



# **North Alabama Tornado Relief: A Great Mission Opportunity**

On April 27, 2011, 21 tornadoes ravaged the state of Alabama, taking the lives of over 275 persons, injuring thousands, and destroying or damaging perhaps as many as 100,000 homes. Within the bounds of North Alabama Presbytery, over 45,000 residents have filed claims with FEMA. The recovery process will be a long one and volunteer work crews are needed to complete the debris removal as well as help those impacted by the tornadoes rebuild and/or repair their homes.

North Alabama Presbytery is committed to being an integral part of the recovery process, and would welcome a partnership with our fellow Presbyterians from Middle Tennessee. We will be focusing our efforts on individuals and families who, after all of the insurance and FEMA resources have been exhausted, still have unmet needs. We have congregations that are willing to host volunteer groups and a Recovery Coordinator ready and eager to find a place for your members to join in the recovery effort. The impacted areas are located just across the Tennessee/Alabama state line, and we would welcome your assistance for a day or for an entire week.

## **How can you become involved?**

1. Share this mission opportunity with your congregation and gather a group of those interested in joining in the recovery effort.
2. Contact Suzanne Thornhill, Recovery Coordinator for North Alabama Presbytery, letting her know of your interest and availability. Suzanne will then locate the most appropriate location for your group as well as coordinate the dates and any lodging or meal needs you may have.
3. Publicize the details of this mission endeavor within your congregation and begin praying for the volunteers as well as the families you will serve.
4. Gather the necessary supplies and head southward to share the good news of Christ's Gospel in a very tangible way.
5. Return to your congregation and share all that you have experienced.
6. Monetary donations may also be made to the North Alabama Presbytery Disaster Assistance Fund.

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