



Unity Through Disaster

"Sometimes it takes a disaster to bring us together," said my brother yesterday. We had not talked with each other for 11 years. Through my other brothers and my mother, we had kept in touch. When the flood and Katrina hit New Orleans, I did not realize that is where he and his family live. By the time I became aware of his location, he was already in Lawrenceville with another brother. I went over, swallowed my silly

pride, and offered a hand to help him put his life back together. Amazingly enough, he accepted.

Your Conference Information Office with the help of some local churches has been active enabling folks put their lives back together by lending aid to those effected by Hurricane Katrina. We have organized two trips to Bayou La Batre, Alabama, and continue to work on more assistance. Beyond our office, churches from state line to state line have made dozens of trips bringing supplies and volunteers.

An overwhelming aspect of this disaster, alongside the many lives uprooted and displaced, is how our Conference has responded. We have set aside our everyday tasks in our own churches to bring a coordinated hand to folks in need. Rather than going our own way and leading our own relief efforts, most have worked through Connectional Ministries and other Conference and Jurisdictional Agencies to make sure people are being assisted in a way that really makes a difference.

I have watched as churches from all areas of our Conference work together to do amazing things in order to help people. They range from collecting food, diapers, and flood buckets to housing the homeless, caring for children and sharing the love of Christ.

The reason we have such passion for lending a hand is because we feel called to serve others. We extend a helping hand not because we are made to or feel guilty but because Christ has reminded us that what happens to the very least among us happens to all of us.

As your church seeks ways to minister in this disaster, please make sure you work in and through channels. (See www.ngumc.org.) By so doing, you not only unite our Conference in the effort but also insure that the aid needed is the assistance supplied.

As I drove through Bayou La Batre last week, I witnessed firsthand the impact our church is making all over the Gulf Coast. From the children who require diapers to adults who want assurance that someone cares, we offer the gracious love of Christ. We are truly the hands and feet of the Master.

Mark Nugent
Associate Director of Communications
North Georgia Conference

Rock Eagle Men's Meeting Cancelled

The Annual United Methodist Men's Rock Eagle Retreat has been cancelled. Due to the effects of Hurricane Katrina, the facility is being used as a staging area for those displaced as a result of the Hurricane.

Work Day Offering

If your church did not receive the Work Day offering for the Children's Home, please

This Week's Calendar Event

- **Monday, September 19**
Gainesville District Set-Up Meeting
Cleveland Church - 6:30 PM
- **Tuesday, September 20**
Election Task Force Listening Sessi
- Sugar Hill Church - 10:00 AM
- **Tuesday, September 20**
Rome Action Ministries Meeting - F
Action Ministries Office - 12:00 PM
- **Thursday, September 22**
Insurance Sub-Committee Meeting
United Methodist Center - 10:30 AM
- **Saturday, September 24**
Youth Service Fund - Celebrating
Young People in Mission - Six Flag
10:00 AM

● [Complete Calendar](#)

Archived Articles / Issues

- [2001 Archives](#)
- [2002 Archives](#)
- [2003 Archives](#)
- [2004 Archives](#)
- [2005 Archives](#)

Contacts and Links of Interest

- [Click here for the retired clergy and spouse birthday listing](#)
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Lectionary and Bible Reading

Daily Bible Reading

[Click here](#) for readings that will take you through the entire Bible in a Y

Lectionary Scriptures NIV Sund
September 25th - 19th Sunday Aft
Pentecost - Green

Scripture Readings

- [Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16](#)
- [Exodus 17: 1-7](#)
- [Phil. 2: 1-13](#)
- [Matthew 21: 23-32](#)



choose another Sunday soon. The need is great and requires the effort of all of us.
