

**PRESBYTERY OF SAN DIEGO
DISASTER ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

**NEWSLETTER
September, 2008**

What the churches in the Presbytery are doing:

The Solana Beach Presbyterian Church, Firestorm Team continues their monthly work days in Ramona.

Their next workdays are: October 4, November 1, and December 6.

Please contact either Larry Muschek at SBFD-2@PresbyterySD.org or cell phone, 760 533-4284, or Linda Holland at SBFD-1@PresbyterySD.org or cell phone, 619 787-4743, for more information. If you're planning on joining them for a workday, please call Larry or Linda no later than the Wednesday before the date. They will then send out a confirmation e-mail with additional instructions including what to wear and/or bring, time to meet to caravan up to Ramona, etc.

(www.SolanaPres.org/RecentNews/269131.aspx)

The latest news from the PDAC:

The **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Advisory** Committee of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is coming to San Diego in October for their annual meeting (Oct 15 - Oct 17) along with most of their staff members. In addition to their meetings, they will be visiting some of the churches in the San Diego area that have been affected by the wildfires over the past several years.

They have also scheduled an open meeting with any pastors, elders and church members who have been involved in disaster related mission trips and/or have an interest in disaster relief. The intent is to hear from churches about any questions you may have about PDA, its work and the challenges we face. In addition, PDA would welcome hearing about mission trips the church members have taken where the focus has been on disaster relief.

This open meeting is:

Thursday, October 16, 2008 7pm-9pm

Location: First Presbyterian Church, San Diego
320 Date Street
San Diego, CA 92101

RSVP with the name(s) of individuals attending from your congregation to:

Sharlene McKinstry, Bookkeeper@PresbyterySD.org

Contact phone number: 619 224-2490, ext. 109

The **funding for the grant** from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been received! The purpose of this request was for the participation of our Presbytery at the “UnMet Needs Committee” of the Regional Community Recovery Teams. This group hears cases from Case Managers where there are significant gaps in funding to move the families back into similar housing situations. We have now participated in assisting two families, one in Jamul and one in Ramona!

Funding for congregational fire recovery projects: PDAC has a fund which we are using to assist congregations who are working on specific fire recovery projects. Applications for this are available from Sharlene at the Presbytery office Bookkeeper@PresbyterySD.org or from the committee. These are reviewed at our regularly scheduled meetings (fourth Tuesday of the month.)

How can your church stay connected?

Do you have a **group within your congregation with tools** and willing to do brush clearance? There are many fire survivors who are in need of this type of assistance. If yes, we will get you in contact with one of the Recovery Centers so you can assist.

As part of “Hands On San Diego,” Volunteer San Diego has partnered this year with VONS, KaBOOM! and California Volunteers to **build a new children's playground** at Camp HOPE . Camp HOPE serves local children who have been affected by domestic violence in their households. This playground will be used for leadership development, training, and fun.

Build Captains will lead groups of 10 to 20 community volunteers in projects ranging from construction, to laying down mulch, to assembly and painting. No experience is necessary--just a great attitude, a willingness to lead a group, and a willingness to be a team player.

Build Captains are needed to attend Prep-Day (Tuesday, September 23, 8:30AM-4PM) and Build-Day (Thursday, September 25, 6AM-4PM).

Camp HOPE is located at Lake Sutherland in Ramona; carpools can be arranged from central San Diego .

Breakfast, lunch, water and a FREE t-shirt will be provided for both days. Email JFeinstein@VolunteerSanDiego.org or call her at 858-636-4126 to sign up to be a Build Captain. You can also sign up to be a community volunteer on Build Day - Thursday, September 25th through volunteersandiego.org Transportation will be provided for community volunteers on Build-Day.

Next committee meeting:

September 23, 2008 0930-1100

This meeting is being held in Carlsbad.

RSVP to Carolyn Peterson, Chair,
760 436-9165

PDAC@PresbyterySD.org