Disaster Response is a Form of Short-Term Missions
by David Nakhla

...he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.
Proverbs 11:25b (NIV 1984)

Our focus this past month has been on the trio of hurricanes that impacted OP churches within a 3-week period. This occurred just as the summer short-term missions season was ending. Consequently, at a time when we would normally be wrapping up our reports on summer STMs, the latest nine issues of the S.T.O.R.M. Report have been about hurricanes, and were published as Special Editions under our Disaster Relief banner!

This is as good a time as any for us to be reminded that Disaster Response is, in fact, a special form of Short-Term Missions! In Disaster Response, we are granted the wonderful opportunity of ministering to our brothers and sisters and neighbors who are going through a time of crisis. Showing Christian love to our neighbors at a time of great need provides a unique opening for sharing with them the hope that lives in us, even as they question why we would do this. Now, that is short-term missions, isn’t it!

Lord willing, we’ll review summer short-term missions in a future S.T.O.R.M. Report, but for now we can’t help but keep your attention on the ongoing need for volunteers to serve as hurricane relief volunteers. Please consider how you might use your energies and skills to participate in this important ministry of mercy in the OPC!
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