**Presbytery of Western Kentucky – Tornado Recovery Team**

**Zoom Meeting Notes**

**May 18, 2022**

The Presbytery of Western Kentucky Tornado Recovery Team met via Zoom on Wednesday, May 18th. Participating on the call were:

Debbie McCoy (RE Owensboro First)

Ralph Young (RE Paducah First)

Karen Harris (WKY Presbytery)

David Doehnert PDA

Rev Jim Kirk PDA

Don Barger (CLP Mayfield First)

Rev Steve Fortenberry (Princeton Central)

Rev Bailey Pickens (Franklin PC)

Fred Wally PDA

Rev Joan Otto PDA

David Rauer PDA

Rick Lee (RE Madisonville First)

Nancy Tankersley (RE Hopkinsville First)

1. Committee moderator, Rev Bailey Pickens welcomed everyone to the call and opened with prayer at 2:30.
2. Rev Pickens asked each member to introduce themselves to the committee and give some background as to how they fit into Tornado Recovery.
3. In asking for reports from each member, RE Rick Lee started with activities happening in Madisonville. Their facility is up and running and expects to be busy almost every week throughout the summer. They can accommodate up to 50 people with the ability to expand if needed. Visiting teams usually cook for themselves at the facility but have also invited the church and community for one meal as a way to thank them for the use of the facility. Madisonville has a work partner that helps them connect visiting teams with projects in Dawson Springs and Princeton.
4. Don Barger reported for First Pres Mayfield. They are still waiting for FEMA action on their request for cleanup funds. Even though they have engaged with an architect on rebuilding the church, they cannot move forward until the FEMA action is final. Don noted that there are some houses being rebuilt in the neighborhood and that cleanup activities are still ongoing at the church. The Mayfield Church continues to work on their “wish list” for rebuilding.
5. Rev Steve Fortenberry reported for Princeton Central. He attended a Long Term Recovery Group LTRG meeting recently, and work is progressing in Caldwell County. The coordinator position funded by a PDA grant is in place and operating.
6. Dave Doehnert (PDA) reported on activities by *Inspiritus* group supporting recovery activities in Caldwell County. They have case managers in place working on rebuilding activities. He reported that Donna Webster has been working with the Marshall County LTRG to get them going. Dave has been talking with the LTRG in the Bowling Green area to determine their needs.
7. Rev Jim Kirk (PDA) reiterated that PDA is still committed to the process and that grant funds are available. The Smiths Grove proposal to be a hosting site does not look viable from the PDA standpoint. They have no resources, volunteers, or an identified work partner to coordinate activities in Warren County. Until a work partner is identified, PDA will be concentrating its efforts on establishing a hosting site at Calvert City.

The *Inspiritus* group is establishing a presence in Mayfield to focus on repair of buildings and infrastructure rather than new construction. In Spiritus may be a good work partner for the Calvert City location to become a hosting site. Loyd Ford at Calvert City said that Calvert is ready with available space at the church but needs help with hospitality and a coordinator for activities. Jim said that this might be addressed by a PDA grant to hire a coordinator similar to the Princeton Central situation.

**Action: Since grant applications must come from the Presbytery, Ralph will work on a PDA grant application to fund a coordinator similar to the Princeton Central situation. Jim Kirk will provide Ralph with PDA template for job descriptions for the position.**

1. Jim, Joan Otto, and David Rauer commented that this might be the time for a PDA follow-up visit to the area to start outlining the plan for a hosting center at Calvert City. This group could meet with the LTRG for Mayfield Graves County as well as Marshall County to determine the need and to take the conversation to the next level.
2. At this point Jim reminded everyone about the Resiliency Grants available through PDA to help those stressed by the Recovery activity. These grants are open to clergy and other leaders in the process.
3. Bailey added that she will work on a Facebook page for the Tornado Recovery group to share photos and communications about what is happening.
4. The next meeting for the group was scheduled for **Wednesday, June 15th at 2:30 Central Time.**
5. There being no further business, the meeting was closed in prayer at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Young

**Notes collected from Chat during the Zoom meeting.**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2451149175020062> **(Link to Facebook Group)**

Marshall Co LTRG Chair - Mark Sickling; Construction - Tom Treckle 847-571-0377:

Brad Walker, volunteers 270-703-9900

Vice-chair: Catherine Fuller 270-442-5518 - cfuller@klaid.org: Construction - Brent Kimbler: LTRG member - Christina Garrott, Housing 270-210-4006

From Rick Lee to Everyone 03:18 PM

Rick Lee email: rbleejr@gmail.com

From David Rauer - PDA to Everyone 03:19 PM

davidrauer12@gmail.com

Graves Co. LTRG Chair Al Chandler (270)247-4861