



RECOVERY REPORT



*“And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.”
Revelation 21:23*

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Thank you for your strong support and prayers that make this vital ministry possible. Please know that our ability to marshal help to those in desperate need hinges on your continued incarnational participation, your continued financial support, and most of all your continued prayers. Your disaster response team could not be here without you.

As you are winding down summer travels and beginning to plan a new season of activities, please keep praying for those affected and rebuilding their lives in the wake of disaster. Please read the following reports, be encouraged and rejoice about what is happening, and prayerfully consider what you can do to help those in the community of faith and their neighbors in the on-going response work.

Again, thank you so much for your partnership with us!

Atlantic City NJ-New City Fellowship

Work continues at a strong pace at our site in Atlantic City NJ at New City Fellowship. MNA Disaster Response Volunteers and MNA ShortTerm Missionaries have been working non-stop since November 1, 2012, assisting the local church body in reaching out to their community through mercy ministry. Teams have served more than 50 families who were directly impacted by the storm by gutting, mucking, rebuilding, etc. Work is expected to continue through the fall. MNA SecondCareer is hosting a special event Sept 7-21 for RV'ers. Visit our website to know how you can join in (even if you don't own a camper).



Arkie (orange), MNA DR Specialist Glen Pressley (red) with Christ Covenant-Matthews NC Team serving at New City Fellowship-Atlantic City NJ.



Allenwood NJ-Calvary PCA

MNA Disaster Response and the Orthodox Presbyterian Church Disaster Response have been working together to undertake recovery ministry in perhaps the hardest hit areas of NJ. Teams have stabilized dozens of homes. Praise God for Site Manager, Calvary Ruling Elder Ric Springer, and his unwavering commitment to see restoration happen in Brick, Neptune, Asbury Park and Seaside Heights. We are very thankful for the many teams, including many RUF teams that have served here during the past 8 months. Teams continue to be needed through August.

Ric says, *“You are correct that the hosting of teams has been taxing on our congregation, but we are rejoicing that we have been able to do it! The Lord has blessed us in so many ways! All of the teams have expressed their appreciation for our ministry to them as they serve the Lord in the recovery efforts. Without the financial and practical support of MNA Disaster Response we would not have been able to do this.”* Luke 17:10 comes to mind when thinking of Ric.

South River NJ-Redentor PCA

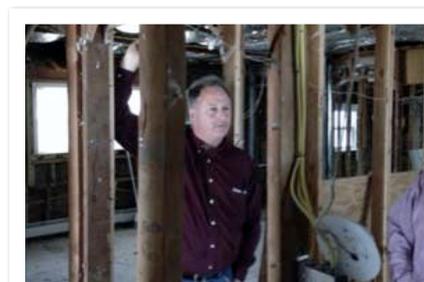
Praise for the volunteers and financial givers who provided the funds to restore the church physical plant’s electrical system, heating and cooling systems, plumbing and mandated alarm system.



Redentor is the 19th church building that MNA has helped restore since 2005. Please pray for this church family as they now turn their attention towards the recovery of the community.



Queens NY-Ascension PCA



Prayer and praise for Site Manager David Cook who is continuing to do a fantastic job coordinating volunteers in a multitude of tasks, including gutting damaged homes, and rebuilding. A focus of the ongoing work is the Broad Channel Community consisting of 900+ tidal-surge damaged homes, mostly forgotten by other agencies. Please commit to pray for the work in Broad Channel, and pray for Ascension PCA in Queens as the church leadership considers establishing a new preaching point in this resilient blue-collar community. Disaster recovery work will continue here through the fall at least.

Brooklyn NY-Resurrection Presbyterian Church

MNA Disaster Response Intern, Caleb Keane, moved from St Louis MO to lead recovery efforts in the hardest hit areas of Brooklyn NY. DR is partnering with Resurrection EPC, a congregation that was planted with the help of Redeemer PCA NY. Because we are rooted in common theological commitments, we are partnering with Resurrection EPC to help folks in desperate need, celebrating all work being done in the name of Jesus. The primary work is underway on Coney Island and includes mucking, gutting and rebuilding. One home that is being rebuilt is owned by a man who is nearly 90 years old and has never lived anywhere else. This project, like all MNA coordinated work, provides an opportunity to demonstrate the Gospel to a watching (and waiting) world.



Please keep praying for resources so this work can continue into the New Year.

Secondary work includes supporting Brooklyn Jubilee, a faith-based legal advocacy ministry that is concentrating on serving storm-affected folks who lived in government-subsidized high-rise housing pre-storm, as they navigate the matrix on their path to adequate housing.

Moore Oklahoma-North Texas Tornado Response

Work is continuing at a high level in partnership with the Oklahoma-based churches of the North Texas Presbytery. After the initial debris cleanup and stabilization of structures, teams are concentrating on building “Sheds of Hope”, backyard yard-barn structures. The Sheds of Hope (SOH) project has become a defining ministry of MNA Disaster Response. Last week we celebrated our 60th SOH build in Moore OK. More than 800 SOH have been built since 2005. The sheds provide a way for storm-damaged families to begin to get their rebuilding started; storage for personal items recovered from destroyed homes, storage for rebuilding tools and supplies goes a long way to show mercy.



Typically, in storm-flattened communities, MNA mobilized volunteers are the first ‘rebuilders’ as we move in and build sheds on empty lots where homes once stood. Please consider forming a team and coming to the heartland to build

sheds. Last week I helped 12 US Marines who were on leave build a shed for a disabled Marine. We currently have pre-qualified 100+ additional families who need a shed.



City Presbyterian Church member and Site Manager Laura Atherton is doing a great job in vetting families, ordering sheds, expediting tools and supplies, and coordinating volunteers. Daniel Killian, RUF OSU, dedicated his ‘spare time’ this summer to serve as Construction Manager. Matt Teeselink, Covenant Seminary student, reordered priorities and moved to Moore to coordinate volunteers for the past six weeks.

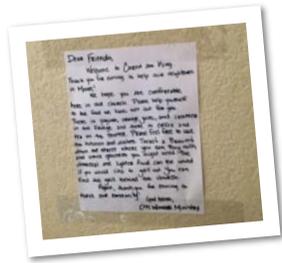
Christ the King, Norman OK is housing volunteers. The North TX Presbytery Shower Trailer has been deployed there since mid-June. Christ the King PCA Ruling Elder Jim Leckie is coordinating volunteer sheltering. Over 500 volunteers have participated in building the sheds so far. Can you come and help build sheds?

Trinity PCA Opelika Alabama, Christ PCA Claremore Oklahoma-Churches Destroyed by Fires

Our Trinity Opelika AL and Christ Claremore OK congregations lost their physical plants by way of fires during July. MNA DR staff members have been working

closely with both congregations as they consider next steps.

Both structures were insured, but both congregations have difficult roads ahead as they grapple with the rebuilding process. Please pray for wisdom and the Lord's unction as they make plans for the future.



DuBois PA-Grace Reformed PCA Flooded by Record Rains

On June 27th DuBois PA received about seven inches of rain which caused massive flash flooding. On that day Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church (PCA) was flooded when a nearby creek overtopped its banks resulting in the sanctuary being inundated with four feet of water. Virtually everything inside was destroyed; the congregation has been gathering for

worship in the neighboring town of Clearfield. Although the rented space was uninsured, repairs are currently underway. Sister congregations in Ascension and neighboring presbyteries are responding with either donated items or money to replace what was lost.

Pastor Derek Millers says this, *"We know when the Lord brings trials it is also a time for opportunities - opportunities for stretching our faith and sacrificing for Him and the sake of others. We have already begun to see unexpected blessings from this good providence of God"*. MNA DR is conducting a low level appeal to meet this need. Please contact MNA DR Facilitator Sherry Lanier (slanier@pcanet.org) if you would like to help meet this need, either with a monetary gift or to replace some of the destroyed worship items.



New Volunteer Shower Trailers-PCA Midwest & Florida Regions

Praise for the two new disaster response volunteer restroom/shower trailers. They arrived in July and are now prepositioned and ready to serve the PCA Midwest & Florida Regions. This new development increases the number of shower trailers to five, with ST (Shower Trailer) 1 in North Carolina, ST 2 in Mississippi, and ST 3 in Texas. The addition of the two new shower trailers enlarges the geographical disaster response readiness footprint of the PCA with ST 4 now on site in Orlando FL (University PCA) and ST 5 is on site in St. Louis MO (New City Fellowship PCA).



Many thanks to MNA DR Regional Specialists Keith Perry and Andy Eisenbraun who coordinated the collaboration of regional churches to make the purchase of these new shower trailers a reality. Currently ST 3 is on site at Christ the King PCA in Norman OK supporting volunteers working after the recent tornado in Moore OK.

To know more about the MNA Shower Trailer Ministry and how you can get involved please [click here](#). We are now praying for the formation of a new shower trailer deployment team in the Atlantic Northeast. The trailer we would like to acquire for this region is very expensive since it will need to be cold weather proof. Let me know how you can help.

A personal note from Arklie:

We are watching the weather reports with great interest. The Gulf waters are continuing to heat up which is never a good thing relative to hurricane formation. When cyclones enter the warm Gulf waters they can easily spin up and turn in to unpredictable hurricanes. So, keep praying that God will calm the storms. The PCA is better organized, trained and equipped than any time in our history but we still have a long way to go in overall readiness. [Click here](#) to learn one way you can help us get there.

Also pray for your MNA Disaster response staff. We have never entered deep hurricane season with as many worksites already running at capacity.



All of our staff, assessors, site managers and most of our key leaders have been serving at multiple sites since Sandy made landfall last October. Within the next few weeks we will have mobilized over 100,000 PCA volunteers. This is a milestone we can celebrate! If you have ever organized a mission trip you can appreciate the exercises involved in getting folks to the field. Most amazing is that MNA does this without charging administration or participation fees. Each of our staff members raises our personal support in the same way as global missionaries.

Christians, be assured that God made the world and called it good, He will one day re-make the world and call it good again, and in between He sent His only Son to redeem His people who live in the world so that we will be set free from sin and death and will live new lives of freedom and righteousness in anticipation of the day when He will make everything new, including NY, NJ, PA, AL and OK.

Each day I have the high privilege of standing at a vantage point on the front lines where I see the Body of Christ, the communion of saints, hurdle roadblocks in order to see the Kingdom advance...together. [Romans 14](#) and [1 Corinthians 8-10](#) come to mind. If these opportunities are but a cursed shadow of what we will enjoy when the glory of Jesus Christ is the unsetting sun illuminating the New Jerusalem, then we are rich people indeed. Thank you for your prayers, love, friendship and financial support. We could not be here without you on our team. We can look confidently forward to the day when there will be no more suffering and no more pain and we will live in a place that the Lamb has now gone to prepare for us, a place that turbulent floodwater, hurricanes, fires and tornadoes can never destroy. Oh what a day that will be!

*Serving you with my whole heart,
Arklie – on behalf of the entire MNA Disaster Response Team*