

Disaster Relief Responds to Unprecedented Flooding

During the second week of August 2026, unprecedented flooding struck Indiana. Overflowing rivers and ponds damaged or destroyed homes across East Central Indiana, forcing residents to evacuate. As the rain stopped and floodwaters receded, many returned to find their homes damaged and uninhabitable.

Aid quickly poured into the affected communities. Government agencies, social service providers, charitable organizations, churches, and Southern Baptist Disaster Relief teams from across the country mobilized to help.

Disaster Relief teams from North Carolina established a command center at Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie, while teams from Alabama set up headquarters at Kingston Avenue Baptist Church in Anderson.

Leanna Hendricks of Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson volunteered to assist with intake at

Kingston Avenue. Although she served for only a few hours, she said it was clear how

deeply the volunteers cared about helping the community. She praised their organization and self-sufficiency, noting that they had put their personal lives on hold to serve people in Indiana.

Joanna Sweigart, also from Redeemer, served for three days at Kingston Avenue. She described the response as a living picture of God's love in action: volunteers traveled from



This aerial photo shows some of the flooded area in Anderson.

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ECBA Churches Demonstrate a Heart for Missions

By Tami Hubler

More than 110 people from across Indiana gathered for Missions Lifeline 2026 on August 15 at Calvary Baptist Church in Greenfield. Volunteers from several churches in the East Central Baptist Association helped make the day possible.

The theme for the event was "SENT," based on Romans 10:14–15. Missions Lifeline reminded



Matt Hadden, Executive Director of Chanku Waste Ranch, a Send Relief ministry serving the Oglala Lakota people, shares about how God is at work in this ministry.

us that missions is a calling to go, serve, give, and share the gospel wherever God has placed us. ECBA churches lived out that message through their service.

Tami Hubler of New Day Baptist Church, who is serving her final term as Indiana WMU President, helped lead and

coordinate the event. Ceress Beane, also from New Day Baptist Church, served as the Children's Program Coordinator. She led a team of volunteers who helped children understand

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Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

As with most, perhaps all, of the local congregations influenced by the apostle Paul, the body of believers in Philippi certainly ministered to him and his ministry. In the second chapter of his letter to them (2.1-11) he shared an insight only mentioned to them. This insight prompted Dr. T.W. Hunt to write his treasured book, *"The Mind of Christ,"* a book that has helped many Christians in their pursuit of conforming to the image of Christ.

The sixth paragraph of this letter contains verses one through eleven, and the genus of God's Spirit. This paragraph is so distinct with words of compassion for the spiritual development of its readers. The paragraph:

Expresses **Character**, 2.1-2

Exercises **Compassion**, 2.3-4

Exemplifies **Christ-likeness**, 2.5-11

Christians are admonished to possess *"the attitude of Christ."* What is the *"attitude of Christ?"* Note the word in verse seven, The Word "emptied Himself." This verse enables the reader to literally go inside the Mind of Jesus. The word *"kenoo"* means *"Jesus divested Himself (voluntarily) of His Godly privileges for the benefit of the chosen."* Most Bible scholars maintain that this *"kenoo"* is speaking of His attributes existent in His pre-incarnate livelihood.

Simply meditating on His redemptive work at Calvary is short-changing all Jesus did for those the Father had Chosen. All of us as Christians should strive to possess the Mind of Christ in our daily life. The Mind of Christ requires the emptying of our fleshly desires while pursuing the Spirit's desires.

May His desire permeate every area of our lives to His glory!

Upcoming October Events

Thursday, October 22, 8:30 am—6:00 pm, State Convention of Baptists in Indiana Annual Summit—
Harvest Church, 14550 River Road, Carmel IN 46033

SBC Emphasis for October

Month of October—Focus on Cooperative Program

October 4 — Cooperative Program (CP) Sunday

October 18 — Day of Prayer for Associational Missions

October 25 — Student Baptism Sunday

Redeemer Hosts End of Summer Carnival

Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson held an End of Summer Carnival on Saturday, August 1, 1:00 – 4:00 pm at the church. The public was invited to come for a fun-filled time for kids of all

ages. There were games, prizes, and treats and all was free of charge. Attendees of the event got to learn more about the church and about the AWANA program for kids that is offered during the school year on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm.



Redeemer used the ECBA Bounce House for their End of Summer Carnival.



Children enjoyed a variety of games.



Please pray for our pastors and their wives on these up-coming special occasions.

Birthdays

None

Wedding Anniversaries

October 25—Dale and Deneia Trego (New Day, Muncie)

Church Anniversaries

October—Jim Marlow, North Delaware Baptist Church, Muncie, 21 years.

More about Missions Lifeline

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that they, too, can be part of God's mission.

Children's ministry volunteers included Pastor Chris Hubler who shared evangelism with the youth. Dan and Rhonda Arnold and Beth Weaver of New Day Baptist Church in Alexandria; Sherri Hughey of New Day Baptist Church in Pendleton; and Natalie Poole and Brenda Brooks of

Redeemer Baptist Church. Together, they provided a missions experience focused on Mexico City. The children learned about another culture and were encouraged to see how God can use them to share His love with others.

Their service is a wonderful example of what we see in the churches of the East Central Baptist Association. Our churches have servants' hearts and a genuine heart for missions.

Missions takes people who are willing to teach, prepare, welcome, and serve. Sometimes it simply takes someone willing to ask, "*Where do you need me?*" These ECBA volunteers showed that kind of willingness at Missions Lifeline.

We are SENT—and across ECBA, faithful servants are answering the call.



These ladies from Redeemer enjoyed learning more about missions and how they can be involved. Pictured are (l-r) Joanna Sweigart, Diana Johnson, Angela Bourne, Natalie Poole, Brenda Brooks, Lynn Mitchell, and Pat Storm. Both Brenda and Natalie helped with childcare during the event.



Indiana WMU President, Tami Hubler, from New Day Baptist Church, welcomed everyone and introduced the speakers.



Dr. Nick Clark, the new Executive Director for the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, share his heart for evangelism and reaching out to others in our state.



The children participated in their own mission experience focused on Mexico City. Volunteers from New Day campuses in Alexandria and Pendleton, Dan and Rhonda Arnold, Beth Weaver, and Sherri Hughey, plus Natalie Poole and Brenda Brooks from Redeemer, helped the children see how God can use them to share His love with others.

More on Our Disaster Relief Ministry

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several states with compassionate hearts, a willingness to listen, and a commitment to share God's Word.

Through prayer, encouragement, practical assistance, and quiet moments of care, the teams brought hope to people in need. Sweigart said serving alongside them was a blessing and an opportunity to share God's message and love.

Kingston Avenue pastor Tim Overton praised the Alabama Disaster Relief team. "I have been so impressed with the Disaster Relief Team from



Volunteers Joanna Sweigart and Penny Wable from Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson helped the North Carolina Disaster Relief team with intake and calls to those in need.

Alabama! They have won people to Christ, repaired homes, and encouraged our church. What a blessing to see Southern Baptists working together!!!"

Additional teams from Alabama and North Carolina continue to arrive. Teams from South Carolina and possibly Oklahoma are expected in

the coming weeks. Disaster Relief teams are also serving communities elsewhere in Indiana, including Noblesville, Cambridge City, Connersville, and New Castle.

Before the flooding, Disaster Relief teams had been helping Northern Indiana recover from



A Disaster Relief Team from North Carolina set up a command center at Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie.



The Alabama Disaster Relief Team kept a Daily Report posted in the kitchen at Kingston Avenue. In just 2 days, this was their tally.

tornado and storm damage. Disaster Relief Coordinator, Joe Fox, said the fallen trees there were among the largest he had encountered during his years of service.

With that work now complete, the



The Disaster Relief team provided food for the volunteers. This group at Kingston Avenue were able to not only share lunch together but also fellowship with volunteers from different areas.

teams are concentrating on Indiana's flood-affected communities. Joe was especially encouraged by the arrival of a truck equipped with a large sprayer for treating homes; the equipment can be operated by just two people.

The relief work continues, but its greatest impact is seen in the lives of those who hear the gospel. Chaplains and Disaster Relief workers meet practical needs while also offering a listening ear, encouragement, and hope. Through this ministry, people are coming to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.



These posters were displayed around the area and posted on social media sites, often shared by individuals in the area on their own Facebook or Instagram pages.

ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for July

	Jul 2026	Jun 2026 (PP)	Jul 2025 (PY)	Jan - Jul, 2026 (YTD)
REVENUE				
4000 Church Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4030 New Day	550.00	550.00	550.00	3,850.00
4140 Kingston - Anderson	119.12	198.60	0.00	905.94
4160 North Delaware - Muncie	0.00	102.44	186.59	401.62
4170 Old Town Hill - Muncie	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,429.16
4180 Redeemer - Anderson	952.23	0.00	0.00	2,223.62
4210 Faith Christian Fellowship	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
4230 Integris	345.00	112.00	236.00	991.00
4240 Remedy City	0.00	130.61	106.16	804.17
4250 Muncie Chinese Christian Fellow	0.00	0.00	0.00	921.00
Total 4000 Church Receipts	1,966.35	1,093.65	1,228.75	12,526.51
Total Revenue	1,966.35	1,093.65	1,228.75	12,526.51
EXPENDITURES				
7000 Administrative Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7010 Office & Other Misc. Expenses	113.23	111.11	69.00	1,969.06
7021 Insurance	685.50	0.00	672.75	2,252.09
7090 Payroll	1,078.62	1,078.61	1,024.79	7,550.29
7091 Bookkeeping	48.00	29.70	91.60	300.22
Total 7000 Administrative Ministry	1,925.35	1,219.42	1,858.14	12,071.66
7100 Church Health	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00
7110 VBS	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,719.74
Total 7100 Church Health	0.00	600.00	0.00	2,319.74
7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7310 Disaster Relief	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,173.66
Total 7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,173.66
Total Expenditures	1,925.35	1,819.42	1,858.14	16,565.06
NET OPERATING REVENUE	41.00	-725.77	-629.39	-4,038.55
OTHER REVENUE				
Endowment ROI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dividends Earned	20.81	0.00	0.00	31.86
Realized Gains/Losses	457.63	0.00	0.00	411.67
Unrealized Gains/Losses	694.84	0.00	0.00	709.34
Total Endowment ROI	1,173.28	0.00	0.00	1,152.87
Interest Income	7.65	0.00	0.00	1,042.64
Total Other Revenue	1,180.93	0.00	0.00	2,195.51
NET OTHER REVENUE	1,180.93	0.00	0.00	2,195.51
NET REVENUE	\$1,221.93	\$ -725.77	\$ -629.39	\$ -1,843.04

ECBA Balance Report July 2026

	As of Jul 31, 2026	As of Jun 30, 2026 (PP)	Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
1000 ONB	103,066.50	102,992.77	73.73
1010 General Budget (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1011 Discretionary Admin Team (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1020 Disaster Relief (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1025 Mission Building Capital Fund (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1035 Church P&H Fund (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1040 OMC (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1055 Funds Temporarily Restricted (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1111 Church P&H ROI (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1125 BCMH Temp Restricted (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 1000 ONB	103,066.50	102,992.77	73.73
1010 WatersEdge Endowment 87745	15,136.26	13,988.06	1,148.20
1020 WatersEdge Invest 90043801	101,822.91	101,822.91	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	220,025.67	218,803.74	1,221.93
Total Current Assets	220,025.67	218,803.74	1,221.93
TOTAL ASSETS	\$220,025.67	\$218,803.74	\$1,221.93
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Total Liabilities			0.00
Equity			
2000 Opening Balance Equity	45,107.04	45,107.04	0.00
2200 Unrestricted Net Assets	176,761.67	176,761.67	0.00
Net Revenue	-1,843.04	-3,064.97	1,221.93
Total Equity	220,025.67	218,803.74	1,221.93
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$220,025.67	\$218,803.74	\$1,221.93

SBC '27 Kicks Off

The Southern Baptist Convention is coming to Indianapolis in June 2027. The



SBC '27 kickoff was held at Harvest church in Carmel on Tuesday, August 11 at 11:30 am. Willie Rice, current president of the Southern Baptist Convention and Jeff Iorg, President of the SBC Executive Committee along with Nick Clark, the new Executive Director of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana were on hand to share about the upcoming opportunities for the Southern Baptist Churches in Indiana to be involved. The theme for the conference is from Habakkuk 2:14, "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

The SBC Convention staff is looking for volunteers. They will need greeters, registration helpers, ushers, childcare workers, pray-ers and more. Dr. Iorg said they need about 700 volunteers to help with the anticipated 18,000 registrants. He reminded everyone that although messengers are limited based on enrollment, an unlimited number of people may attend from your church. Last year's convention had about 5,000 guests attending.



Kingston Avenue Baptist Church Pastor, Tim Overton (R), prays with other attendees at the SBC '27 kickoff.

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Follow us



Don't Miss It!!

Annual ECBA Associational Meeting

Thursday, September 24th, 2026

New Day Baptist Church

202 W Tyler

Alexandria IN 46001

7:00 p.m. Associational Meeting

6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Nicholas Clark, Executive Director,
State Convention of Baptists in Indiana**