

New Site for LCC Katrina Volunteers in Ocean Spring, Mississippi – From this site we will deploy volunteers out to sites!



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and Gateway Community Church open Katrina Volunteer Base Camp in Ocean Spring, Mississippi – serving the Jackson County area relief efforts. LCC was contacted by Gloria Dei staff member Bruce Collet and asked if we were able to send volunteers to help out in the Jackson County Mississippi community – all in the name of Christ. Of course, you know how we responded. The Base Camp will serve as a staging ground for volunteers to serve. The camp has large air-conditioned tents, cots, meals, portable restroom facilities, etc... to meet the physical needs of volunteers who will serve in weekend and week long service projects. *“This is not your ‘pup-tent’ operation”* said Mike Malkemes, camp director. *“One of our tents is 4,000 square feet... with air conditioning!”* The base camp will be the staging platform for service projects. Volunteers will be divided into teams and led by local coordinators. [Also from this site we will be sending teams out to our LCMS congregations.](#) All volunteers wanting to go must go to our web site and fill out the Traveling volunteer form (unless you have already done so) as we are coordinating the people going down to this center.



Current Project Crews:

- Chainsaw Crew – Cutting and removing debris off houses, buildings, cars, and other property.
- Clean up Crew – Going into homes and pulling out carpet, furniture, sheetrock, and other items ruined by water
- Clothing Crew – Sorting through clothing, grouping, and distributing to families
- Set-up Crew – Setting up and organizing tents, trailers, and other logistical needs to operate the base camp
- Tarp Crew – Assisting homeowners in temporary roof coverings using tarps and ropes
- Distribution Crew- working in the local distribution center to unload, organize, and sort supplies and equipment from neighboring organization.

What we are asking of volunteers:

- Provide or arrange own transportation between Your location and Ocean Springs (we'll help folks form car or truck pools).
- Use air respirators to protect against mold exposure (if working on crews inside damaged buildings); the camp has a supply available.
- Bring necessary hand tools, work gloves, eye protection, hearing protection and work shoes (depending on specific volunteer activities)
- Bring sleeping bag, pillow and towels; cots are provided
- Be prepared to deal with sun and heat; hats, sunglasses, sun block are highly recommended
- Recognize that they are living in work camp conditions; basics are provided but comforts luxuries are not available
- Tetanus inoculation is required.
- Have a spirit of Christian giving and not be a burden on other volunteers or camp staff
- Meal arrangements are still being worked out. To help defray the meal costs, a donation of \$30/volunteer (4 day stay), or \$50/volunteer (7 day stay) may be requested. We'll let you know as soon as we do!

