



Joplin Area Ministerial Alliance

The tornado struck when many residents were heading to Sunday evening church services. Some were already in their church buildings when the storm hit and others were en route. The tornado damaged or destroyed 28 churches in the area, resulting in several deaths.

Within minutes of the storm's passing, churches and ministries fielded crews for search-and-rescue operations, street clearing, taking care of residents' immediate needs and transporting the homeless and injured. Within 24 hours, full-blown emergency feeding and housing facilities were set up on the grounds of numerous local churches until more permanent accommodations were established.

Going hand-in-hand with the remarkable local response, many out-of-town churches and ministries sent vehicles loaded with food and vital supplies, including hot meals, into the affected areas.

Churches and ministries in the greater Joplin area remain committed to Joplin's long-term recovery by providing for thousands of volunteers, being points of distribution to meet survivors' physical needs and organizing crews for clean-up, repair and rebuilding of damaged and destroyed homes.

Additionally the faith-based community has hosted numerous activities such as programs and fundraisers for those impacted.

Beyond seeing to residents' physical needs the faith community continues to be instrumental in providing for the emotional and spiritual impact of those dealing with losses and fears.

Contact: Dan King

Phone: 417-439-1206



**One
Year.**

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**One
Community.**

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**One
Direction.**