

Fall Project 2009 Special Edition

Anahuac Comeback

Hurricane Relief Project for Central Chambers County Texas

Fall 2009 Project - Home for Christmas

Work Trips

September 12

September 26

October 17

October 24

November 7

November 21

December 5

December 12

Details Inside

Family Profiles

Current Photos of
each house

Project Plan for
each house

Sign Up forms for
Work Trips

Cash Donations
In Kind Gifts

Work Trip
Information

August Work
Trip Report

Four houses and four families have been selected for the Fall 2009 Anahuac Comeback Focus. Our goal is to repair and furnish these houses so the families can move back home in time for Christmas, 2009.

This ambitious plan calls for money, manpower and materials. Volunteer crews will work side by side with the families over four months in 8 work trips so each house has a roof, insulation, floors, doors, windows, plumbing and fixtures.

Smith Point community leaders identified the four families in great need, who have houses that can be re-

turned to comfortable, safe condition. On August 29 a team visited each site to determine the work and materials needed. Each house is different depending on the level of damage caused by Hurricane Ike.



Total construction materials for this project will cost at least \$20,000. With additional costs for furnishings or appliances purchased, Christmas gifts for the families or other needs.

Our Project 'mascot' is Anahuac Andy. He represents the spirit of our efforts and the love we have for the people we serve. Andy has picked up his cross to follow Jesus. He gives up some of his Saturdays for work trips, donates from the resources available to him, and shares his faith along the way.

Many people have come on Anahuac Comeback work trips since the first one in October 2008. Each has a story to tell of the people they met and served, the welcome we always find, and the blessings received. Come with us - you will be blessed beyond your expectations.

Churches in Partnership

Anahuac Comeback was started by First United Methodist Church of Rosenberg under the direction of Pastor John R Black and Project Director Volunteer Margaret Lawley. Six other churches have joined the effort as partner churches to help rebuild homes in central Chambers County. These are: First UMC Anahuac, Mission Bend UMC, First UMC East Bernard, Christ UMC Sugar Land, St. John's UMC Richmond, and Faith UMC Richmond. Other churches have come along to help on our work projects and even sponsored projects of their own. The River UMC sent a summer youth team in June and another team to do other work. Comeback welcomes volunteers and churches that want to participate in this important mission.

You can find out more about us at www.ahomeback.org, by calling Margaret Lawley at 281-342-9651 or 281-633-1255 or by sending an email message to molawley@yahoo.com.

The Four Families & Their Houses

I wanted to print photos and tell you all about each of our client families for the fall project, but out of concern for the family members, I decided to go with general information. When you go to Smith Point and work with us, you'll get to meet the people face to face, and work side by side with them. For the newsletter, we'll maintain confidentiality while sharing something of the stories and situations of each family. Let's call them Matthew, Mark, Luke and John...four names, four families

It is important for you to know that I have met these folks, and they are without exception friendly, appreciative, optimistic, and hard working. When I arrive in Smith Point I'm greeted with big smiles and hugs from everyone. We share meals and prayers and sweat together as the work goes on. These men and women are trying hard to make a living and a better life. Their children are respectful and well behaved. The families in our fall project are survivors, people you will be proud to serve and happy to know.

Margaret Lawley, August 2009

Matthew's trailer was totally destroyed by Ike. The family includes his wife and 8 children. Some of the children are adults now. They all live together in rent house where they have had several fires caused by faulty wiring. He bought a damaged trailer to repair. They have painted the outside, put plywood floors in most of the rooms, put up insulation and some sheetrock. Here's what's needed: front steps, 30 pieces of sheetrock installed and finished; three windows, hook up plumbing, re-do kitchen (they only have a stove), install floor covering throughout the house, vanity, tub and lights in bathroom,. There is no heating. **Materials cost estimate: \$5,000**



Mark and his wife are living with her parents and other family members in a small trailer. They bought two story house that suffered great damage from Ike. Termite damage discovered after the storm rendered the existing structure a total loss. Every day this family and their friends work on the house. Here's what's needed: Front of the house needs to be dried in (particle board and Tar paper), next is roofing, 9 windows saved from the previous structure can be installed. Set up kitchen and bathroom. House needs plumbing, vents, and a water heater. This will complete the phase one reconstruction.

Materials cost estimate: \$7,000

Luke, his wife and their two babies are living with his mother in law and 10 other family members. They have a little house in the back which has to be repaired before they can move back in. Here's what's needed: siding work, fascia and soffit. kitchen sink, cabinets and refrigerator , extensive plumbing work, front steps and flooring , water heater, **Materials cost estimate: \$3,000**



John, his wife and baby are now living with 15 others in a relative's house. Their tiny house, about 25' x 25', is not far away. The family is helping with the work on this little house, and volunteers have almost completed the siding had sheet rocking. Here's what's needed: complete siding, soffit and fascia, baseboard, 5 windows, four door kits and trim, ceiling lights, heating unit, extensive plumbing. **Materials Cost estimate: \$5,000**

Work Trips - General Information

Ever wonder what this work trip thing is all about? Here are some answers for you.

Where do we go? Most of our trips to are a little community 30 miles from the Anahuac city limits called Smith Point. It takes about 2 hours to get there from Richmond, TX.

When do we go? Trips are on Saturdays, and we leave early to meet at the Fire Department in Smith Point at 9AM.

What do we do? We work on houses,

painting, putting in sheetrock, putting up insulation and siding. Our friends at Smith Point plan our assignments based on the number of people coming and their skill levels.

How do we get there? We drive or carpool or take church vans. We take I-10 east over the Trinity River and exit on TX 61, then head south about 30 miles following the signs. The address is Plummer Camp Rd, Anahuac, TX.

What do we eat? Lunch is served at the Fire Station. It's fun to get together and take a lunch break.

Are the sites modern? Yes, there is electricity. Yes, there are bathrooms. Yes, lately it has been hot.

When do we go home? We work until we are too tired to work any more or until the job is done, or until it gets dark. We're usually home by 5PM.

What do I bring? Tool needs are posed on the web site a few days before the trip. Bring snacks, water, tool box, and any special tools needed if you have them.

Who goes? Men and women, boys and girls, teens, seniors, everybody can help.

SIGN ME UP

I'll Come for Work Trips

___ Sept 12 ___ Sept 26 ___ Oct 17
___ Oct 24 ___ Nov 7 ___ Nov 21
___ Dec 5 ___ Dec 12

I have the following construction tools and skills: _____

___ **I can drive and give others a ride**

___ **I need a ride to the work sites**

I Can Help With Materials

___ **Will donate construction materials as follows** _____

___ **Can help buy materials at discount prices as follows:** _____

I Will Send a Check

Expect my donation of \$ _____

___ **Now** or by this date _____

Your Name and Address:

Phone and Email:

Ideas and Suggestions:

Put your sign up info in the offering or mail it to First UMC Rosenberg, 1106 4th St., Rosenberg, TX 77471. Deductible donations for Anahuac Comeback can be made to any partner church.

Anahuac Comeback September 1, 2009

AUGUST Work Trip News

Twenty-two workers reported for duty on July 18th, representing Mission Bend UMC, Rosenberg UMC, Christ UMC, and St. John's UMC. There were several first timers, including David Meeker Williams, pastor of the Mission Bend church, two hard-working teenage children of Kenny Brown, and Bob McCarty from Rosenberg. Bob's wonderful paint sprayer was a great new addition to the project.

Three sites were selected for painting projects, and great improvement was made in each place. Smith Point's Catholic Mission Church received a complete coat of glossy white exterior, with local church members helping in the effort. Paint donated by Bob Dimon of Faith UMC gave the two other sites clean, fresh looks. Work continued well into the afternoon in spite of the heat.

Lunch was a special treat as everyone enjoyed a treat from Calvin Band of Rosenberg. Mr. Band captured and cooked a wild hog on his farm, cut it into juicy delicious bite sized pieces for the volunteers and resident families to enjoy at noon. Salads from the Cummings and Burkhamms and peach cobbler completed the meal. We also celebrated Lou Cummings' birthday with song and candles.

After Lunch Jennifer took Ria and Margaret to see some houses that still need repairs. Plans for fall projects started to take shape as the tour revealed many homes still uninhabitable 10 months after Ike.

Several ladies came to the Fire Station in the afternoon to learn to make paper floral arrangements. We didn't have time to complete the projects so the ladies took the craft materials home to enjoy later.

Thanks to all volunteers for a great day of work and blessings!

REFRIGERATORS DELIVERED

Our May Newsletter included a request for donations of refrigerators for Smith Point residents. We knew at the time of three families who needed the appliances, and were delighted that we received money to buy them. One really good used fridge was also donated, just as a fourth family was asking for help.

That's the way things go with our ministry, God brings answers to every prayer, and the things we need are provided as he works through our supporters.

As a special addition, the Summer VBS offering from East Bernard UMC was applied to the refrigerator fund - those kids gave \$200!!

On July 19 Marcia and Rudy Lee and Margaret Lawley set out to buy the appliances, settling on Sears Outlet Center as the best place to shop. We were able to buy three refrigerators and one stove with the donated money, and also to pay for delivery to Smith Point.

THANK YOU Mark Pagels, Robert Pennington, and Jennifer Anderson for helping evaluate the four houses for our fall project..

WELCOME: WORDSERV UMC in Fulshear, glad to have you aboard!

VOLUNTEERS

Anahuac Comeback volunteers come in all sizes, shapes, denominations, ages, and levels of ability. We need cooks and servers, electricians, plumbers, roofers, prayers, folks who can hammer, folks who can paint, and folks who can encourage others. We have jobs for kids, and seniors. We need you.

Anahuac Comeback is a ministry of First United Methodist Church of Rosenberg, TX, Reverend John Black, Senior Pastor. For more information access our site: acomeback.org, email Margaret Lawley at molawley@yahoo.com, or phone 281-342-9651