

Presbytery of South Louisiana Recovery Minute for Mission

Five years ago, the greatest natural disaster in our nation's history challenged us as Christians to respond to an overwhelming scope of immediate crisis and long-term devastation. Hurricane Katrina ravaged communities along the Gulf Coast, leaving 1,836 people dead, and millions more displaced. A month later, Hurricane Rita made landfall. The fourth most intense hurricane ever recorded, Rita caused over 113 billion dollars of damage.

The approaching anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's August 2005 landfall is a fitting time to reflect on our response to these disasters. Members of this church are among the 18,000 Presbyterians who have answered God's call by coming to South Louisiana to help rebuild. Your time, talents and prayers have directly impacted over 700 families through the Presbytery of South Louisiana's operations in New Orleans, Slidell, Lake Charles and Houma. The Presbytery of South Louisiana is committed to assisting low-income, elderly, disabled, uninsured and underinsured households by returning them to safe, affordable, durable, and energy-efficient homes.

Five years later, the work in South Louisiana is far from complete. FEMA estimates that 1,500 people are still living in emergency trailers. Approximately 6,000 low-income households remain on waiting lists seeking assistance with the rebuild of their homes. The scope is large, but with your help, we can give the residents of South Louisiana a path home.

Join us as we mark the five year anniversary of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by participating in next Sunday's special offering which will benefit the rebuilding efforts of the Presbytery of South Louisiana. During next Sunday's worship services; we hope you will join us in remembering, giving thanks, and recommitting ourselves to serving our brothers and sisters in South Louisiana.