




MEMORANDUM

TO: **Second Episcopal District Family**

FROM: James Levert Davis, *Servant Bishop* 

DATE: September 27, 2018

SUBJECT: **UPDATE - DISASTER RELIEF PLAN**

This Memorandum is being sent to update you on our plans for assisting those in the North Carolina area. We know you are anxious to help in the restoration process. We thank God for each of you. God will be glorified in all of this.

We are grateful to the Presiding Elders, Pastors and Cluster Leaders who have diligently worked with us in pulling together a plan that will assist and empower us with an acceptable level of accountability to you. And more particularly to Presiding Elder Evelyn Dunn, Rev. Abdue Knox, and many other pastors, we owe a special debt of gratitude for the leadership you have provided in this time of crisis. We are very much encouraged and thankful to Empowerment Temple AME Church of Baltimore, MD, and the Portsmouth, Richmond, Roanoke Virginia Conference, and others for their outpouring generosity in collecting truckloads of items for North Carolina. Your labors of love are very much valued. Also, we appreciate your compliance to our request to collectively devise a plan for distributing supplies and monetary donations.

All praises to God! On Tuesday, September 25, 2018. I personally had the opportunity to visit the aftermath of the devastation first hand in North Carolina! We are pleased to report that access roads leading to areas in North Carolina most greatly impacted by Hurricane Florence were opened on Monday, September 24, 2018. The truck containing 1200 cases of water purchased by the Second Episcopal District departed on Tuesday, September 24, 2018. The water will be delivered directly to our four (4) designated Hope Centers in the affected areas for distribution. We are asking everyone to please continue following directives as issued by the Department of Transportation and other governmental authorities.

Our plan is to assure that your gifts of compassion get to the right places and to those who need them. This applies to supplies and monetary donations as well. With the assistance of many, we can begin the process of strategically and methodically moving relief supplies and monetary donations to the people in North Carolina.

Clothes are not needed! The Cluster Leaders and others who are providing direction for donations have asked that we not send clothing. For those who desire to do more, please review the enclosed Items List. It contains what is needed most at this time (mainly clean-up/hygienic supplies). Once you have collected the items, please transport them to one of the churches listed in this memo that is nearest to you. Please call and make arrangements for your drop-off with the Church Office.

Also, the cut-off date for delivering the collected items to the drop-off sites is October 12, 2018. Please adhere to the cut-off date so that we can stay on schedule in delivering the items to the four (4) North Carolina Hope Centers for distribution.

The four drop-off sites are as follows:

Empowerment Temple AME Church
4217-4221 Primrose Ave
Baltimore, MD 21215
410-225-3494 (*Church Office*)
Rev. Dr. Jamal Bryant, *Pastor*
Empowering1@aol.com

Pilgrim AME Church
612 17th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
202-396-8582 (Church Office)
Rev. Vernon Ware, Pastor
240-375-0379
vrware@hotmail.com

St. Paul AME Church
402 W. Edenton Street
Raleigh, NC 27603
919-832-2709 (Church Office)
Rev. Robert Hodges, Pastor
301-385-4142
Rob564@comcast.net

New Mt. Olive AME Church
1953 Campostella Road
Chesapeake, VA 23324
757-545-5593 (Church Office)
Rev. Christian J. Savage, Pastor
443-418-9047
cjsavage3@aol.com

Further, to ensure accountability throughout this process, Templates have been developed and vetted for use by those seeking restoration assistance. The presiding elder's will be distributing the templates.

We have established four (4) Hope Centers in strategic areas for all churches affected for distribution of all aid given by the AME Church constituency through the Second Episcopal District. It is the goal to have the **Hope Centers** become help stations beyond Hurricane Florence recovery period. They can serve as **"HELP CENTERS"** in meeting future needs on an ongoing basis in the various communities.

In summary, the plan embodies the following steps:

1. *Collaborate with Cluster Leaders, Presiding Elders, Pastors and other District Leadership to devise a plan of action for aiding Hurricane Florence victims. (Plan Completed and ongoing communication)*
2. *Pray with us for those who have been displaced; for solace to those who lost loved ones; and for all who are suffering the aftermath of this natural disaster.*
3. *Send 20 pallets (1200 cases) of water from the Episcopal District for delivery by Coca-Cola Bottling Company for distribution in the designated Hope Centers. (Sent on Tuesday, September 25, 2018)*
4. *Request pastor and church members to take a Disaster Relief Offering on the first Sunday, October 7, 2018, for North Carolina and Western North Carolina. (Memo electronically sent to all churches in District, pending action and Presiding Elders' reports to Bishop Davis)*
5. *Develop a priority list of immediate needs. (Completed and disseminated through electronic mediums; also see attachment)*
6. *Develop templates for Disaster Relief Assistance (Church Request for Assistance and Congregant Request for Assistance). The information enables the District Leadership to objectively assess needs and make sound decisions for distributing resources with accountability measures in place. (As indicated on the attached forms, Submission Deadline - October 20, 2018)*
7. *Set-up four (4) Hope Centers in strategic areas for all churches affected for distribution of all aid given by the AME Church constituency and other partners through the Second Episcopal District (Centers established).*
8. *Identify four (4) drop off sites (churches) in the Washington area where supplies collected on the priority list can be dropped off by churches for transporting to the four designated HOPE CENTERS in affected areas.*
9. *Establish a standard checks and balances process. All checks will be written from one account. Every transaction will be done through a uniform system where all funds are accounted for and audited in a professional and Christ-like manner.*

Make all checks payable to the Second Episcopal District. In the memo column, identify as NC Disaster Relief. Send to Bishop James Levert Davis, P.O. Box 34247, Washington, Dc 20043 or Dr. Vanetta Brice, CFO, Second Episcopal District, either mail to P.O. Box 34247, Washington, DC 20043 or 1134 11th Street, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20001.

Further, we are reaching out to other organizations to create linkages with various institutional agencies from North Carolina constituency for help to expand our assets for assisting the people. You will be hearing more about these negotiations soon.

We ask that you please pray daily for the people in North Carolina and those in the South Carolina regions who have also been impacted by the storm's aftermath. Pray for our Nation and World. We know God is Almighty. May we continue to be the hands of Christ as we walk together as overcomers through God's Holy Spirit that gives us strength to be God's people called to do God's mission in the world.

If there are questions or if additional information is needed, please email me at jld123bishop@yahoo.com or phone 202-842-3788.

In the Spirit of Advancing the Kingdom
#4REAL

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH DISASTER ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE 2ND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT



SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THE HELP CENTERS

Water

Cleaning Items... (*Clorox, Pine Sol, Lysol, Detergents etc.*)

Rubber Gloves

Mask (*Face*)

Trash Bags

Paper Towels

Brooms (*Push Brooms*)

Mops

Toiletries (*soap, deodorant, mouth wash, tooth brushes, tooth paste, combs, tissues etc..*)

Blankets

Diapers/Pampers

Wipes

Money Cards

SED HELP CENTERS

St. James AME Church

402 East Shine Street

Kinston, NC 28501

Rev. Howard Johnson, *Pastor*

252-523-3213 (*Church Office*)

Mrs. Krisceda Johnson

New Pike Creek AME Church

7178 Stag Park Road

Burgaw, NC 28425

Rev. Michael Reed, *Pastor*

910-259-9889 (*Church Office*)

Mr. Edward Jordan

St. Luke AME Church

522 Hillsboro Street

Fayetteville, NC 28301

Rev. Artie Odom, *Pastor*

910-485-7794 (*Church Office*)

Mr. Leroy Nunn

St. Stephen AME Church

501 Red Cross Street

Wilmington, NC 28401

Rev. Thomas Nixon, *Pastor*

910-762-9829 (*Church Office*)