

# RESPONDING TO CALIFORNIA'S WILDFIRES



Photo courtesy of Chani Bockwinkel

Greetings from California.

The past few weeks have been especially difficult for my neighbors around the state. From another mass shooting to the most destructive fires on record, many are still reeling from the seemingly endless stream of bad news. Each day, the number of those confirmed dead from the Camp Fire grows, and the number of those missing remains disturbingly high.

Here in the San Francisco Bay Area, we have had far too many consecutive days of unhealthy air quality and everywhere you look people are wearing N-95 particle masks. In fact, mask distribution has been

added to other living essentials like food and gasoline as the primary response by our partners in the Diocese of Northern California to those who have lost almost everything in the fires.

Episcopal Relief & Development responds to disasters in the United States through partnerships with Episcopal dioceses. Our US Disaster team offers resources and training to help people prepare for disasters and provide emergency support so those most vulnerable can make a sustained recovery after a disaster. The benefit of our partnership with Episcopal churches is that these congregations are already deeply integrated within their communities — they are there before responders arrive and will remain long after the news cameras have gone.

To make a donation, please fill out the coupon below and mail it in with your check or credit card information. You can also contribute online to our US Disaster Fund at [www.episcopalrelief.org/us-disaster-fund-page](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/us-disaster-fund-page).

Thank you for your continuing prayers. In partnership, we are working together for lasting change.

In the peace of Christ.

Sean McConnell  
Senior Director, Engagement  
Episcopal Relief & Development

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