

July 18, 2007
First United Methodist Church
Great Bend, Ks

The following persons attended to discuss the possible formation of a Disaster Recovery Committee to address unmet needs of those people suffering damage during the spring storms of May and June 2007 through Church World Service

Cherri Baer	Church World Service
Bob Baer	United Methodist Committee on Relief
Sonnie Presley	National Volunteer American Red Cross
Lacey McDaniel	FEMA Volunteer Agency Liaison
Bernadette Frerker	FEMA VAL
Phillip Patterson	FEMA Val
Amy Miller	Barton County Emergency Management
Christi Tustin	Golden Belt Community Foundation
Fr Wesley	Prince of Peace Catholic Parish
Loren Dyke	
Richard Heaton	
Wayne Flanders`	First United Methodist Church, Hoisington
Betty Clark Keenan	Central Baptist Church/ Volunteers in Action/RSVP
Andra Tracy	Trinity Lutheran Church
Garry Dassow	Lutheran
Vernon Maelzer	United Methodist Church, Ellinwood
Garry Brooks	First United Methodist Church, Great Bend
Mary Lou Warren	Barton County Emergency Aid/RSVP/ Trinity United Methodist Church

Cherri Baer who discussed the reason for the committee being formed conducted the meeting. This committee is not so much involved with relief as with long-term recovery. She presented a booklet explaining the long-term recovery. It was announced that FEMA has extended the times of damage received to the end of June.

Sonnie suggested the group look at forms to be use as intake forms and that the Red Cross does not ask for social security numbers, citizenship etc, rather what kind of help do you need. Emergency Aid and Trinity Lutheran church also have forms. A form that is useful for the committee will be developed using these forms as guidelines. It was also suggested that the VOAD web site has forms.

Lacey distributed material from FEMA including information about cleaning up mold. Discussion was held regarding case workers who would be trained volunteers from the community who will visit with persons to help determine need and resources available.

Discussion was held regarding which agency with 501 (c) 3 status would be the umbrella agency in charge of the funds. The committee will determine the way the money should be spent.

Suggestions of other groups were made by the group; USDA World Development and someone from Rice County. Fr Wesley suggested Hispanic community members from the Catholic community had been contacted. Other Hispanic churches will be contacted.

At the next meeting, a few members will meet at 9:00 am to develop a mission statement and look at by-laws.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25 at 9:30 am in the conference room of First United Methodist Church.