

mna ShortTerm missions & disaster response

MINISTRY UPDATE

Dear friends, I urge you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to join in my struggle by praying to God for me. Do this because of your love for me, given to you by the Holy Spirit. ROMANS 15:30

Dear Friends,

As I write to give you an update on MNA ShortTerm Missions and Disaster Response, I am overwhelmed with my need for your continued prayers, acknowledging the deep need of God's equipping spirit. As you read this update and pray for each item, consider the following passages from Psalm 50.

"Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving" — v. 14

"The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me" — v. 2

He is pleased most of all when we need Him, when we cry out to Him, and when we call upon His name. In Psalm 50, God does not want our devotion or our service. He wants our desperation, so that grace can overflow into gratitude.

Thank you for your partnership with us in this ministry.

With a Servants Heart, Arklie

Arklie Hooten, MNA ShortTerm Missions & Disaster Response Director

Disaster Response Katrina worksites are mostly at capacity in NOLA at Redeemer and St. Roch

(pastored by Ray Cannata and JB Watkins, respectively)

The last remaining Katrina worksite in Mississippi assisting Pastor Jean Larroux at Lagniappe has "officially" shut down, but we will still be intimately involved there until early next year. MNA Disaster Response will continue to fund two staff positions at Katrina worksites through spring 2010. PCA church planters have taken advantage of the open-door opportunities God has created to reach lost folks. Please consider making a donation so we can finish strong in our response to our PCA family by helping fund these two positions.

I just returned from assisting the MNA Iowa Flood Response team shut down our worksite.

MNA Disaster Response has been working with PCA church planter Michael Langer and One Ancient Hope Mission PCA for 16 months in response to last year's Great Iowa Flood. While debriefing with the Iowa team, local church leaders asked MNA to recruit short term mission teams for next summer.

† Please pray for stamina and God's unction for Pastor Langer as he has recently started public morning worship in the midst of a city desperate for the Gospel.

† Thank God for the 1,000 volunteers that gave significantly to bring the love of Christ to these hurting communities.



left: Church Planter Michael Langer

right: Disaster Site Manager Jeremy Knapp

below: Arklie and Pastor Michael Langer recently visited the Field of Dreams movie site. Iowa is recovering, but slowly. More than 1,000 PCA volunteers assisted Iowa City and Cedar Rapids recover after 5,000 homes were flooded. Our prayer is to see Iowa become a field of dreams for the Gospel of Christ.



Last load headed to the landfill as the long running Iowa Flood Response worksite is shutdown in October.

God, working through MNA, recently provided funding to replace the sanctuary roof on Oaklawn PCA in Houston which was heavily damaged last year by Hurricane Ike.

Teams responded immediately after the storm to stabilize the roof until funding and a plan came together.

† Thank God for providing resources to complete this huge task.

In the last several years MNA has channeled funding to restore more than 12 PCA churches. Sometimes God provides immediately, and sometimes He wants us to wait for His timing.

MNA Disaster Response has recently called TE Curt Moore to a full time staff position to coordinate disaster response within the Gulf Coast Presbyteries.

Curt has been part of our MNA team for more than three years in a temporary position. He joins MNA Disaster Response Specialists Keith Perry on the ground in Florida and Scott Herwig working alongside the Mid-Atlantic Seaboard to organize churches and presbyteries for disaster response. Curt has also been helping with MNA ShortTerm Missions in development of new missions destinations across North America.

† Pray for Curt's financial support. As you maybe aware that all MNA Disaster Response staff are called to join our team in a missionary fashion. Therefore, we raise 100% of our support through individual and church giving. As a result, short term missionaries and disaster response volunteers are never required to pay a participation tax. We want folks to use God's money for ministry.

Praise God for the good progress at a recent North Texas Presbytery disaster response workshop attended by eight churches.

At this workshop, we grappled with the issues and challenges that needed to be overcome to establish an official presbytery sanctioned disaster response ministry. At a subsequent meeting, the presbytery moved to establish a permanent disaster response structure.

† Pray that God will open doors to replicate the format used during this workshop within other presbyteries, especially those in the most direct impact areas of hurricanes.

Please contact me if you would like to organize in your church or presbytery.

Reports on three new short term projects have been streaming in from the summer teams.

New projects with PCA church planters David Bennett at New City Phoenix, Rohan Crown at Amazing Grace Community Church in Lethbridge Alberta Canada, and First Church Hattiesburg Mississippi and the Hope for Hattiesburg Project were all hugely successful and will be repeated in 2010.

† Thank God for Clyde Baker, a second career carpenter who recently relocated to Montgomery AL to take the lead in finishing renovation of the worship center at Common Ground, a new PCA ministry.

After the worship center is finished, Clyde will be leading teams in renovation of low cost inner-city housing.

† Would you pray for good progress on finalizing planning on a growing list of new mission opportunities currently under development and scheduled to launch in 2010? Ask the Lord to remove obstacles that have hindered the final development of these projects which are multicultural, kingdom advancing, and gospel driven.



MNA DR Specialists Curt Moore and Keith Perry at the General Assembly looking for lunch money.



North Texas Presbytery Disaster Response Workshop.



Recent planning for the upcoming March 2010 MNA Disaster Response Training.

The DR ministry is costly.

It requires lots of money to operate worksites and provide grants for PCA people affected by disaster. Occasionally, we are challenged by folks regarding the worth of having a disaster response ministry. Government agencies serve a vital role, but the primary difference is that we are the Church; we bring the hands and feet of Christ. In the last few years, the approximately \$5,000,000 raised has helped our churches recover and reach out to their communities – more than 12 PCA church buildings have been restored, hundreds of PCA folks have been assisted and thousands of their neighbors have felt the love of Christ through the direct service of volunteers.

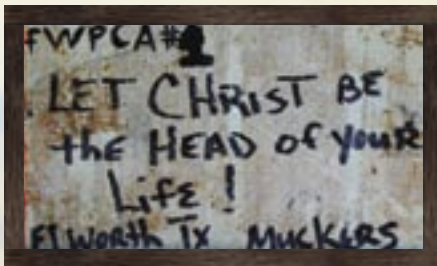
† Thank God for moving people to support our work.



Pastor Langer visiting and praying with flood victims whose home was totally rebuilt by PCA volunteers.

Read all about it! All roads lead to Chattanooga!

This week we are launching a capitol campaign to raise \$800,000 to establish a MNA Disaster Response Warehouse in Chattanooga. The warehouse will be used to pre-position disaster response supplies and equipment, provide shelter for evacuating PCA families, make available accommodations for in-transit disaster response teams, create a permanent training center for disaster response preparedness, and establish a missions educational campus to introduce congregations to hands on service for Christ through renovation, equipping, stocking and maintaining the facility. Every church can send teams to serve.



† Pray for God's provision as we begin this campaign. Beginning a campaign of this size during the current economic turmoil might seem unwise and undoable to a watching world, but we know this is a vital need and that God owns the cattle on a thousand hills.

† Pray that the Lord would lead us to His perfect choice, do it soon and that He would give us the money to do it!

Click here to view the concise plan.
Click here to donate.

Our team is growing and soon we will interview men to join us as regional disaster response specialists in South Carolina and Texas.

† Would you pray that God would deepen our love for each other as our growing team serves together and that He would keep changing us by His Spirit to love more deeply those who have been crushed by storms? Thank God with us for the work He is already doing to enable each of us to bear one another's burdens, to move toward one another in love, and to welcome new people to our team.

† Would you ask God to show our team particular ways to generate an environment and culture where volunteers and missionaries can increasingly process and experience the gospel as they serve with us and to enable us to also begin living this way more and more?

† Ask God to grow me as a leader and first and foremost as a believer of the gospel, and for opportunities to talk to people about what I believe. I am weak in communication skills, so please pray that God would continue to advance the ministries I have been placed in charge of without relying on my strength as a speaker to large groups of people.

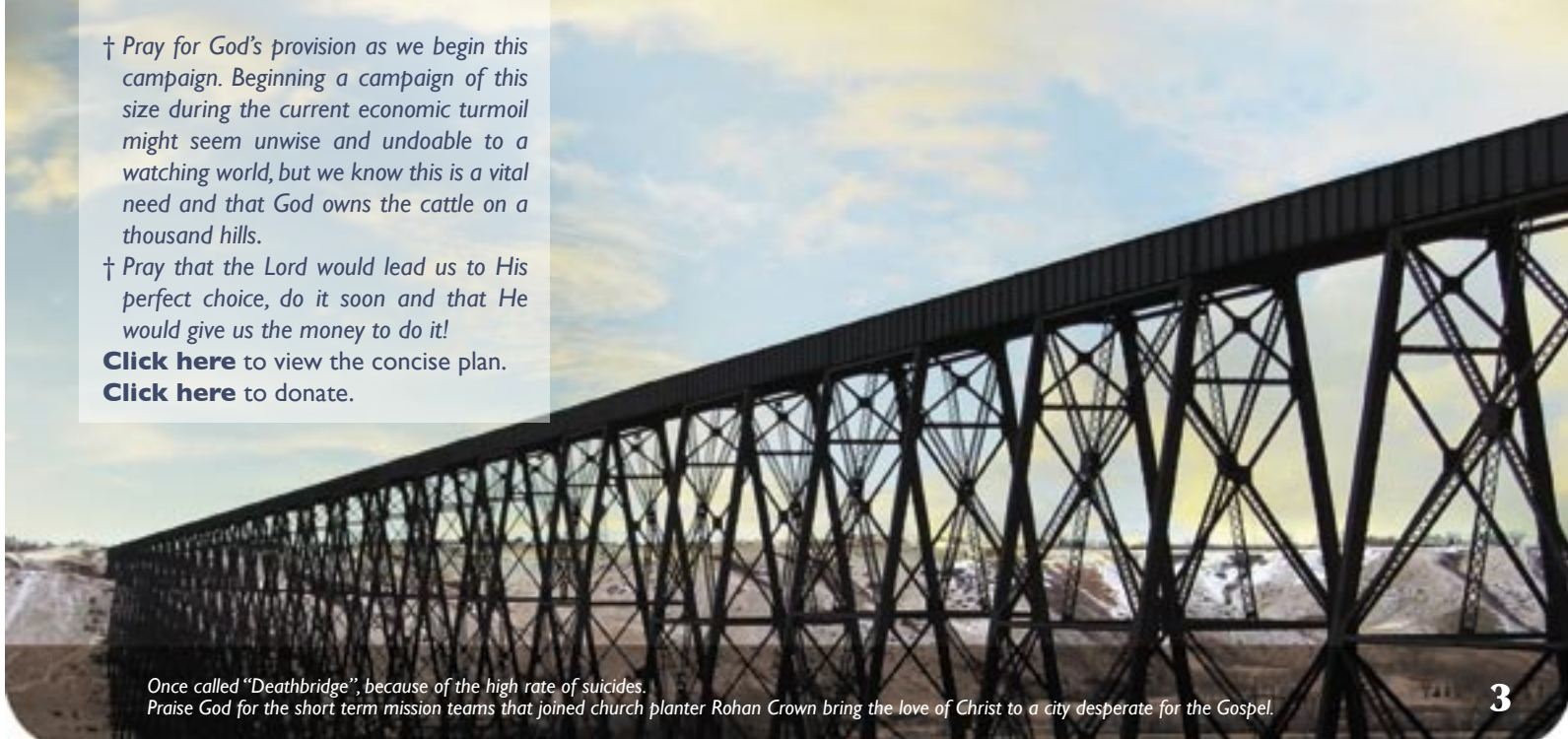
† Pray for God to do good work in me! I have agreed to speak at several fall mission conferences in North and South Carolina.

† Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel... Ephesians 6:19

† Would you please join me in prayer asking God to help me to ask forgiveness for my critical spirit? Why can't I pour out the same abundant love, patience and grace toward others that He has poured out on me?

† Ask God to deepen my gratitude for the restorative work that Jesus is doing in my own life.

† Also, please pray that God would fully fund my support account so that Katherine can join me on the field more often.



Once called "Deathbridge", because of the high rate of suicides. Praise God for the short term mission teams that joined church planter Rohan Crown bring the love of Christ to a city desperate for the Gospel.

mna SecondCareer



MNA SecondCareer is a new service to our PCA family. It is an instrument to introduce folks seeking a new, kingdom advancing career to PCA ministries that would be blessed by their service. Those opportunities might last for a season or even a year or two. We are anticipating a late fall launch of this new ministry which includes a tech-driven online instrument that bridges resources to opportunities. We have placed more than 55,000 PCA folks on the field over the last few years. This will simplify the registration process.

† *Pray for final development and launching of MNA SecondCareer*

....seek the welfare of the city....pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

JEREMIAH 29:7

mna disaster response

2010 TRAINING WORKSHOP

We are hosting a denominational-wide disaster response training gathering to be held in advance of the PCA Mercy Conference. MNA Disaster Response Specialist Scott Herwig and his wife Vicky are heading up the peer to peer training set for March 10-11, 2009 in Soddy-Daisy Tennessee.

† *Keep asking for Godly wisdom for our team, and especially for Scott and Vicky as they work to bring this together.*

To learn more or to register, **click here.**

ARKLIE HOOTEN

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MINISTRY SUPPORT

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Contribute Online at pca-mna.org. Visit us on the web at pca-mna.org.