



November 17, 2022

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

I Thessalonians 5:16-18

## Give Thanks in All Circumstances

by David Nakhla, OPC Disaster Response Coordinator

We seldom focus on the monetary amount given to OPC Disaster Response. Over the years, we have come to take for granted that each disaster response effort seems to receive more than enough funds to faithfully carry out the necessary response work. However, recently we were astounded to realize that in 2022, total gifts to specific disaster response funds have exceeded \$1,000,000! The Ukraine Crisis Fund, opened on February 24<sup>th</sup>, has received more than \$700,000 and the Kentucky (Neon) Flood Fund, opened July 28<sup>th</sup>, has received almost \$350,000. The previous record of disaster response gifts received was in 2017 when the OPC suffered from three hurricanes within three weeks; the total amount given that year was just over \$600,000. This year's giving exceeds that by more than 75%! It really is incredible to know of the love and concern of God's people toward those in distress.

As difficult as it may be to *rejoice always* and *give thanks in all circumstances*—especially in the midst of a disaster—it's often those difficult circumstances that give rise to matters for which to rejoice and give thanks. So, in this season of thanksgiving, we thank the Lord for you—the donors, volunteers, senders, and “pray-ers”. The work of short-term missions and disaster response is effective through your faithful giving of time, treasure, talent, and prayer. Soli Deo Gloria.

## UPDATES

### Still Much Unresolved—

by Trish Duggan, OPC Disaster Response Communications Coordinator

It's hard to imagine continuing to live in a soggy, mold-filled home, but that's what many in the community of Neon have had to do without much promise of change. This desperate need is what has led OPC Disaster Response to begin Phase 2 in Neon, Kentucky. Although we are thankful that Neon Reformed OPC was able to hold regular worship services in their building on Sunday, October 23, 2022, there is another facet to the ministry of mercy in Neon. Many residents, without any means to repair their homes, are forced to continue to live within the destruction. This is the focus of the second phase of disaster response efforts in Neon.

Read the full update on [OPCDisasterResponse.org](https://www.opcdisasterresponse.org)

### Update on Missionary Associate Jed Homan—

“There is no way to even start to understand life here without being here. Living here, seeing how the mission operates—it's been enjoyable and eye-opening,” says Jed Homan, Missionary Associate at the OP Uganda Mission. Jed is beginning his third month of work in Nakaale, Karamoja, Uganda and reports that it has been satisfying to be able to make progress on the various maintenance projects he's been working on and knowing that what he's doing is serving the mission.

Read the entire update on [OPCSTM.org](https://www.opcstm.org)

## SERVE

### Short Term Missions Opportunities—

#### Boardwalk Chapel Ministry Teams: Summer 2024

Interested in having your church's youth group to spend a week at the Chapel? Save your spot for Summer 2024!

#### Boardwalk Chapel 2023 Junior Staff

The Chapel is looking for teens to serve on their Junior Staff team in 2023!

#### Childcare and Hospitality Volunteers needed for the Uganda Mission

The Uganda Mission is welcoming visitors willing to organize activities for missionary children.

#### Facility Maintenance for the Uganda Mission

Do you like to get your hands dirty on a project? Are you curious about serving on a mission field? This may be just the combination you've been looking for.

#### Missionary Associates Needed in Montevideo, Uruguay

The Uruguay Mission is seeking people to assist with outreach, evangelism, and music in worship.

#### Serve in Japan

The Japan Mission is happy to receive mission teams willing to assist with a variety of tasks!

Check out these opportunities on our website: [OPCSTM.org](https://www.opcstm.org)

### Disaster Response Opportunities—

#### Mercy Coordinator Needed in Neon, Kentucky

We are searching for someone, preferably a deacon, to serve as a Mercy Coordinator; one who would visit those in the community whose homes were damaged and assess their needs.

#### Neon, Kentucky Flooding

Teams are needed for the weeks of November 7-11, November 14-18, and one of the first two weeks in December.

#### Register to be a Disaster Response Volunteer!

Let us know you are interested in serving so that we can call on you when the need arises.

#### Ukraine Crisis

Stay tuned for information on future trips.

Learn about these opportunities and more by visiting our website: [OPCDisasterResponse.org](https://www.opcdisasterresponse.org)

Where you can find us: Facebook: OPC Disaster Response & OPC Short-Term Missions Instagram: @OPCSTM

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