

North & West Texas

January 2008

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, thousands of people in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi are celebrating a rebirth of their lives. It is a rebirth made possible through the outpouring of support that followed two powerful hurricanes. Lutheran Social Services, the local affiliate of Lutheran Disaster Response, organized its largest, most far-reaching disaster response effort in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Since September 2005, thousands of people like you have made it possible for Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response to make a significant contribution in our efforts to rebuild homes and lives. Through this partnership, you have helped:

1. House, feed and coordinate the work of more than 36, 600 volunteers, who gave nearly 1,638,000 hours of service,
2. Rebuild 2,580 homes; repair and clean out 7,485 homes,
3. Serve 10,565 households through case management,
4. Survivors access more than \$5.5 million in services,
5. Serve 3,320 children through special children's ministry,
6. Provide more than 1,550 pastoral visits,
7. Conduct 2,745 counseling sessions, and
8. Serve 1,055 families through the LSS/Habitat for Humanity Call Center.

While our efforts have been blessed with much success, much work remains to be done. Experts say it will take at least another five years before the recovery and rebuilding is finished. Support in the form of time, talent and resources is still needed from caring Christians like you. For more information on how you and your congregation can help, please call **(800) 938-5777** visit LSSDR online at **www.LSSS.org/disasterresponse.htm**.

Lenten season begins Feb. 6. LSS has produced an attractive Lenten calendar which gives you the opportunity to pray each day of the Lenten season for a different person served through LSS. For your free calendar, please call **(800) 938-5777**, or go online at **www.LSSS.org**.