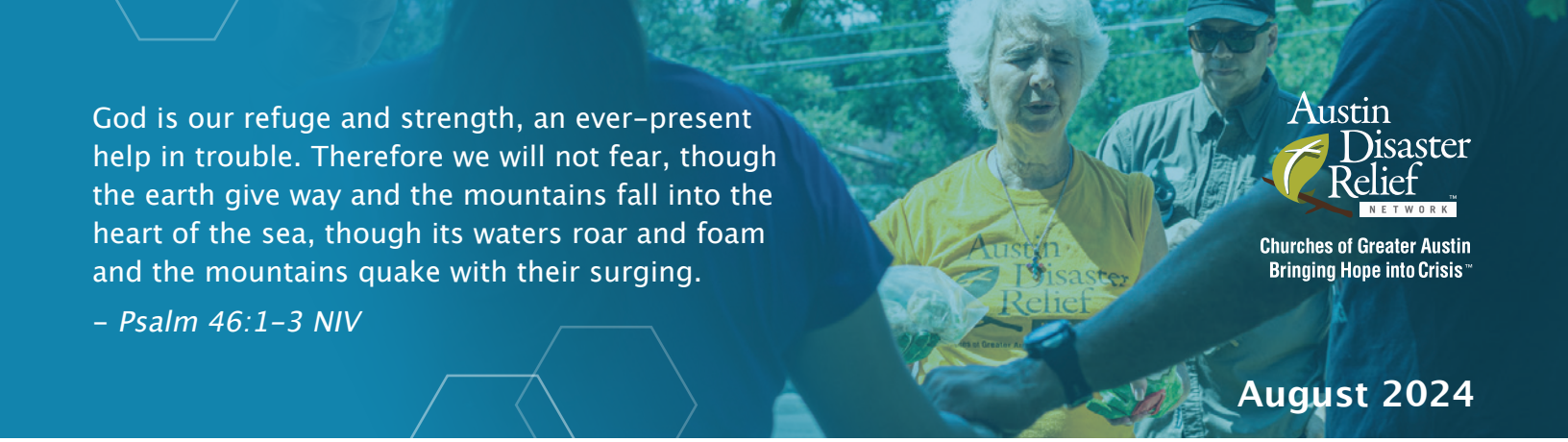

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

– Psalm 46:1–3 NIV

Austin Disaster Relief NETWORK

Churches of Greater Austin
Bringing Hope into Crisis™

August 2024

Dear Friend,

When a community is impacted by disaster . . . the sense of chaos, fear, and despair in those first hours and days that follow can be overwhelming for survivors.

Thanks to ADRN's amazing volunteers, the local church, and the prayers and support of dedicated friends like you, we are able to rapidly mobilize teams of believers who are equipped to help usher in God's comfort, peace, and hope in the midst of the aftermath.

Every time we go, we are demonstrating the faithfulness of the Lord, showing others that He truly is an ever-present help in the midst of their trouble!

We responded immediately after the storms packing 80-mph winds, baseball-sized hail, and tornadic activity wreaked havoc in San Marcos, Texas. Entire communities were flooded and thousands of people were left without power or food. I was humbled and privileged to join teams of our staff members and local volunteers to offer help.

Initially, we served alongside other dedicated organizations packing and distributing bags of food and water to bless families in need. We greeted carloads of people with a smile and the assurance that in addition to meeting very real, practical needs, we were praying and believing with them that God was going to get them through this trial.

I will never forget the woman whose voice cracked as she shared with me the devastating loss of three of her beloved pets due to the storm. Disasters are never without heartache. We prayed that she would find solace in knowing that God cares about her loss and her grief.

Next, we began helping with debris cleanup operations, specifically for the elderly and others with financial limitations. It was inspiring to watch the transformation take place. As the debris was removed, so was the weight of worry and dismay.

We prayed that our efforts would be a blessing to the people and a reflection of the love of Jesus!

Every gift you give also reflects that love as you help ADRN bring the hope of Jesus into crisis. Your generosity makes it possible for us to offer physical, emotional, and spiritual support to disaster survivors as we meet short and long-term needs.

Will you give today to help others when they need it most?

(over, please)

Here's what two of our staff members who led teams to help the community in San Marcos said about their experiences:

"It was incredibly rewarding to mobilize volunteers to support survivors affected by 80-mph winds in San Marcos. **One woman had six full trailer loads of debris in her front yard.** We worked together to load the branches and large tree limbs that other partner agencies had cut up. Our team also had the opportunity to pray with her, and she expressed deep gratitude for the community's support. We were able to show love to our neighbors and support our community when they needed it most."

"What I really loved about the San Marcos deployment was the fact that **two of the young men who volunteered simply Googled ADRN and then signed up as volunteers to do something to help those in need.** One was an Emergency Medical Technician and the other an Eagle Scout who had just graduated from high school. Our team was able to pray with people at every single home — one woman with cancer, and another with a pacemaker. Those who were impacted by disaster allowed us to pray over them, provide Bibles, and clean-up yard debris, all as tangible ways to bring hope into crisis. Our seven-person team was like having 20 people because we were working together in unity."

And...

Through your support, you're helping ADRN empower and equip hundreds of volunteers with relevant disaster training so that we can offer hope in Jesus' Name from the moment a volunteer answers the call in our Call Center all the way through the long-term support provided by our Disaster Relief Shepherd Program.

Thank you for being a vital part of our team!

With gratitude,

Rev. Dr. Dwight Bailey, Jr.
ADRN Executive Director

P.S. You are impacting lives with the love and hope of Jesus through your prayers and support. Please send your gift today to help ADRN continue to bring the ever-present help of God as we prepare and respond to the needs of disaster survivors. Thank you!