



Asia Pacific Disasters

When Typhoon Ketsana, a South Pacific earthquake and tsunamis, and an earthquake in West Sumatra wrought death and destruction across Asia and the Pacific within a five day period – it was because of your previous gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing® that the UCC could respond immediately. Emergency assistance grants were sent to a host of partners across the disaster zone to support their initial relief and recovery efforts.

Now the UCC calls on your generosity to raise an additional \$250,000 for the OGHS Pacific Disaster Appeal to strengthen our partners' response efforts and support long term recovery and rehabilitation.

Please pray for all the people whose lives have been affected by the South Pacific Disaster, especially the injured, the homeless, and all who lost friends or loved ones. Also pray for those who are providing relief and rehabilitation assistance, especially our partners.

Please give to the rebuilding of these communities. In less than a week, people across the region suffered a range of losses. There hope lies in the ability of others to care and to provide assistance.

MOST NEEDED ARE UNRESTRICTED DISASTER FUNDS so that the UCC's response can be geared toward the greatest need. Unrestricted gifts may be sent to the **Pacific Disaster Fund**. If you wish to designate your gift for a specific disaster response, please specify that your gift is for Typhoon Ketsana (Philippines, Vietnam and Cambodia), **South Pacific Tsunamis** (Samoa, America Samoa, Western Samoa, and Tonga) or the **Sumatra Earthquake** (Indonesia).

Thank you for your prayers and offerings.

For more information go to:
www.ucc.org/disaster

Wider Church Ministries, United Church of Christ
700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland OH 44115
1-866-822-8224 ext. 3215



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Prayer for the Pacific

By: Rev. Mike Denton, Conference Minister
Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ

One: Dear God; Creator, Sustainer, Pain-bearer; today we mourn with all our sisters and brothers whose lives were ravaged by last week's earthquake, tsunamis and typhoon.

All: We pray with all those whose sense of security and safety was washed away. We mourn for those who lost family and friends; for those who lost homes and business; for those whose communities lost vital services and infrastructures; for those whose communities no longer exist.

One: As we mourn and pray, we also recognize our call to help restore and rebuild that which can be restored and rebuilt; to comfort those in need of comforting; to reach out to those who may need a hand.

All: Within the worst moments of human experience there are still the seeds of holy hope.

Many: In the midst of natural disaster, there are still these seeds of hope.

One: In the midst of starvation and disease, there are still these seeds of hope.

Many: In the midst of oppression and injustice, there are still these seeds of hope.

One: In the midst of violence and neglect, there are still these seeds of hope.

All: May we nurture hope as it grows through our gifts, our service and our advocacy. Amen.

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