



In the wake of Hurricane Harvey - How You Can Help

Friends:

Hurricane Harvey hit hard. The rains, the winds, and the floods have come. Hurricane Harvey is a very serious storm and is leaving its mark on the state of Texas with nearby states on watch. The flooding is bad and is expected to get worst in the days ahead. The rebuilding is going to be a long process.

In a conversation with Northeastern Jurisdiction VIM Coordinator the Rev. Tom Lank, he said what is needed right now is much prayer and UMCOR Flood Buckets/Relief Kits and Health Kits.

For now, individuals and local churches can help in two ways. Monetary contributions can be made to UMCOR to support the full-time personnel, supplies, and equipment needed for the disaster response and setting up the long-term rebuilding plan.

You can [give online](#) to UMCOR's Domestic Disaster Advance #901670, or send a check to UMCOR, with the Advance number in the notation line, to Conference Treasurer, 11711 E. Market Place, Fulton, MD 20759.

Help can also be given by preparing Flood Buckets/Relief Kits and/or Health Kits for distribution.

UMCOR has warehouses across the country stocked with Relief Kits and other supplies ready for the next truck headed to an area of immediate need.

Putting together Relief Kits can be done by a family or small group or as a larger church effort. For details about specific immediate needs and instructions for Relief Kits and Health Kits, visit

<http://missioncentral.org/how-can-i-help/donate-items/>.

Currently the Baltimore-Washington Conference has three 'mini-hubs' which collect flood buckets and transport them up to the main storage facility called Mission Central in Pennsylvania. These mini-hubs are in Maryland at Bentley Springs UMC in Parkton, Liberty Grove UMC in Burtonsville, and St. Matthews UMC in Bowie. For more information about these hubs, visit <http://missioncentral.org/hubs>. If you can not get to one of the hubs, completed flood buckets can be dropped off at the BWC Mission Center at 11711 E. Market Place in Fulton.

This is the immediate need and how we can help the people in Texas right now. FEMA is working with the local and state agencies in Texas to make sure everyone is safe. At the appropriate time, Emergency Response Teams (ERT) will be requested and, when Texas is ready to receive teams for helping with the recovery and rebuilding, there will be opportunities for UMVIM teams to travel and work directly with the people. We will keep you posted and updated as this unfolds.

Please surround the people of Texas in your prayers and let us be a light of hope and love in their time of need.

Blessings,

[Rev. Joan Carter-Rimbach](#), BWC Volunteers in Mission Coordinator

[Rev. Stacey Cole-Wilson](#) and [Pam Bowen](#), BWC Support Staff