



The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Tequesta, Florida  
The Rev. Douglas F. Scharf, Rector  
August 31, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the past several days, the world has been watching as images emerge of the widespread devastation and destruction wrought by Hurricane Harvey. I have many personal friends and colleagues, including the Suffragan Bishop of Texas, who have been significantly impacted by the effects of this storm. As I write this message, flood waters are continuing to rise in many areas of southeast Texas and Louisiana, and rescue operations are intensifying. The communities affected by Hurricane Harvey will need support and assistance for days, months, and even years to come.

Many of you have already asked how you can help! Although we are often inclined to gather supplies and other material donations, what is most needed at this time is money. Organizations such as Episcopal Relief and Development are already raising funds, which will be used to purchase the necessary supplies and provide material support where needed. The organizations "on the ground" have a much better understanding of what is needed and how various resources should be allocated.

Therefore, this Sunday, we will be gathering a special collection for Episcopal Relief and Development. Please make your checks out to "Good Shepherd Church" and write "Harvey Relief" on the memo line of your check. The church will write a single check to Episcopal Relief and Development. This is most effective and immediate action that we can take at this time.

Please continue to pray for the residents of Texas and Louisiana, especially remembering those who have died and the emergency responders who are still performing rescue and recovery operations. May the God of hope grant us peace and strengthen us to do his will.

In Christ,