

Camp Restore

Restoring Faith, Home and Community

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New Orleans, LA 70127

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Inside:
The Campaign to
RESTORE
TRINITY CLAIBORNE
and more!



STAY CONNECTED!

Our new Facebook fan page is up and running and full of pictures, videos, status updates and other Camp Restore announcements!

Don't forget, it's not the group page- it's a new Fan Page!
If you haven't already, visit us at www.facebook.com/CampRestore.

Also, follow us on Twitter @CampRestore.



Facebook



Twitter



YouTube.com/CampRestore

www.camprestore.org

RAI GRANTED Recognized Service Organization Status

RAI Ministries became a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod this summer! We thank God for continued support from volunteers across the country who help us to restore faith, home and community in the Name of Jesus.



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

Camp Restore

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☘ SUMMER 2010 ☘

FAREWELL...



When Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana and Mississippi, Pastor Dave Lewis, who was asked by Southern District President Kurtis Schultz to head up the relief effort for the District, asked me to help coordinate the volunteer effort. His words were, "Just give me eight days, and you can go back to being a pastor." That was five years ago. Four years ago, I became the head of the RAI Ministries relief effort.

Since then, Camp Restore has become a leading restoration organization along the Gulf Coast with the help of Laborers for Christ, Orphan Grain Train, World Relief and Human Care and many other partner organizations. Camp Restore acquired Camp Biloxi from Lutheran Social Services of the South Disaster Response beginning in September of 2007.

Through Camp Biloxi and Camp Restore, over 33,000 volunteers have changed the lives of those in the community. Through the endless work of volunteers, we have assisted over 6,000 families return to their homes and we have completely refurbished three flooded churches and one school (the church building of Trinity Claiborne is in the process of being restored...). Through our case management operations we have helped thousands more families find sustainable housing after years of living in FEMA trailers and FEMA assisted housing. All of this has been done in the Name of Jesus Christ!

Romans 8:28 says that God works for the good of those who love Him, in all things. This has certainly been true – even in something as devastating as Katrina. Here along the Gulf Coast, He has worked good for His people through His people; those who prayed, volunteered, encouraged, and gave of their time, talents, and treasure. To be part of this "Good Work" has been both humbling and exhilarating.

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As I return to parish ministry, my prayer is that Pastor Dave Goodine will experience the same joy and exhilaration that I have and that God will continue to mightily bless the staff of RAI Ministries and Camp Restore, the faithful volunteers that help to continue in the restoration efforts, and the clients who seek our help and prayers on a daily basis, and that God will continue to work for the good of those who love Him, in all things!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Dave Buss" followed by a stylized flourish.

Rev. Dave Buss

[... AND GREETINGS!

IT IS WITH GREAT THANKS, JOY, AND ANTICIPATION, THAT I RETURN TO NEW ORLEANS to lead the ongoing mission partnership of Camp Restore (RAI Ministries) and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

As I join the team at RAI, I look forward to continuing the work begun in restoring faith, home, and community in the Name of Jesus. This is a partnership of the staff of Camp Restore and the thousands of dedicated volunteers from across the country who are the hands and feet of Jesus as they go out into our community. We are blessed to be a blessing! Thank you for giving of yourselves that others might know the love and care of Christ as they struggled with great loss. This work is not yet complete and I hope and pray that God will continue to stir hearts to help restore lives. I thank Pastor Buss for his dedication to this work and wish him the Lord's blessings and guidance as he transitions toward his next call.

At Prince of Peace, I see tremendous opportunity for sharing Christ with our New Orleans East neighbors, thanks to our determined members who have dedicated themselves to reestablishing this ministry over the past five years. It is my hope that Prince of Peace and Camp Restore will continue to grow together as shining examples of Christian community, both locally and nationally, working together to love our neighbors for the glory of God.



Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Goodine" in a cursive style.

Rev. David Goodine
Executive Director of RAI Ministries
Pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church



Bring Your VOLUNTEER GROUP to CAMP RESTORE THIS FALL!

As the weather begins to cool here this fall, we hope that you'll take the opportunity to come down to volunteer! The Fall and Winter are wonderful times of year in New Orleans, as there are no heavy winter

parkas necessary! We encourage adult groups to avoid the rush of Spring Break and Summer and help us to restore faith, home and community in New Orleans. Many projects continue as we begin the interior work to restore Trinity Claiborne Lutheran Church, continue to help residents move home, and become more enmeshed in the fabric of our community. We hope that you will help us by spreading the word to your congregation now. Call us at 888-248-2636 or visit our website if you would like additional information!

If you are a college student or leader, please consider signing your team up for Fall, Winter, or Spring Break now! Several weeks in March and April are getting full already! We look forward to a busy year ahead!

Camp Restore Welcomes PIERRE A. CAPDAU UNO CHARTER SCHOOL TO CAMPUS

As the summer comes to a close and the school year begins, Camp Restore, RAI Ministries and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church are excited to announce a new community partnership! Pierre A. Capdau Elementary, of the University of New Orleans Charter School Network, moved into the former Prince of Peace Lutheran School building this summer and will begin classes this fall. Camp Restore will continue to house up to 150 (and sometimes more!) volunteers a week as there is still plenty of work to be done throughout the city.

All volunteer operations will continue on the property of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Lodging has been moved to air-conditioned bunkhouses that are located behind the church building. We will continue to have a spacious volunteer lounge and dining area with showers and restrooms remaining easily accessible.

As both volunteers and Camp Restore staff adjust to this transition, we ask for your continued support and prayers. If you have any questions about the new layout of Camp Restore, please email, call or check out our Facebook page to see pictures, hear what current volunteers are saying and watch videos of the transition.

Photo by: Nathan B. Harmann



FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF KATRINA TO BE COMMEMORATED WITH K5 EVENTS

THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE KATRINA is quickly approaching and on August 29th, 2010 we will have the opportunity to reflect on the recovery and how God continues to work through the Gulf Coast.



"K5" events will begin with a decommissioning ceremony at Camp Biloxi led by LCMS President Gerald Kieschnick. The commemorative events will continue in New Orleans with an all-city

worship at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and Camp Restore. Our wonderful friends to the North, the Chicago Area Mission Partnership, will also be holding a K5 fundraiser to spread awareness of the campaign to Restore Trinity Claiborne. We invite you to join or hold an event close to your home!

Visit www.camprestore.org and our Facebook Fan page at www.facebook.com/camprestore for more event information!



National Youth Gatherings Continue in NEW ORLEANS

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod National Youth Gathering, hosted in New Orleans from July 18-20, was an enormous success on all levels! Over 20,000 youth united in the city to grow in their faith, help restore the fabric of this community and to help spread God's Word. The 2010 LCMS NYG followed the ELCA NYG of 2009, which will be returning to New Orleans in 2012!

Camp Restore was privileged to host over 500 youth in the days before and after the convention. Volunteers came from far and wide to help restore everything from homes for those who have not yet moved back in since Hurricane Katrina, to the wetlands, helping to rebuild a natural protection barrier against future storms.

During their time at the NYG, participants engaged in servant events, listened to speakers in live sessions, attended mass events in the Superdome each night, befriended others from all across the country and were introduced to various organizations including Camp Restore! Every person we spoke to was having a great time and learning so much about themselves, our city, and their peers in the Lutheran community.



Support our Mission...

MAKE A GIFT TODAY!

Camp Restore's mission is achieved almost exclusively through contributions of time, talent and treasure from volunteers and donors across the U.S. and around the world. We thank God for all the wonderful servants He has sent and we humbly ask for your continued prayers.

We hope that you stay personally involved in this life-changing ministry as you feel called and are able - whether that's organizing a volunteer trip, making a donation, or simply inviting a friend to join in.

Your financial contributions help to drive Camp Restore's efforts forward and make it possible for us to deliver on our mission to restore faith, home and community in the Name of Jesus. Please consider making a one-time donation or monthly giving commitment today.

Thank You!

-Your Friends at Camp Restore



Building a foundation on Christ for the future of the Lower Ninth Ward

Join Camp Restore in the Effort to **RESTORE TRINITY CLAIBORNE**

The Campaign to Restore Trinity Claiborne is now underway with the endless dedication of volunteers! If you haven't yet heard, the former Trinity Lutheran Church building was deeded to RAI Ministries in December of 2009. Camp Restore, with the assistance of volunteer groups such as the Chicago Area Mission Partnership and the LCMS Texas District, is in the process of restoring the structure to be used as a multi-program community ministry center to help New Orleans' Lower Ninth Ward build its future as a vibrant and healthy community.

Trinity is the last church in the Southern District LCMS that has not rebuilt or relocated since Hurricane Katrina. The residents of the Lower Ninth Ward have expressed their desire for the building to return as a church as well as a youth-focused community center. We are partnering with them and hope that you and your congregation become a part of this historic effort.

For more information, or to help with the rebuilding of Trinity Claiborne, please check out our website at www.restoretrinity.org or call Kurt Jostes at 888-248-2636 ext. 5015.