



HEARTLAND CONFERENCE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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"Lord, when was it that we saw you..." -Matthew 25:37

Two Invitations to Change the World – Take the 2022 Challenge and Rebuild Homes in Dayton!



Dear Friends in Christ,

As we engage the Lenten journey there are two calls to service, I would like you to consider as we partner together to be channels of God's extravagant healing love. Both of these arise from our **Disaster Response Ministry Network: 1. "Take the 2022 Challenge!"** and/or **2. Send a Workgroup to Rebuild Houses in Dayton.**

The first opportunity I would like you or your congregation to consider is to "Take the 2022 Challenge"! Our goal is to assemble 2022 Church World Service Disaster Response buckets and hygiene kits in 2022. Given the recent disasters that have swept through our country, notably in Kentucky, there is a great need for buckets and kits to help replace those that were used so that we can help both with current disasters and future needs.

Two important developments will help us in multiply our efforts you act before the end of March! The national setting of the UCC through **Global HOPE** is offering **\$250.00 matching** grants to congregations who are putting kits and buckets together. Also, once you have put your kits together, you don't have to store them. There is now a **Depot of Hope at Templed Hills** where your buckets and kits will be help until Church World Service comes to pick them up. We have even made a **video** to help you promote this in your congregation. Here are some **links to help** you step up to the challenge:



- For CWS bucket contents and bucket preparation, [visit the CWS website by clicking here](#). There you'll learn how to assemble [Emergency Cleanup Buckets](#) and [Hygiene Kits](#).
- Download a [shopping list here](#).
- **Grants are available** to offset your costs here <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/64870-United-Church-Of-Christ>
- **To learn more about the 2022 challenge**, [watch our video here](#).
- **Drop off your buckets** throughout the year at the **Templed Hills Camp, Depot of Hope**, 5734 Durbin Rd, Bellville, OH 44813. Call ahead to arranged delivery 1-800-282-0740, Ext. 4
- or at the **Northwest Ohio Association Office**, 416 Wentz St, Tiffin, OH 44883 Call ahead to arrange delivery (419) 447-8323.
- Don't forget to send us your photos at office@heartlanducc.org!

Long Term Disaster Recovery In Dayton

In partnership with the Ohio Disciples Region, the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ Disaster Relief Network, UCC Disaster Ministries, and DOC Week of Compassion, **we are organizing volunteer teams of 4-10 people to finish interiors of new homes** for people rendered housing in secure following the tornado (and for some who were housing insecure even before the tornado).

Volunteers must be 14 years of age or older (mixed age groups must have 1 adult for every 4 volunteers under 18). **To register to volunteer**, and for more information about staying in the Dayton area



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while volunteering, email Caroline Hamilton-Arnold at caroline@weekofcompassion.org. Current open weeks are as follows:

March

- Week of 3/27 – have a few local folks filling in but could use more!

April

- Week of 4/3 – open
- Week of 4/10 – open
- Week of 4/17 – Heartland Conference Disaster Network, latter half of week (would welcome any who wanted to come early)

May is currently wide open.

Long after the television cameras are gone, the work of long-term recovery remains. Your partnership in saying “yes” to the 2022 Bucket and Hygiene Challenge and offering your energy to help rebuild houses in Dayton can help make God’s healing love visible. I hope you will join on this journey of faith. **To learn** more about the work of the Disaster Recovery Network and these opportunities, please contact our Conference Disaster Response Coordinator, Kevin Gehres, at gehreskb@gmail.com.

May this season of Lent be one where together the light of God’s love rises anew through us!
Blessings for the journey!

-Pastor Dave



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