



Picking Up the Pieces

In true St. Stephen's fashion, we have come together to be the hands of Christ to our community and beyond. We have fed the hungry; we have clothed the cold and wet. We have prayed together, and we have wept together, and we have worked while our backs hurt and our feet ached.

The resources we needed came from many sources across the United States. Water, food, clothing, diapers, shampoo, bug spray, the list goes on, and just when we thought our supplies would run out, the hand of Christ stepped in and provided so that we could keep giving.

Some of us have lost everything and others have only lost sleep, and yet we keep looking to the greater community. How can we help? Where can we serve?

Our time as a distribution center is drawing to a close as we move into the next phase, Recovery. This is where we begin to muck out our homes, replace the sheetrock and flooring and in some cases replace our entire home. [Amber Norris](#) is leading this phase; please contact her, amwoodard@gmail.com or (409) 659-1036 if you can help in any way.

This Sunday is Roundup Sunday. We will gather again as a church family for worship at 8:00 and 10:00 am. There will be Back to School Blessings for all students and teachers at both services, and a barbeque lunch provided by JR Norris after the 10:00 am service .Please join us and bring your friends.



The Cajun Navy used the Broce Hall parking lot as a staging area for sending out rescuers and bringing in the evacuees.



Dave and Leila Riggs were among the many people helping to rip out the wet carpet in the church.



Supplies came from as far away as Pennsylvania.



We worked tirelessly to help those who needed it.



We gathered as a family to share our stories and have a hot meal.

A Prayer for First Responders

Blessed are you, Lord, God of mercy, who through your Son gave us a marvelous example of charity and the great commandment of love for one another. Send down your blessings on these your servants, who so generously devote themselves to helping others. Grant them courage when they are afraid, wisdom when they must make quick decisions, strength when they are weary, and compassion in all their work. When the alarm sounds and they are called to aid both friend and stranger, let them faithfully serve you in their neighbor. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

— Adapted from the Book of Blessings, #587, by Diana Macalintal



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