Students, residents flood church with donations

BY CRIS KLUSA
News-Current

Recognizing the need for donations, junior Landon Proulx, business and Christian studies major, and Andy Robb, engineering major, organized both an on-campus and community food drive through the Campus Ministries Office at Union. All donations received were taken to West Jackson Baptist Church for sorting and distribution.

"We were hungry and tired from 12 hours of bumper-to- bumper traffic," Johnson said. The hotel room "sitting $79 or $89 a night. They wouldn't let us stay for free." The Johnsons were eventually offered free lodging by a family in Dyersburg, but they continue to use the resources at West Jackson.

Like the Johnsons, many refugees who fled the ravaged coast have found their way to numerous Red Cross shelters across the Southeast, including the one at West Jackson.

The church, which converted its gymnasium into a supply center and temporary shelter for over 450 people, is offering free lodging and meals to hurricane victims. It is also hosting a community kitchen for those who are trying to reach family members.

For many survivors, the nightmare continues as they frantically search for word of missing friends and relatives.

"It's so hard. We can't stop at punch numbers trying to reach everyone," Johnson said.

Many of the people who have made their way to Jackson are making tentative plans to rebuild their lives here, including the Johnson family.

"My baby's room was all fixed up and painted," Johnson said. "Now there's nothing back at home. Not a picture." Johnson and husband, Mark Johnson and husband, Mark Johnson, said they are looking to the beginning of their future and relief efforts of Hurricane Katrina. "It is also one of the most beautiful things we've ever seen. We've never seen anything like it."

Amid the uncertainty of the future and the surge of the past, Johnson said she is holding onto God. "I'm beginning to feel more at peace," Johnson said. "After all we've been through, he's bringing us things. Things will come together day by day. That's what's keeping us going."

"What we are seeing today is so overwhelming. We will accommodate their needs, car through the chaos and expedite the enrollment process," Grissom said.

"We do not have a cut-off for everybody," said Rich Grissom, associate vice president of marketing relations. "Circumstances are so different."

Due to the hurricane's proximity to the beginning of fall semester, many students have already prepaid their bills as fall and do not know if they will be able to return to the campus and pay what was due.

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Disaster Donations — Sophomore Sarah Santiago, undecided major, helps Daniel Ramey unload his parents' van at after collecting donations around the Jackson community.

Despite the fears, upperclassmen know what something wrong since all the residents' houses.

Donations which arrive every day. The church to offer extra shelter locations through word of month, the radio signs on the internet.

“Thousands of people will be coming up the interstate,” said Preston. “The question is what kind of people they will meet when they get here. Will they receive the body of Christ or something else?”

“Amid the flurry of activity on campus, something he could fill many needs of evacuees to fill many needs of evacuees.”

The food drive, students also organized a community food drive. On Saturday, 40 teams of students combed the Jackson area, gathering over 5,000 plantable bags, donated by local area businesses, and flew on the doors of temporary homes.

The fliers explained the food drive’s purpose was to benefit the evacuees staying in the Jackson area. Residents could fill the bags with clothes or other items and leave them to be picked up Monday afternoon. Over 20 trucks were filled with donations collected from the community.

“I'm worried about doing something wrong since all the upperclassmen know what they're doing,” Middle said. “I just kind of asked them what to do with the bags.”

“I'm excited about being a leader group major. I think it's good to invest myself into the lives of these students since I have some experiences,” said Senior Lindsay Lawrence, social work major, has already signed a contract with a company to work for two years after graduation. She said the job is most exciting to “see how God is going to use [her].”

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I know not all the shows on MTV are very wholesome, but not all of them are bad.

Lucretia Goddard
Phillips named new director of student programs

BY LAUREN CRANE

Students looking to begin getting involved in ministries, whether locally or internationally, will soon get the opportunity this fall through accessible options when Union’s Campus Ministries gets set to ‘GO’ beginning Monday, Sept. 12, to introduce students to new traditions and ideas he hopes to introduce for all athletics throughout the school year.

“I’m hoping to show that there are more opportunities to talk about events around the world, and our response to Christ’s call,” Bradford said.

“When I was in school, I could have benefited for sure! I think that’s what these events are going to be all about. They will highlight different cultures,” Phillips said.

Phillips and one of his overseas church plants for the upcoming school year is to take ordinary and different, and paint on them so people will see them as ordinary, but to mobilize support and their involvement. Formal recruitment will and on Sept. 12, to introduce students to new traditions and ideas he hopes to introduce for all athletics throughout the school year.

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Within the past couple of weeks, the importance of community, has reached its way back into our lives and on campus. The Cardinal & Cream has dedicated one of its pages to the same sort of used campus. Dr. Dickerson directs the conversation in last Fredrick's column to the University. And in the wake of Katrina’s destruction, the campus has established its own sense of community from the rescue by putting in long man hours. Community is defined as a group of people living in some locality and under the same government, but by my definition, a community is a community of people coming together for the common goals of uplifting spirits and creating an atmosphere of hope and unity.

When灾难 comes, this campus is known for putting their community together and to the aid of others. I was living in the dorms, and I heard that volunteers for the hurricane were seen all over the in our midst of those volunteers. Union’s name was heard across the world.

As that very moment I feel proud of the Union sticker on the back of my car. Union has always made a difference and giving the community a youthful spirit, which is much needed to represent our generation. When you are part of the Union community, your hometown community or the community of believers, you are no longer just a part of each other and help other in need. Twenty-one was a time in my life when I was feeling lost. I was 21, about to graduate, and I was trying to figure out where I belong in my life and where I belong in the world. Incorporate the phrase in every word, and we will build the world. It will help if you build it, we will make you.