

Caribbean hurricanes, Mexican earthquakes, call for our prayers and attention



Photo: ACT Alliance

Hurricane Irma caused flooding and damage to the northern regions of the Dominican Republic.

In recent weeks, a series of hurricanes has struck several countries and territories in the Caribbean. And two major earthquakes have shaken Mexico. The United Church of Canada is supporting efforts of global partners to assist people affected by these events. Our membership in the global ACT Alliance provides more ways to help those affected communities. ACT members, organized in various regional and national forums (including the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Cuba), work quickly to assist with evacuations and emergency shelter where necessary, and to help communities rebuild. The United Church is already contributing to those efforts.

Please pray for those affected by emergencies.

The United Church of Canada is accepting donations for relief efforts related to hurricanes in the Caribbean region.

Online via our website: www.united-church.ca

Phone: 416-231-5931 or toll-free 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2738 and use your Visa or MasterCard.

Send a cheque, money order, or Visa or MasterCard information with donation amount to:



The United Church of Canada
Philanthropy Unit - Emergency Response
3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200
Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

actalliance

Please be sure to note “Emergency Response—Caribbean Hurricanes” on the face of your cheque.

Note: As part of the United Church's Emergency Response Fund, 100% of your donation goes directly to emergency relief with 85% of your donation responding to this designated emergency and 15% responding to future emergencies that do not receive intense media coverage. Donations to Mission & Service enable the United Church to cover all of the costs of emergency response work without deducting any fees from your donation.

Please pray for those affected by the recent hurricanes and earthquakes

Great Creator,

Nature is a powerful force of both creation and destruction that we can neither control nor tame.

As the lush lands of the Caribbean and United States begin to recover from hurricanes of great strength and size,

and as we still weep with those recently affected by other extreme weather systems

in Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sierra Leone, and the United States, and with the people of Mexico affected by the recent earthquakes,

we humbly come to you in prayer for all who are affected by these raging waters, thrashing winds, and trembling earth.

We grieve for the immeasurable losses and chaos that such storms create in the lives of individuals, families, communities, and societies and we seek protection for the most vulnerable. Gather the lost, Great Shepherd, and comfort the afflicted.

We support our partners in ministry who provide continual care and we give thanks for all who are able to offer physical, emotional, and spiritual aid. Gather your students, Great Teacher, and bless all who care for your people and your creation.

We, as a global community, pursue wisdom so that we may better protect each other from the unimaginable powers of nature. Gather us, who are scattered around the world, Great Guardian, as a loving parent comforts and protects their young from the dangers of life.

Amen.