Camp Fire - Paradise

1 message

MNA Disaster Response <mnadisaster@pcanet.org>   Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 8:55 PM
Reply-To: MNA Disaster Response <mnadisaster@pcanet.org>
To: providencemurphy@gmail.com

mna disaster response
Mission to North America >> Presbyterian Church in America

Paradise Lost —Your Help is Requested!

"Pretty much the community of Paradise is destroyed, it's that kind of devastation. The wind that was predicted came and just wiped it out." — Captain Scott McLean, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

To: All MNA Disaster Response Friends

The Camp Fire started at sunrise on Thursday, November 8, at Butte County California. Shortly after the fire erupted, the Butte County Sheriff's Office ordered the evacuation of Paradise, a community served by the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). Due to the speed of the fire, many residents were unable to evacuate before the fire arrived. The fire spread so rapidly that firefighters stopped attempting to control the flames, and instead were in rescue mode to help people get out alive. By the morning of November 10, approximately 7,000 structures had been destroyed by the 115,000-acre fire, and at least 42 people have perished making it the single deadliest fire in California history.

MNA Disaster Response is working with Ridge Presbyterian Church, a lovely multi-site congregation with preaching points in Paradise and Chico. The church physical plant in Paradise was incinerated along with every member's home. This is perhaps the largest loss of PCA owned homes in our denominational history, and likely the most traumatic disaster event that has ever affected one of our congregations. Fortunately, our church family living in Chico and other places whose homes were spared have taken in families who lost their homes.
How can you help?

- Please pray for our Ridge PCA church family as they serve one another during this difficult time.

> "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!" — Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

- As for the foreseeable future no volunteer mobilization is anticipated. 85% of the community is burned to the ground. Critical infrastructure is non-existent, and only those highly specialized agencies working in recovery are being allowed into Paradise.

- Please consider sending a generous financial gift to MNA Disaster Response designated for the 2018 California Camp Fire/Paradise Response. 100% of your gift will be channeled to the Ridge PCA Diaconate and used to help church families meet immediate needs, such as the purchase of clothing, meals, temporary housing, to replace lost income, to meet insurance deductibles, to rent worship and office space, and to facilitate the work of Ridge PCA as they demonstrate God's love in many ways by bringing care and comfort to this devastated community.

The financial needs left in the wake of this wildfire are tremendous. You may [click here]() **to give electronically**. To mail your gift, make your check out to '*MNA Disaster Response*' and mark '*2018 California Camp Fire/Paradise Response*' and mail to: ***Mission to North America, PO Box 890233, Charlotte NC 28289-0233.*** *(Please know that MNA does not charge any fees for services so 100% of this donation will be channeled to the Ridge PCA Diaconate and used to provide relief.)*

Serving you with my whole heart,

Arklie

Arklie Hooten
MNA ShortTerm Missions & Disaster Response Director
Mission to North America / Presbyterian Church in America