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God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah. Psalm 46:1-3

## A Summer Like No Other

How can we fully describe Summer like the one we've just experienced? The summer was good. Yes, it was good.

The summer for OPC Short Term Missions and Disaster Response was different for sure! It brought with it a pandemic with many restrictions;

floodwaters which swelled Sanford Lake in Michigan causing flooding in two OPC members' homes; OPC Short-Term Missions having to make the excruciatingly hard decision to cancel all but one summer team (Boardwalk Chapel); Tropical Storm Isaias traveling up the eastern seaboard flooding the home of one OPC member; wildfires tearing up the west coast destroying two OPC families' homes—so far; Hurricane Laura and Tropical Storm Marco hitting the south back-to-back; Tropical Storm Sally arrived, beating up Florida and Alabama last week and oh yes, a few earthquakes that hit Puerto Rico were intermingled.

So why the enthusiasm? The answer is obvious, but not always initial. God is in control, knows our needs, is our Strength, and walks

with us through it all. Throughout this disaster-ridden summer we, as a Church and as a Body of Christ, have been strengthened and encouraged by these challenges. That sounds counter-intuitive, but God, using his children as volunteers, prayer warriors, and generous donors, strengthened us. God not only got us through this Summer's challenges but far-surpassed our sinfully-limited expectations.

The Moots' home has passed rough-in inspections and are well on their way to drywall installation. The Kennedys are just "paint-on-the-walls" away from finishing their basement walkout, destroyed by floodwater just four months ago.

Finish this article on our website:  
[opcdisasterresponse.org](http://opcdisasterresponse.org)

## OPC Disaster Response News

- **Presbytery of the Northwest:** As wildfires continue to smolder in the western half of the state of Oregon, we have learned that, praise the Lord, there has been no loss of life to OPC members, though several families have lost their homes entirely, but are covered by insurance. A deacon at Trinity OPC in Medford, Oregon, reports, "our community has been severely impacted by the wildfires in Oregon. We lost almost 1,000 homes in our valley, and it seems that most of the families are low income or elderly." Please pray for local deacons as they begin to formulate plans to minister to their community.
- **Presbytery of the South:** Pastor John Schortmann, Covenant OPC, Pensacola, FL reports they were able to worship on Sunday, without power, preaching in the light of a battery-powered lantern after Hurricane Sally passed through the region last week. One member was flooded, but seems to be covered by insurance, thank the Lord. Many came out to clean up on Saturday. The Lord provides! What a wonderful time of worship on Sunday!
- **Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic:** Volunteers and donations are needed for the Tropical Storm Isaias effort. So far, a handful of volunteers have participated in emptying and drying out of the flooded home of David Bowles, member of Grace & Peace OPC in California, Maryland, and his elderly mother after Tropical Storm Isaias early last month. Work continues at a steady pace as site coordinator, Curt Sproul leads volunteers with aid from Callaway Baptist Church (the church home of Mrs. Bowles).
- **Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario:** Volunteers are needed for the months of October and November in order for progress to continue in the rebuilding efforts of the Moots' home in Midland, Michigan. Volunteers are working steadily and the home has passed rough-in inspections, praise the Lord! Volunteers also participated in ministering to another family in the same church, the Kennedys, whose first floor was engulfed by the flooding.

Please help with these efforts! Go to our website to register to find out more, volunteer or donate: [opcdisasterresponse.org](http://opcdisasterresponse.org).

## OPC Short Term Missions News

Praise the Lord for a summer full of nightly services and concerts as the Boardwalk Chapel celebrated their 75th Anniversary! Catch up with volunteers Elanor, Sam and Lucie as they share their experiences.

- **Elanor** from the Harvest PCA Team at the Boardwalk Chapel writes, "This was my 6th year coming to the Chapel with my youth group! I absolutely love the true sense of fellowship that I've only ever felt at the chapel."
- **Sam** is a Boardwalk Chapel alumni who was on staff in 2018 and served on the evangelism team. Prior to him coming on staff, Sam came to the BWC for the first time in 2017 with his youth group. That year at the Chapel was the year that Sam became a Christian, praise God!
- **Lucie**, from one of our youth groups, has been serving at the Chapel for four years. Each summer she comes back with an excitement to be able to serve alongside her youth group and the Boardwalk Chapel staff. Each summer, Lucie's faith is deeply encouraged by the staff and the things that she is able to learn.

Get more details on all of the above updates on our websites.

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