

Good Neighbors: Good for Recovery

How UMCOR staff and volunteers answer Jesus' call to love our neighbors.

Jesus used the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:30-37 to explain not only who our neighbors are, but also how we should treat them. UMCOR's approach to disaster response is carried out in the spirit of the Good Samaritan.



Dixie Fischer/St. Mark's UMC, Lincoln, NE

The Good Samaritan

- Helped the stranger who was different from him
- Knew where to find help
- Stayed involved until the stranger was safe
- Provided what the stranger needed—never mind what the officials did
- Gave himself personally to the stranger before he gave money

UMCOR Staff and Volunteers

- Seek to help the most vulnerable survivors
- Know how to help because they are trained
- Stay with survivors through thick and thin
- Find resources, get answers, and help make arrangements and solutions
- Are excellent listeners and share their faith if and when they are asked

Generosity

The generosity of United Methodists is apparent through their giving. More than \$62 million was contributed in 2005 to UMCOR for hurricane relief and rehabilitation. "The compassion of the United Methodist people for those in crisis appears to be unlimited," said the Rev. Paul Dirdak, UMCOR's Deputy General Secretary.

Partnership

UMCOR is working in partnership with five annual conferences to not only bring immediate relief but also to assist the most vulnerable survivors for years to come. United Methodists and others have been very generous with their giving. Because of this, UMCOR has been able to fully fund each request it has received to date from the affected area conferences and anticipates being able to fund a robust United Methodist recovery program into the years ahead.

Outreach

There are some 112,000 families that UMCOR expects to reach through case management—12,000 of those households will be served through the United Methodist disaster response network and an additional 100,000 will be reached through Katrina Aid Today, an UMCOR-administered case management consortium

Commitment

UMCOR has already helped tens of thousands hurricane survivors by supplying funds and seasoned field experts to annual conferences. But this is only the beginning. In the months and years ahead, UMCOR will continue to walk with the annual conferences through the complex and lengthy recovery.



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UMCOR is a unit of the General Board of Global Ministries