



PNEC Disaster Ministries Update

9/7/2017

Since last week's article, I have been blessed to hear about the amazing work that churches in our conference are doing to help the survivors of Hurricane Harvey. Some churches have opened their doors to be collection sites for Emergency Cleanup bucket items. A few churches have applied for the UCC \$250.00 matching grants. Other churches are coming up with creative ways to fund raise and give to the United Church of Christ's Disaster Ministries, who will be in Texas long after the news crews leave the area, to help with the long term recovery. Please take the time to share with me what your church is doing. It is inspiring to hear of the "good works" already happening in our congregations. Sometimes your idea can "spark" an idea for another church!

If you are feeling the need to "Be the Church" and "Do Something" I have some simple suggestions for you at this time.

1. **Pray-** If all of us pray for the survivors of Hurricane Harvey and for those in the path of Hurricane Irma that will be a lot of prayers! Tell your friends and family to pray with us.
2. **Donate-** Monetary donations are the best way to make sure those affected will get the help they will desperately need. The United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries has set up online donations at:
<https://transactions.ucc.org/CampaignForm/UCChrist/Hurricane+Harvey+relief>
Or if you prefer to donate by mail: **make checks payable to United Church of Christ, with "Hurricane Harvey" in the memo. Mail to: United Church of Christ c/o Financial Services, 700 Prospect Ave E, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100**
3. **Assemble CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets or Hygiene Kits** – There is an urgent need for Church World Service Emergency Cleanup Buckets. A shopping list of the items that need to be in the bucket can be found at: <http://cwskits.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/CWS-Emergency-Cleanup-Buckets.pdf>

CWS will also need hygiene kits which can be assembled from the shopping list that

is found at:

<http://cwskits.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/CWS-Hygiene-Kit.pdf>



There are churches joining together to pack buckets and to combine their bucket/kit supplies. If your church would be interested in “joining forces” with other congregations please contact Donna Zangari for details.

After your buckets or hygiene kits are complete, you can bring them to **one of our 3 drop off locations**:

1. Jordan UCC in South Whitehall Township. Jordan UCC, 1837 Church Rd, Allentown, PA 18104. Donna Zangari is the contact person for this site. Please call, text (484-357-8399), or email (dzangari3@gmail.com), so that arrangements can be made for your drop off.
2. PNEC Conference Office, Palmerton will also accept buckets. Please call the conference office to arrange drop off at that location (610-826-3113).
3. Christ U.C.C. 460 Main Street in Conyngham, PA 18219 will accept completed buckets or kits. Please contact Pastor Sandy Murphy to arrange drop off at 570-956-4980 cell.

PNEC Disaster Ministries will transport the buckets and hygiene kits to Church World Service, New Windsor, Maryland. There is no current deadline for dropping of buckets and kits. We believe that with the active hurricane season we should continue to make and collect kits over the next few months or as long as congregations are active in this mission. Each week I will update this article with information about our bucket/kit collection.

We can all help the people experiencing such devastating loss. One small act of kindness can make a difference in someone’s life. Please consider helping our neighbors in Texas and areas affected by the hurricane.

For questions, information about churches that are working together, and other details please contact:

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