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Photo Credit By: FCA Syria

"God is our refuge and strength... though the mountains shake."

-Psalm 46:1-3

The scale of the disaster facing Syria and Turkey after the Feb. 6 earthquake is becoming clearer. The 7.8-magnitude quake and its aftershocks have left more than 11,000 people dead and thousands more injured; These numbers will rise as search and rescue continues. Buildings have been reduced to rubble, and roads and bridges have been severely damaged, resulting in dangerous conditions for first responders. In some places, such as Aleppo, this destruction is compounding the damage of the now 11-year war in Syria.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas through long-standing partners in Syria, in addition to ACT Alliance members in Syria and Turkey, all of whom are already on the ground. PDA will remain active throughout the entire recovery process, accompanying our partners in the area as they determine long-term program needs and providing financial support for building and resilience.

GIVE. ON *PRAY*.

GIVE:

Financial support for relief efforts can be designated to [DR999999-ST earthquake](#) . Gifts can be made [online by clicking here](#) , by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (USA) with " [DR999999-ST Earthquake](#) " written on the memo line and mailed to

Presbyterian Church (USA),

P.O. Box 643700,

Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

ACT:

- [Download and use the bulletin insert](#)
- Stay informed and like us on [Facebook](#)
- PDA is supported by your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing. [Download resources](#) to promote the offering with your congregation.

PRAY:

God of mercy, we join in prayer for our siblings in Syria and Turkey, and all other regions affected. In the face of the terrible images that come to us, we ask that your Spirit, O God, once again move in the midst of chaos and destruction.

May your Spirit be with the first responders, neighbors putting their lives at risk to help those around them, and anyone assisting during this time of emergency. May you provide protection, energy and strength through your presence. Be with them as they search for loved ones, guide them during the long hours and allow them to find hope through your Spirit.

Dear God, as the days go by, provide wisdom and discernment to the local government agencies. May they be instruments of your grace as they care for the people affected. That they may receive help and support from countries near and far, and that, as they provide assistance, may there be enough for everyone.

As the stories are shared, and the recovery process begins, may your Spirit be with those who will be called to listen and to be agents of peace and hope.

Dear God, be with those
who weep,
who are angry,
who have lost hope,

who mourns out loud and in silence,
who don't know what the future will bring.
May the prayers of your children rise to you.

May they feel your presence and comfort in the embrace of a stranger,
your love in the care of your neighbors and loved ones,
your grace in every word and every silence,
and may your Spirit mourn with them and bring healing.

We pray that you may guide us as we look for ways to share your compassion
and hope with those who suffer. That we may be ambassadors of your peace,
your mercy and your abundant love.

Through Jesus, who weeps with those who weep and heals every heart, amen.

-Rev. Edwin González-Castillo, Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



Photo Credit By: GOPA-DERD

***"God is our refuge and our strength... even though the mountains
tremble because of his fury."***

- Psalm 46:1-3

The magnitude of the disaster facing Syria and Turkey after the earthquake on February 6 is becoming clearer. The 7.8 magnitude earthquake and its aftershocks have left more than 11,000 people dead and thousands injured; these numbers will increase as search and rescue efforts continue. Buildings have been reduced to rubble, and roads and bridges have been severely damaged, resulting in dangerous conditions for first responders. In some places, like Aleppo, this destruction is compounding the damage from the 11-

year war in Syria.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing short-term emergency and recovery relief in affected areas through its allies in Syria, plus ACT Alliance members in Syria and Turkey, all of whom are already on the ground. . PDA will remain active throughout the recovery process, accompanying our partners as they determine long-term program needs, and providing financial support for building and resiliency.

DONATE. ACT. *PRAY.*

DONATE:

DONE: Financial support for relief efforts can be designated as [DR999999-ST earthquake](#) . Donations can be made online by clicking [here](#) , by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check made payable to The Presbyterian Church (USA) by writing "DR999999-ST Earthquake" on the memo line and send by mail to the Presbyterian Church (USA), PO Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

act:

- [Download and use the newsletter insert](#)
- To receive information and give it a like on [Facebook](#)
- PDA is supported by your donations to A Great Hour of Sharing. [Download resources](#) to promote the offering with your congregation.

Pray:

God of mercy, we join in prayer for our brothers and sisters in Syria and Turkey, and all other affected regions. In the face of the terrible images that come to us, we ask that your Spirit, O God, move once more in the midst of chaos and destruction. May you provide protection, energy and strength through your presence.

May your Spirit be with first responders, neighbors putting their lives on the line to help those around them, and anyone helping during this time of emergency. We pray that you provide protection, energy and strength through your presence. Stay with your people as they search for their loved ones, guide them through the long hours and allow them to find hope through your Spirit.

Dear God, as the days go by, provide local government agencies with wisdom and discernment. May they be instruments of your grace as they care for

those affected. We pray for help and support from countries near and far, so that as they provide assistance, there will be enough to go around.

As the stories are shared and the recovery process begins, may your Spirit be with those who will be called to listen and be agents of peace and hope.

Our God, accompany
who cry,
who are angry,
who have lost hope
who moan loud and silent,
who do not know what the future will bring.
May the prayers of your sons and daughters rise up to you.

May they feel your presence and comfort in the embrace of a stranger,
your love in caring for your neighbors and loved ones,
your grace in every word and every silence,
and may your Spirit cry with them and bring healing.

We pray that you may guide us as we look for ways to share your compassion and hope with those who suffer. So that we may be ambassadors of your peace, your mercy and your abundant love.

Through Jesus, who cries with the people who cry and heals every heart,
amen.

-Rev. Edwin González Castillo, Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

