

## United Church Launches Appeal for Haiti Earthquake Relief

*“Men and women of Haiti, we shall not lose hope. We are known for our strength and resilience and we need to stand courageously before this challenge that is affecting us again.” – Haitian-born Canadian Governor General Michaëlle Jean, January 13, 2010*

The United Church of Canada is appealing for donations to support relief and reconstruction efforts of partners and related agencies in the wake of the earthquake that struck the Haitian capital. The United Church’s Haiti Appeal will enable global partners in the region to address both the need for immediate relief and for long-term reconstruction

“People see a need, and have a desire, to reach out as brothers and sisters in Christ to show compassion to those in dire need,” says The United Church of Canada’s Moderator, Mardi Tindal. “As one part of God’s world suffers, we all suffer.”

### ***The United Church has already responded by***

- contacting and expressing concern for United Church partners in Haiti
- committing \$20,000 for Haitian relief and reconstruction from its Emergency Response Fund
- exploring opportunities with other Canadian churches to access matching funds from CIDA that are being offered

### ***United Church of Canada partners in Haiti***

- The Methodist Church of Haiti has more than 130 churches and places of worship and provides schooling to over 15,000 children. The United Church has been supporting of the Methodist Church since the mid-1960s, notably the church’s rural development and microcredit programs.

- The Karl Lévêque Cultural Institute (ICKL) is a non-profit organization that empowers local low-income groups in their struggle for justice by providing training. It operates an “economy of solidarity” program that fosters collaboration among small farmers.

***Emergency response will also be sent to ACT Alliance***, the network of churches and Christian aid agencies that enables global responses to emergencies. Members of ACT Alliance are already in place, assisting those affected by the earthquake.

### ***You are invited to respond:***

By **praying** for partners of the United Church, members of ACT Alliance, and all those affected and responding.

By **donating** to the Haiti Appeal.

- As part of the United Church’s Emergency Response Fund, 85% of your donation will go directly to emergency response in Haiti, while 15% will be used to support emergencies that do not receive intense media cover and response.
- No administration fees will be deducted from your donation. Regular donations to the Mission and Service Fund enable the United Church to absorb staffing and administration costs of emergency response work.
- Cheques should be made payable to The United Church of Canada and marked “Haiti Appeal.” The funds will be treated as designated gifts and cannot be counted as M&S Fund credits. However, they are eligible for tax receipts.

Send your cheques to  
General Council Office, The United Church of Canada,  
3250 Bloor St. West, Suite 300  
Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

Donate online at [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca). Choose “Emergency Response” and specify “Haiti Appeal.”



For more information, visit: [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)