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“We have felt the love, and that draws us back.”



DAILY NEWS PHOTOS/Jacob Brooks

Above, Eva Chapman holds the keys to her new home on Washington Street in Bogalusa Friday. Pictured with her are family members (from left): sister Linda Chapman, son Chris Chapman and sister Brenda Chapman. Below, with hands on the new home, members of Solid Rock Carpenters pray inside the new home of Eva Chapman.

Keys to * Habitat for Humanity * a new home

JACOB BROOKS
THE DAILY NEWS

BOGALUSA — Eva Chapman received the keys to her new home Friday, and was all smiles during the 30-minute dedication ceremony organized by Washington Habitat for Humanity.

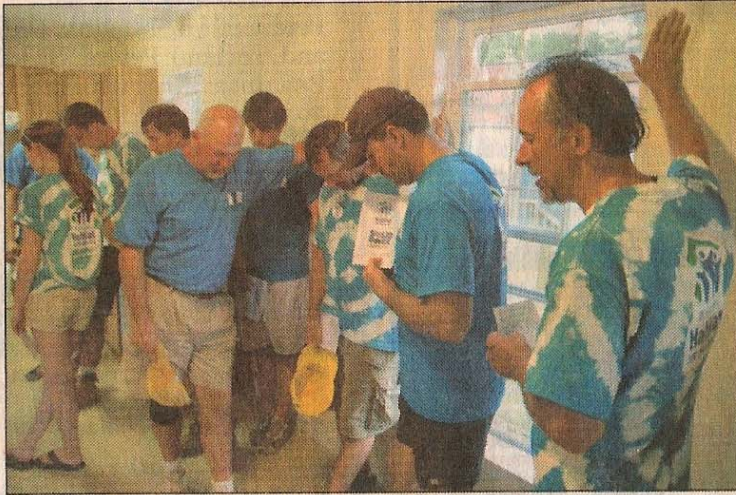
Chapman, a 47-year-old Bogalusa woman, said she felt “happy and blessed” to get her new home, the seventh Habitat house to be dedicated in Washington Parish this year. She will live in the home with her 16-year-old son, Brian Chapman.

During the ceremony, attended by Habitat officials, volunteers and Chapman’s family and friends, the Rev. Phil Stagg led a prayer ceremony, blessing the home.

Volunteers from Illinois-based Solid Rock Carpenters were also on hand, offering more prayers, and handing Chapman the keys to her new home on Washington Street, as well as a Bible and a tool kit.

The walls of Chapman’s home originally came from Tennessee, where Habitat members had constructed the frame not long after Hurricane Katrina as part of “Operation: Home Delivery,” Stagg said.

Much of the physical labor in constructing the home came from Youth Build Bogalusa, Solid Rock and other volunteers, officials said.



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DAILY NEWS PHOTO/Jacob Brooks

Eva Chapman (left) receives the keys to her new home from Megan Engle of Solid Rock Carpenters.

HABITAT: *New home*

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Two more Habitat homes are scheduled to be dedicated in Washington Parish this summer, and five more homes are being worked on, Habitat officials said.

The number of Habitat homes going up in

Washington Parish greatly increased after Solid Rock began making numerous visits here last year, usually bringing in 40 more volunteers for weeks at a time.

"We have felt the love, and that draws us back," said Solid Rock co-founder Jeff Engle during Friday's dedication.