

Lamplight

A Newsletter of the US Disaster Program



"Be dressed, ready for service and keep your lamps burning." — LUKE 12:35

Issue #27 | October 2014

A Note from Katie

This fall, three new team members joined the US Disaster Program. With their help, I am looking forward to strengthening our network around the country and making progress mapping the ministerial resources of the Episcopal Church.

Lura Steele begins as the new Training Coordinator. She recently relocated to New York from Boston, where she graduated from Harvard Divinity School and was working on staff at The Crossing, an Episcopal emergent church community located in the Cathedral Church of St. Paul. She studied community organizing, pastoral care and theology of the body.

Dane Miller begins as one of two Episcopal Service Corps (ESC) interns focused on the Asset Map. Last year, he served as an ESC intern on rebuilding Sandy-impacted homes on Staten Island and attended our Level 2 training in Atlanta last spring.

Ethan Lowery is also an Episcopal Service Corps intern focused on the Asset Map project. Ethan is based in Berkley, CA, and was an ESC intern last year, working for the Diocese of California on a variety of projects, including the very successful disaster preparedness training they held last March. He attended the Level 2 preparedness training in Atlanta last spring.

Please join me in welcoming Lura, Dane and Ethan to Episcopal Relief & Development.

Peace,
Katie

Long-term Recovery Following Hurricane Sandy

As we near the two-year anniversary of "Superstorm" Sandy, a local news station highlights the importance of coalition building in disaster response and long-term recovery.



Join "Ready to Serve":

[Sign up here](#) to offer your services to your vulnerable neighbors after a disaster.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Episcopal Diocese of Easton, New Jersey, Newark and New York

Find volunteer opportunities and registration information for Hurricane Sandy-impacted areas at relief.episcopalny.org.

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Volunteer opportunities include indoor and outdoor repair of flood-damaged homes in the Diocese of Bethlehem, PA. Contact [The Rev. John Major](#) for information on how to sign up.

Disaster Recovery:

Episcopal Diocese of Colorado

The Diocese of Colorado is working to help people recover following flooding that swept the state's Front Range in the fall of 2013.

Episcopal Church in Connecticut

The Diocese of Connecticut is supporting Ben's Lighthouse, a

The [video](#) features Keith Adams, Disaster Recovery Coordinator for the Episcopal Dioceses of New Jersey and Newark, our partners in the Hurricane Sandy recovery, alongside the American Red Cross and VOAD.

Though progress is being made, Regional Volunteer Coordinator Heather Krulewski observes that many communities are still recovering from the hurricane and that there are people who are unable to live in their homes. The Episcopal Sandy Recovery Effort is looking for volunteers to help restore these homes. All experience levels are welcome, as the Recovery Effort has skilled team leaders to support and to train volunteers. Together, we can help restore affected communities to wholeness.

For more information visit Episcopal Sandy Recovery Effort's [website](#), [Facebook](#) page, or contact Coordinator [Heather Krulewski](#) directly.

International Day of Disaster Reduction



Over the past three years, a global Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management Working Group-made up of 12 churches and related agencies across the Anglican Communion has been creating a comprehensive resource for Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management. The "Pastors and Disasters Toolkit" is a manual and workbook of practical tools designed to help improve efforts to respond more effectively to disasters, especially within the context of local Anglican or Episcopal churches and organizations. This valuable resource is now available online as a downloadable [PDF](#) from Episcopal Relief & Development's website.

ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church in Newtown, which is working to promote the long-term health of the community's children, youth and families and to nurture a culture of non-violence and caring.

Episcopal Diocese of Easton

The Diocese of Easton is hosting volunteer groups to repair homes damaged by Hurricane Sandy and construct new ones where existing homes cannot be repaired.

Episcopal Diocese of New York

The Diocese of New York is working with volunteers and young people from Episcopal Service Corps to rebuild homes on Staten Island following Hurricane Sandy.

Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey and Newark

The Diocese of New Jersey and Newark are working with parishes statewide to identify those falling through the cracks and creating parish-based programs to meet needs following Hurricane Sandy.

Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma

The Diocese of Oklahoma is working with congregations and long-term recovery groups around the state to meet the needs of vulnerable people following tornados in the spring of 2013.

Resources for Disaster Preparedness and Response:

Visit Episcopal Relief & Development's online [Resource Library](#) for numerous case studies and best practices in disaster response at the diocesan and congregational level.



Contact Us:

Katie Mears, Director
kmears@episcopalrelief.org

Lura Steele,
Training Coordinator
lstele@episcopalrelief.org



Join Our Mailing List!