



## Hawaii Wildfire Response - Your Help is Requested!

*“And the crowds asked Him, ‘What then shall we do?’ And He answered them, ‘Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.’” — Luke 3:10-12*

To All MNA Disaster Response Friends:

A few weeks have passed since a series of wildfires broke out in Hawaii, predominantly on the island of Maui. The wind-driven fires prompted evacuations, caused widespread damage, and killed at least 115 people, leaving 850 others missing in the town of Lāhaina. As of today, only about 25% of the area has been searched. Most of the victims that have been found so far were mostly located outside or in vehicles as they attempted to flee. The proliferation of the wildfires was attributed to dry, gusty conditions created by a strong high-pressure area north of Hawaii and Hurricane Dora to the south.

The fire, driven by 80 mph winds, burned more than 2,100 acres and FEMA has estimated that 2,207 buildings have been destroyed, with a total of 2,719 exposed to the fires. Governor Josh Green announced the damage was close to \$6 billion and that this is the largest catastrophe and disaster that has ever hit Maui (*probably that's ever hit Hawaii*) outside of wartime events. 86% of burned structures in Lāhaina were residential.

The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) has five lovely congregations in Hawaii; **Trinity Church Central Oahu** in Mililani, **Trinity Presbyterian Church** in Kailua, **Hawaii Central Church** in Honolulu, **The City Church of Honolulu** in Honolulu, and **Kahikolu Church Kauai**, on the Island of Kauai. The congregations are members of Northern California Presbytery and are working together to marshal relief to Maui. MNA Disaster Response is working with presbytery leaders to assist in the response. Although no PCA owned physical plant or residence was lost, many PCA members have family and close connections on Maui so are providentially positioned to offer the most help. I am thankful they have been spared and now have the opportunity to provide assistance to those in desperate need. I am so thankful that the PCA is a connectional church and that we are able to come alongside to take part in helping our brothers and sisters in Christ to help others.

How can you help now?

- As for the foreseeable future no volunteer mobilization is anticipated. FEMA has asked relief organizations to not self-deploy. Critical infrastructure is non-existent, and only those highly specialized agencies working in recovery are being allowed into Maui.

- Please prayerfully consider sending a generous financial gift to Northern California Presbytery. 100% of your gift will be quickly channeled to the Hawaii congregations as they demonstrate God's love in many ways in Maui by bringing care and comfort to this devastated community. The Hawaii congregations, working as a team, will prioritize the needs and administer the funds by meeting the most urgent needs first.

The fastest and best way to help is to send a financial gift.

To do so electronically, simply [click here](#).

If you would prefer to mail your contribution, the mailing address is:

Northern California Presbytery  
PO Box 333  
Rocklin, CA 95677

Checks can be made out to Northern California Presbytery and should have 'Maui' in the memo line.

Serving you with my whole heart,

*Arklie*

Arklie Hooten  
MNA Disaster Response Director