

Hi Friends,

Happy Easter! Today's update has a new training opportunity for those who want to help walk with 2-3 families through the recovery process. This is a great opportunity for relational ministry – see below for more! And, if you haven't heard, please read all about the new home building blitz coming up this Saturday in Beauregard! Thank you again for all the ways you continue to share Christ's love!

RSVP TO THE RESTORE LUNCHEON– Sunday May 5th – If you have been involved with our disaster response in Lee County or with hurricane relief/recovery or if you would like to become involved, you are invited to join us for the Restore luncheon on Sunday May 5th at 12:15p in the fellowship hall. Rev. Geoffrey Lentz from Port St Joe UMC will be joining us to share about his church and community's recovery and we'll also discuss our Lee County recovery efforts. **Please RSVP by next Wednesday May 1st** to Karen Green at karen.greene@aumc.net or call 334.826.8800.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or ideas about ways our church can be in ministry!

- **NEW: Compassion/Case Worker Training** – Tues 4/30 through Thurs 4/2: Are you highly relational and compassionate? Would you like to help 2-3 people navigate through the process to recover from the storm? You can become a volunteer case worker/compassion volunteer. UMCOR is providing a three day training Tuesday April 30-Thursday May 2 from 8:30-4:30 at the Alabama Rural Ministry office. If you cannot attend this training, we can still equip you to serve in this way. Even if you can only commit to one person, that would make a significant difference. You will work with ARM's 2 case managers who will assist you. Contact Lisa Pierce lisa@arm-al.org for more information.
- Cleanup with Homeowners in Partnership with Alabama Rural Ministry (ARM)
 - **URGENT NEED:** The clean-up effort is in desperate need of medium to heavy equipment and operators for moving debris. If you or someone you know has access to skid steers, bull dozers, excavators, etc, PLEASE CALL MEND (334-528-6363) to share your capacity to help. You can also contact Lisa Pierce of ARM at lisa@arm-al.org if MEND does not respond.
 - **FRIDAY 4/26 & SATURDAY 4/27:** Please contact Andrew Baird two days prior if you would like to serve: andrew@arm-al.org.
 - If you can't serve on these dates, you can still register to serve at www.arm-al.org/tornadoregistration and specify dates you are available!
 - Bring your own lunch and drinking water. Wear pants and closed toe shoes.
- Damage Assessors Needed - Anyone with construction/home repair background can assist with damage assessments. Please contact Lisa Pierce of ARM at lisa@arm-al.org or Joseph Farris of ARM at joseph@arm-al.org if you want more information on how to help.
- **BLITZ BUILD BEGINS SATURDAY** – The Fuller Center for Housing is building 3 new homes at the end of this month for families in Beauregard. They will return in September to build 6 more! Here's how we can help in April/May:
 - Sat. April 27th, 10:30a-4:30p – Help frame 3 sets of walls at Providence Baptist Church.
 - Mon. April 29th – Fri. May 3rd – Help build homes, paint siding, and more! Construction and non-construction volunteers are needed. Arrive at Providence Baptist Church at 7:30a. All tools and materials are provided. Lunch and drinking water are provided too!

- Mon. May 6th – Fri. May 10th – Help with “finishing touches” like installing flooring, landscaping, and more. We will focus our efforts with Mr. Napoleon Darby’s home (see below).
- **SPECIAL:** One of the homes is being built for Napoleon Darby. This is the same gentleman we were able to help move into a new apartment with new furniture and home goods just after the storm. We’re so excited for this opportunity to assist Napoleon with his recovery!
- **UPDATE:** EMA Warehouse Volunteers – sorting and organizing supplies, **Monday-FRIDAY**, 8a-5p, at [309 Williamson Ave Opelika, AL 36801](https://www.google.com/maps/place/309+Williamson+Ave+Opelika,+AL+36801). Minimum Age to serve is 14. [CLICK HERE to record your service hours at the warehouse.](#)
- **UPDATE:** MEND Call Center Volunteers: The volume of calls and need for volunteers at the MEND call center has gone down significantly. Volunteers can still serve here by calling 334-528-6363 but the need is not nearly as great as it was.

Thank you!

Blessings,

Joe