledged income from the ECW. A caucus by finance committee members remedied the Altar Guild's dilemma with a resolution to include the guild

in the 2007-8 budget in the amount of \$500 and to make a gift to the guild for 2006 in amount of \$300. The motion passed.

The board also moved to send \$600 Church Women United in order to complete their project for health kits for the women at the state correctional center at St. Gabriel.

The church women have new ECW fleur-de-lis T-shirts available for sale for \$13 according to Laurel McCartney. She can be reached calling 985.649.2427.

The board also heard a full report from the delegates to the women's Triennial Meeting this summer in Ohio. The women found the meeting "joyful, inspirational and uplifting."

LOOKING AHEAD

OCTOBER

- 6 Press date for October issue of Churchwork
- 8 Bishop's visitation at St. Matthew's, Bogalusa
- 8 Institution of the Rev. A. J. Heine at St. Augustine's, Metairie, 6 p.m.
- 8-15 Bishops' Spouses in New Orleans
- 10 Diocesan Altar Guild fall board meeting, Grace, St. Francisville
- 11 Baton Rouge Deanery ECW fall meeting, St. James, Baton Rouge
- 11 Southwest Deanery ECW fall meeting, Trinity, Morgan City
- 12-15 Women's Spirituality and Healing Retreat, SECC
- 13-14 School for Ministry, Christ Church Cathedral, New Orleans
- 14 Northshore Deanery ECW fall meeting, Christ Church, Slidell
- 15 Bishop's visitation at St. Martin's, Metairie
- 18 Articles due for November issue of Churchwork
- 18 House of Bishops meeting begins
- 21 Standing Committee, via Teleconference B.R. & N.O., 10 a.m.-noon
- 21 New Orleans Deanery ECW fall meeting, Holy Comforter, New Orleans
- 22 Bishop Brown's visitation at St. Augustine's, Metairie
- 23-25 College of Presbyters and Community of Deacons, SECC
- 27-29 Mother and Daughters Retreat, SECC
- 29 Bishop's visitation at St. Paul's, New Orleans, a.m.
- 29 Bishop's visitation at St. Andrew's, New Orleans; dedication of St. Andrew's new Learning Center and redecorated Chancel; reception after; 4 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Press date for November issue of Churchwork
- 5 Bishop's visitation at All Saints, River Ridge, a.m.
- 5 Institution of the Rev. Brian Grantz, Christ Church, Slidell, 5 p.m.
- 8 Diocesan Altar Guild annual meeting, SECC
- 10-11 Diocesan Executive Board meeting, SECC
- 10-11 School for Ministry, Christ Church Cathedral, New Orleans
- 11 Songs of Peace and Hope Concert, Christ Church, Covington, 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Bishop's visitation at Trinity, Morgan City, a.m.
- 12 Bishop's visitation at St. Mary's, Franklin, p.m.
- 15 Articles due for December issue of Churchwork
- 17 All the Saints II Concert, Irvin Mayfield, Christ Church Cathedral, N.O. 6 p.m.
- 18 Standing Committee, via Teleconference B.R. & N. O., 10 a.m.-noon
- 19 Bishop's visitation at Grace, St. Francisville
- 23-24 Diocesan Office closed for Thanksgiving
- 27-30 Province IV bishops in New Orleans for provincial meeting



Dr. Craig Gilliam leads the LIC board members in an Open Space Technology exercise during their fall meeting held in Monroe, Sept. 18-19.

(EDITOR PHOTO)

LIC works on new mission strategies in wake of Katrina and cultural trends

The Louisiana Interchurch Conference, the only statewide ecumenical organization, spent a second full session addressing its mission statement and mission strategies in light of the changing cultural climate in Louisiana where nearly half the population is unchurched.

Dr. Craig Gilliam, a Methodist, led the board members in Open Space Technology sessions at the Sept. 18-19 board meeting in Monroe to focus on the role of LIC and what practical ways it might better impact local communities.

The board struggled with the process, but developed ideas that it will process in an ad

hoc committee of board members.

The board welcomed a new committee chair, the Rev. Corey Sparks of New Orleans who heads the Stewardship of the Environment Committee. He pledges to continue the work of the LIC's effective Ezekiel 34 water project and has received a grant for churches that are rebuilding to use less toxic, cost efficient materials.

The board also heard from Sara Simmonds of the Louisiana Prison Foundation who reported that seven of the 20 prison chapels have now been completed and more are under construction - a successful project begun by LIC.