



From the President's Office

January 20, 2010

Dear Pastors and Constituency of the Missionary Church,

Information out of Haiti is mind numbing – even after a week of hearing all of the news reports, it is hard to imagine a tragedy of such immense proportions. Prayer to the God of all comfort is still our number one assistance.

The response we have been hearing from churches and individuals has been heart warming and a reminder of the love and generosity of God's people. Thank you for caring about the people of Haiti.

The Disaster Relief Team (DRT) met again this morning to reassess the Haiti situation and is re-emphasizing the following suggestions to our churches...

**1. The Missionary Church is not a First Responder Organization.** We are best working after the disaster has been stabilized.

**2. Your parishioners should not go to Haiti without a request from a first responder organization.** The infrastructure, security, food, housing, etc, are not in place to care for an influx of volunteers. It is best to allow search and rescue teams, military, medical personnel, etc. to do their jobs first.

**3. Your financial support for the victims of Haiti is desperately needed.**

- **If you would like to give to aid through the Missionary Church,** please make your check out to the Missionary Church, Inc., and in the memo area reference the "Compassion Ministry Fund: Haiti", P.O. Box 9127, Fort Wayne, IN 46899.
- **For churches who want to give directly to a First Responder Organization,** MCI is recommending either World Relief ([www.worldrelief.org](http://www.worldrelief.org)) or Samaritan's Purse ([www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org)). We have close connections with both organizations and are confident of their handling of your contributions.

**4. We will send an assessment team to Haiti in a few weeks to do the following...**

- **To establish where our work teams should locate and**

- **To deliver our relief funds to the MC of Haiti.** The team will consult with the Haitian MC Leadership how best to distribute the monies. This system gives the local Haitian Churches direct contact with the people who will need long term assistance and it strengthens the witness of the local church when they are able to touch the hurting in a direct way. We have approximately 80 Missionary Churches in Haiti, but we currently do not have any missionaries residing there. We encourage relief funds to be in the office by the middle of February if possible.

**5. If you or your church has interest in being involved in a work team to assist in the rebuilding effort in Haiti, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Office at 1-260-747-2027.**

**6. Our next Disaster Relief Team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 2,** however, if there is breaking news, we will be in touch with you.

**7. Please check our website [www.mcusa.org](http://www.mcusa.org) or watch for Today's Latest e-Newsletter for regular updates on Haiti.**

Please continue to pray for the people in Haiti and the relatives of dead or missing. We have a number of Haitian Missionary Church congregations in the US who also feel this tragedy very deeply.

Bill Hossler, President

Missionary Church, Inc.