



S.T.O.R.M. Report

Short-Term Outreach, Relief & Missions

From the Office of the Short-Term Missions Coordinator

Vol. 5, Special Edition 1

September 8, 2016

Special Report: Louisiana Flooding

*The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!
Psalm 29:10-11 (ESV)*

We've heard from many of you who are wondering how our two OP churches in Louisiana fared in the recent disastrous flooding, and whether or not the OPC will be involved in the relief efforts.

First, we are thankful to report that Rev. Jack Sawyer, Pastor of Pineville OPC in Pineville, LA, responded to us on August 17th, *"Our congregation is on high ground and we are safe. As far as I know, while Natchitoches has experienced flooding this year, the church family there has not been affected."*

Secondly, while the OPC does not have plans to pursue its own disaster response efforts in the region, the Committee on Diaconal Ministries (CDM) has sent an initial gift of **\$10,000** to our sister denomination - the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) Mission to North America (MNA) Disaster Response Ministry - who are hard at work ministering to affected PCA families and others in Louisiana.

The PCA kindly responded to us, *"We are truly so very grateful for your partnership in the ministry of disaster response. We are delighted to have your folks serve with us. We pray that our bond as brothers and sisters in Christ will help underscore the beauty and wonder of the Gospel, the real hope to the broken!"*

For those with an interest in becoming directly involved, MNA Disaster Response is looking for volunteers. Visit PCAMNA.org, scroll down to "Catastrophic LA Flood – Volunteers Needed," and click on "How You Can Help."

We highly commend participation in the work of the PCA. The PCA is very experienced at this and does it well. They were incredibly generous to us when the OPC was so significantly impacted by Hurricane Sandy in New York and New Jersey in 2012. They came to our aid.

Those interested in making a financial contribution to Louisiana flood relief through the OPC may visit OPCSTM.org, click on "Disaster Response," and click on "How To Donate."

What a comfort to know that despite the difficult circumstances, the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. Please keep the CDM in prayer, that we may glorify him as we seek to participate in showing mercy to our neighbors!

Request an email version of the full S.T.O.R.M. Report from:

David P. Nakhla, Short-Term Missions and Disaster Response Coordinator
Ph: (562) 760-7606 Email: Nakhla.1@opc.org Website: www.OPCSTM.org
Janet L. Birkmann, Administrative Assistant, Email: Birkmann.1@opc.org
Facebook: [OPCShortTermMissions](https://www.facebook.com/OPCShortTermMissions) [OPCDisasterResponse](https://www.facebook.com/OPCDisasterResponse)



S.T.O.R.M. Report

Short-Term Outreach, Relief & Missions

From the Office of the Short-Term Missions Coordinator

Vol. 5, Special Edition 1

September 8, 2016

Special Report: Louisiana Flooding

*The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!
Psalm 29:10-11 (ESV)*

We've heard from many of you who are wondering how our two OP churches in Louisiana fared in the recent disastrous flooding, and whether or not the OPC will be involved in the relief efforts.

First, we are thankful to report that Rev. Jack Sawyer, Pastor of Pineville OPC in Pineville, LA, responded to us on August 17th, *"Our congregation is on high ground and we are safe. As far as I know, while Natchitoches has experienced flooding this year, the church family there has not been affected."*

Secondly, while the OPC does not have plans to pursue its own disaster response efforts in the region, the Committee on Diaconal Ministries (CDM) has sent an initial gift of **\$10,000** to our sister denomination - the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) Mission to North America (MNA) Disaster Response Ministry - who are hard at work ministering to affected PCA families and others in Louisiana.

The PCA kindly responded to us, *"We are truly so very grateful for your partnership in the ministry of disaster response. We are delighted to have your folks serve with us. We pray that our bond as brothers and sisters in Christ will help underscore the beauty and wonder of the Gospel, the real hope to the broken!"*

For those with an interest in becoming directly involved, MNA Disaster Response is looking for volunteers. Visit PCAMNA.org, scroll down to "Catastrophic LA Flood – Volunteers Needed," and click on "How You Can Help."

We highly commend participation in the work of the PCA. The PCA is very experienced at this and does it well. They were incredibly generous to us when the OPC was so significantly impacted by Hurricane Sandy in New York and New Jersey in 2012. They came to our aid.

Those interested in making a financial contribution to Louisiana flood relief through the OPC may visit OPCSTM.org, click on "Disaster Response," and click on "How To Donate."

What a comfort to know that despite the difficult circumstances, the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. Please keep the CDM in prayer, that we may glorify him as we seek to participate in showing mercy to our neighbors!

Request an email version of the full S.T.O.R.M. Report from:

David P. Nakhla, Short-Term Missions and Disaster Response Coordinator
Ph: (562) 760-7606 Email: Nakhla.1@opc.org Website: www.OPCSTM.org
Janet L. Birkmann, Administrative Assistant, Email: Birkmann.1@opc.org
Facebook: [OPCShortTermMissions](https://www.facebook.com/OPCShortTermMissions) [OPCDisasterResponse](https://www.facebook.com/OPCDisasterResponse)