

CBF Offering for Global Missions Litanies 2011-2012

Litany 1

Sharing Hope in Miami and Sub-Saharan Africa

- Leader: God is on a mission – A mission to heal the sick, to bring justice to the poor and oppressed, and to proclaim peace in our troubled land.
- People: We are grateful for God’s mission. How can we join in this good work?
- Leader: We see God’s mission at work in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, where refugees of wars are given opportunities to start a new life. In these places, children are given food and education and their parents are learning new skills to find jobs and provide for their families.
- People: We are grateful for God’s mission. How can we join in this good work?
- Leader: We see God’s mission at work in Miami, Florida, in the Overtown community, where children are loved and cared for, where families are learning to break the cycle of poverty. Here, children come to Touching Miami with Love where they receive help with their homework and the support they so greatly need.
- People: We are grateful for God’s mission. How can we join in this good work?
- Leader: God is on a mission and we have been asked to join with God. We can participate in this work by making God’s mission, our passion.
- People: With God’s help, we will make God’s mission our passion.
- All: We have heard the call of God to spread the good news. We will pray, we will give, and we will go, until God’s mission on this earth is complete.

Litany 2

Refuge and Hope in Sub-Saharan Africa

Based on John 14:27

Leader: Jesus told his disciples, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

People: The peace of Christ is a priceless gift.

Leader: This peace that Jesus gives is a peace that is meant to be shared. In Uganda, CBF field personnel share God’s peace with refugees by helping them start new lives.

People: We have been given peace. We must join Christ in giving peace to others.

Leader: In a world full of war and conflict, in a world where child soldiers fight and families are forced to flee their homes, the promise of peace seems too far away.

People: Oh Lord, we long for your peace.

Leader: In a world where governments are unstable, where people live in fear, where death is all too common, the promise of peace feels like a hollow promise.

People: Oh Lord, send your peace.

Leader: Yet, in a world where refugees are forced to leave their homes and start over, we are grateful that God’s promise of peace lights our path. This promise of peace reminds us of the work we must do.

People: Oh Lord, teach us to bring your peace to this world.

All: We have been given God’s peace, not only for our own lives, but also to share with others. Teach us Lord to pray, give and go as we bring your peace to our world.

OPTION: After this litany, transition to the *Pass the Peace* portion of your worship service.

Litany 3

Touching Miami With Love

Based on John 1:1 (The Message)

- Leader: We are called to community. We are called to be God's light in broken and difficult places. Christ has called us to love our neighbors and to be good neighbors in this world.
- People: The call to community is Christ's call – a call we must follow.
- Leader: We remember this call to community by celebrating a Savior who pitched his tent among us. Scripture tells us, "The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood."¹ Yes, the call of Christ is a call to be present with our neighbors.
- People: The call to community is Christ's call, and we will gladly follow.
- Leader: In some neighborhoods, peace and security seem out of reach. In the Overtown community in Miami, Florida, CBF field personnel strive to create a safe place for children and their families. A place where the community can dream together of ways to revitalize their neighborhoods and improve their own lives.
- People: This work is the work Christ has called us to – the work of creating community.
- Leader: We can stand in solidarity with the people of Overtown by praying, giving and going. The mission of Christ is deep and wide. It demands that we work together to do God's good work.
- People: Christ, we will join you in this mission.
- Leader: Whether down the street or across the country, we're called to be good neighbors. We're called to create community in broken and difficult places. Will you join in this good work? Will you commit to be a neighbor to someone in need?
- All: Christ, show us how to love our neighbors. Teach us how to pray, to give and to go.

¹ John 1:1, The Message