



# Building Blocks

## The Quarterly Newsletter of Adopt-a-Church and our Related Ministries

### Katrina Update—More Churches Rebuilt

“It will take years and we will be there all the way,” said Chip Rumis, Communities of Faith Ministries President as he described the rebuilding effort ongoing in the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina.

In 2006, our ‘Adopt-a-Church’ Program rebuilt and restored eight churches. All of them were in southern Mississippi, an area that took the brunt of the storm’s hit.

Some of the beneficiaries of our work included St. Marks in Waveland, which got a complete interior and exterior renovation. Miracle Temple Holiness Church in Palmers Cross-

ing, which also received a complete interior and



**Miracle Temple Holiness church and our crew**

exterior renovation.

Crestview Baptist Church in Petal and Heaven Bound Church in Hattiesburg, both got new roofs. Trinity Church in Petal received a new roof and exterior siding as well.

Their steeple was blown apart by the storm and we rebuilt that as well.

Many volunteers from San Diego traveled to assist in the effort. They were joined by numerous students from Carson-Newman Baptist College in Jefferson City, TN who became aware of our work through a local pastor. The students worked on roofing projects, debris clean up and installing carpet and new pews in the Trinity church project.

You can read more about our Katrina relief program, called “Adopt-a-Church” on the website at [www.adoptachurch.com](http://www.adoptachurch.com)



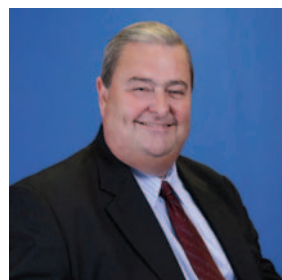
**The storm surge pushed water almost to the ceiling of St. Marks in Waveland MS.**

### Pastor Bobby Shurden Ministers with Music

“He has the voice of an angel,” said Jean Rumis. She was describing Pastor Bobby Shurden of Crestview Baptist Church in Petal, MS. Shurden opened his home to the Rumis’s when they first arrived in Mississippi to rebuild churches.

He started writing his own songs and music when local church-goers asked

him to sing at weddings, funerals and family gatherings. “The Lord blessed



me a voice and talent to

spread the good news of Jesus Christ,” said Shurden. He has recorded five CDs to date. In addition to his own church, Shurden has a ministry program in Mexico for orphans and he is the chaplain for the Forrest County Sheriff’s Department in Mississippi. His voice can be heard on the home page of our website at [www.adoptachurch.com](http://www.adoptachurch.com)

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#### Five Questions:

- Do I want everyone to know what I said today?
- Do I want everyone to know what I did today?
- How did I treat the unloved today?
- How did I handle my difficulties today?
- Did I pray today?

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## Volunteer Profile—Steve Arnold



Steve Arnold has been involved with Communities of Faith Ministries since its very beginning.

When founder Chip Rumis called Steve and said he was going to the Gulf Coast to rebuild battered churches, Arnold's response was "What time do we leave?"

Besides helping us, Steve and his wife of 35 years, Mona, are active in their community of Rancho Bernardo near San Diego where Steve is Vice President of their community association. Steve and Mona have two grown chil-

dren, Jared and Michele with granddaughter Laci Amber just arriving and another on the way.

Professionally, Steve is the owner of Legends Home Furnishings in San Diego. He also owns and operates a furniture manufacturing company and a warehouse and delivery service. A busy guy to say the least. But not ever too busy to help the less fortunate.

In his spare time, Steve enjoys restoring classic cars and hot rods. Many of the cars have won awards and write ups in national magazines. He owns several, including a 1955 Chevy wagon, a 1952 Chevy pickup, a 1947 Dodge cab-over car hauler and a

1933 Pontiac. His favorite work has been installing new steeples on church roofs with Chip Rumis.

"I really enjoy the giving back part of this work," says Steve.



**"Learn as if you were going to live forever. Live as if you were going to die tomorrow."  
Mahatma Ghandi**

## Stafford Roofing and Haggarty Trucking Save the Day!



When the 175 mph winds of Katrina died down, almost every roof in the storm's path needed shingles, including many churches. The local stock of

shingles at home supply stores was depleted immediately. Pat Stafford Roofing of San Diego donated an entire truckload of shingles, plus roofing tools and related equipment.

That solved the first problem, now how would they get to Mississippi? Enter long haul trucker Randy Haggarty and his semi-tractor trailer. Randy drove the shingle load to Mississippi for free. Pat Stafford Roofing and Randy Haggarty Trucking are truly the Lord's servants. Thank

you to such great donors.



## Pictures Tell The Story of Hurricane Katrina



Tremendous irony in this shot outside the local power company in Hattiesburg, MS



Sunday Mass in a tent on a barren lot after the storm demolished the church near Gulfport, MS.



Hope and Faith with no roof in Hattiesburg, MS.

## Donor Recognition

Our work would not be possible without the generous donations of the following organizations and people. Thank you.

**A.P. Karsten**  
**Action Auto Car Center**  
**Alan & Connie Ventura**  
**Anita Owen**  
**Bob & Norma Mendenhall**  
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**Linda & Jim Jack**  
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**Pacific Beach Christian Church**  
**Pacificconcepts**  
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**Pastor Bobby & Perry Shurden**  
**Pastor Jimmie & Ruby Garrard**  
**Pastor Shirley Tillman**  
**Pat Strafford**  
**Paul Neighbors**

**PDQ Distributors**  
**Pete Kinney**  
**Pro Tech Motorsports**  
**Ramona National Bank**  
**Randy Haggarty Trucking**  
**Reid Omen**  
**Rex Blisard**  
**Richard & Mary Williamson**  
**Robert & Catherine Swarr**  
**Robert & Diana Heiskell**  
**Robert & Iris Crockett**  
**Robert & Janice Seige**  
**Robert & Victoria Carroll**  
**Ron & Joyce Hunt**  
**Ron Ledford**  
**Roy & Marsha Lewis**  
**Sam Smith and the Kingdom Project**  
**Sandra Hurdak**  
**Schwartz and Semerdjian Attorneys at Law**  
**Shelter Island Sign Shop**  
**Spiralworks LLC**  
**St Marks AME Church**  
**State Farm Insurance**  
**Stephanie Norvell**  
**Steve & Mona Arnold**  
**Steven Rooney**  
**Stevensville Presbyterian Church**  
**Strafford Roofing**  
**Super Comp Associates**  
**The Judd Company**  
**The Onnen Companies**  
**Tim Hunt**  
**Tim Mattox**  
**Timothy & Wrenne Taylor**  
**Town & Country Home Loans**  
**Trinity Baptist Church**  
**Virtual Marketing Team**  
**Welk Resort Group**  
**West Coast Home Fashions**  
**Wini & Avery Stone**

**“Godliness starts with a daily decision.”**  
**Pastor Chris Brown, North Coast Church, Vista, CA**

## It's Easy to Support Communities of Faith Ministries

You can support our efforts in any of the following easy ways:

1. Donate on our safe and secure website at [www.adoptachurch.com](http://www.adoptachurch.com)
2. Mail us a check at 7050 Texas Flat Rd., Kiln, MS 39556
3. Consider a donation of materials. We are always
4. Volunteer—none of what we do can happen without you. We always have need for all skilled building trades, particularly roofers, carpenters, electricians, drywallers and

carpet installers. Even if you're not a skilled craftsman, we can help you learn easy construction techniques like painting, landscaping and material handling. Visit our website to contact us with questions or comments.



**Communities of Faith Ministries, Inc.**  
**An inter-faith coalition**  
**IRS Registered non profit, 501 c 3**  
**[www.communitiesoffaithministries.com](http://www.communitiesoffaithministries.com)**

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
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**KARL HIGGINS-SECRETARY**



**Trinity Baptist Church in Petal, MS**  
**when our team was done! Special**  
**thanks to all our donors and volun-**  
**teers.**

Communities of Faith Ministries, Inc. Balance Sheet as of 12/31/2006

#### ASSETS

Cash on Hand—\$57,751

Other Assets \$ 49,000 estimated value (Trucks, Equipment Trailer, Tools, etc.)

Total Assets—\$106,751

#### LIABILITIES

None

NET WORTH \$106,751

Our IRS Form 990 will be available at the end of the first quarter of 2007. You may view the IRS Report by visiting our website at [www.communitiesoffaithministries.com](http://www.communitiesoffaithministries.com)

## Letter from Chip Rumis

Dear Friends,

Last year was an exciting period filled with service, meeting new friends and the official incorporation of our non profit ministry.

We filed our corporate documents in Mississippi because of the great unmet need for repair and restoration in the Gulf Coast. We also chose a new name, **Communities of Faith Ministries, Inc.** Adopt a Church will now become a program of service within Communities of Faith Ministries.

I chose this name because of the overwhelming response we received from volunteers of all faiths. Some gave money, others gave tools and labor. All gave generously. The

efforts of so many led me to characterize the work as a community of the faithful hard at work ministering to restore hope in the region. We will continue this mission while assisting in new projects as the Lord lead us.

Pastor Bobby Shurden and his wife Peggy of Crestview Baptist Church in Petal, MS gave my wife, Jean and me, a place to park our motor coach in his church parking lot while we worked in and around the area on battered churches. Bobby has a love for the Lord that includes service in Mississippi and Mexico.

For more than a decade Bobby and Peggy have traveled up to four times a year into the interior of Mexico lead-

ing a team of volunteers helping orphaned children and residents in remote villages. They provide clothing, temporary medical clinics and repair or remodeling of orphanage buildings. Last April, Jean and I had the opportunity to participate in one of these mission trips. It was an inspiring lesson in service and humility.

There is a small village named Galeana in the state of Nuevo Leon where we are headed this March to repeat the process. About 70 volunteers coming. You can learn more about the project at [www.fente-de-amor.com](http://www.fente-de-amor.com). Bobby is always looking for helpers.

Thank you for supporting our work and mission. We are blessed to serve those in need through Him.