

“Homes for Christmas”

*Help someone rebuild their home
in time for Christmas!*



Families are struggling to return home. Many families lack the resources to return home after the destruction of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 as well as Gustav and Ike in 2008. Recovery work in southeast Louisiana is still working on the rebuilding of over 1000 homes and in southwest Louisiana over 300 homes. Many homeowners awaiting help are either living with relatives or in FEMA trailers that still dot our landscape. Add to this the difficult economic times the entire country is feeling, it becomes doubly difficult to assist those in the greatest need.

We are helping. The rebuilding efforts of the Presbytery of South Louisiana, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance work with volunteers from around the world in the rebuilding effort. Also, in southwestern Louisiana, we team up in a collaborative effort with the United Methodist Church Disaster Response to help homeowners in and around the Lake Charles area. Our rebuilding is going in a positive direction as we continue to dedicate homes and see the FEMA trailer population dwindle to just over 3,000 down from over 160,000.

Start your Christmas planning early. While many of us are content to wait for our gifts, our homeowners are in need all year and your planning can begin with your Session on a motion to take a special offering at anytime or to hand the kit attached to your Mission Committee in the early fall to begin the plans for alternate gifts. “Homes for Christmas” is a creative way to engage the whole church in an effort to allow many, through nominal, affordable gifts, to help many. The ornament or house cutouts suggested, bless the giver and allow a special memory note to be added which is given to the homeowner at the time of dedication.

Where to Send Gifts Please send your funds in a check made out to *The Presbytery of South Louisiana*, and note in the memo line, *Homes for Christmas*. Send with any cutouts that contain blessing messages to:

The Presbytery of South Louisiana
Memo: Homes for Christmas
3700 Gentilly Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70122

Questions Contact us at (504) 942-0401, email allie@pslrecovery.org, or visit our web site, pslrecovery.org. We can also send a DVD for you to learn more about rebuilding efforts around the Gulf coast and New Orleans.