

On June 23, 2016, thunderstorms produced devastating flooding for much of West Virginia. Then-Governor Tomblin declared states of emergency for 44 of the 55 counties that make up the state. Twenty-three people lost their lives, and more than 1,200 homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed.

Churches and individuals within the Presbytery of WV and from without began to respond, "How can we help?" One way of practicing good stewardship for our neighbors was through the gifts of work and wealth.

A total of \$186,866 was received. Here are some of the ways those gifts brought and still are bringing relief to those impacted by the floods:

**WV MINISTRY OF
ADVOCACY AND WORKCAMPS
\$157,166**

Right: Restoring the Richwood Community Pool so children would have a safe space to gather. **Below:** Asheboro, NC work team engaged in flood recovery work



From February 26 through August 12, 2017, there have been 1,034 volunteers who have worked in eight locations to bring help and healing to families in need. Four of the eight locations were specifically flood-related destinations. They served 112 total families. Of those families served, 42 were flood relief. Three were brand new builds. WVMAW also helped to restore two churches that were damaged in the flood.



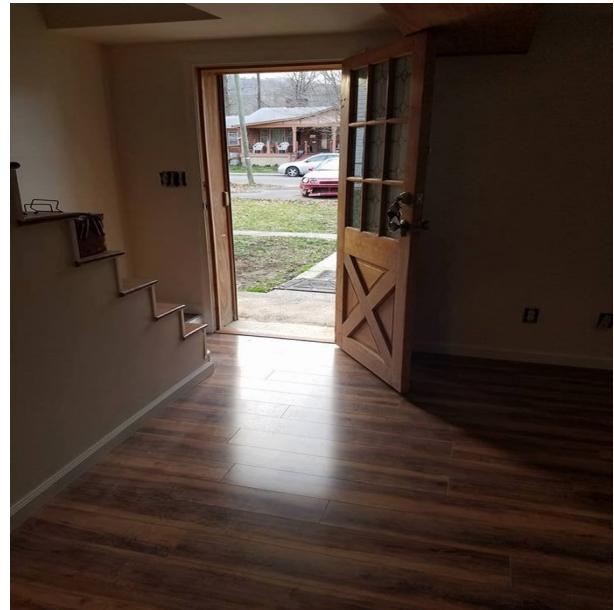
Left: The Work Teams have been busy in Birch River, helping with flood recovery. This team from Mebane, NC built front and back porches for a family, as well as underpinned the home.

Ronceverte Presbyterian Church
Pastored by Stephen Baldwin and working in hard-hit areas in
Greenbrier County. \$20,000 was received through PWV, with more
from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, among others.



This is one of the new homes in Hope Village, White Sulphur Springs (mentioned in the video). One of our church members at Ronceverte is getting a home in this neighborhood in the fall. She was a renter, and renters at first were not eligible to receive homes. However, thanks to financial gifts from groups like the United Way and our churches, it was made possible.

Left: Groups like Appalachian Service Project have worked with the Long-Term Recovery Committee to build dozens of new homes in Rainelle. This is a key ceremony, where they present the homeowners their keys. **Below left:** You can see the water line on this home in Rainelle, about waist high throughout the entire house. **Below right:** This is the same house a year later. It was stripped down to the studs and re-built from the ground up for the family. New drywall, new flooring, new door, new trim, new everything.



The Presbytery of West Virginia staff also sprang into action in the days that followed, working through the Missions Committee, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and the West Virginia Council of Churches to provide support, supplies and pastoral care. PWV even provided a Port-a-Potty in the White Sulpher Springs area! \$9,500 was received for PWV assistance.



Left: The first team of PDA folks and some of the first group of pastoral care folks

Right: The Port-a-Potty!

Below: Barbara Chalfant (center) with a pastor and educator from Montreat that came to do pastoral care.



It is only through the generosity of individuals and churches inside and outside the Presbytery of West Virginia, financially and as volunteers, that homes and businesses were mucked out, debris carted away, homes and businesses rebuilt, people in crisis cared for, children reassured and hope restored. This is the witness of faith in action. This is what all of you made possible.

Thanks be to God!