

October 2018

Philip and Janith Hall weathered plenty of difficulty during 35 years of pastoral ministry in small churches in three states. Unexpected illness caused Philip to retire much earlier than planned in March of 2017. But it was the wind, rain and flooding from Hurricane Florence last month that hit them especially hard.

Our roof was badly damaged, and we had a lot of leaks. There was water everywhere. Our fence blew down. We also were without power for several days and lost all the food in our refrigerator and freezer. But, at least we are safe.

That was the report when Debbie Seese from our staff called to check on the Halls who live in Fayetteville, North Carolina. The large-scale hurricane moved out of the area rather quickly, but its impact left a big mark along the coastal Carolinas and areas just inland. Although Philip and Janith escaped injury, the physical impact on their property and belongings is going to be felt for a while.

We immediately sent an emergency grant to the Halls so they could replace their food and have some funds on hand to take care of urgent out-of-pocket expenses to make their home livable. They continue to work with their insurance company and contractors to put things back in shape.

But it's the availability of resources you provide through your gifts to Mission:Dignity that has helped them so immensely during this challenging time.

So far, we've mailed more than a dozen emergency grants to our Mission:Dignity recipients who were in the path of the storm, and we are still in the process of making outbound calls to all of those in the FEMA-designated regions in both North Carolina and South Carolina. Some of those residents have been displaced from their homes and haven't been allowed back into their neighborhoods.

As more needs are brought to our attention, we will be responding with additional help so that these good and gracious men and women can get back on their feet as quickly and smoothly as possible.

Continued

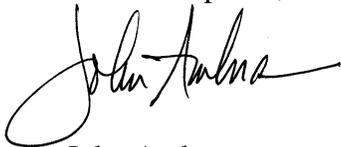
Psalms 46:1 reminds us, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

No matter what winds of adversity may howl around us, or what floods of hardship may seem to overwhelm us, we have the confidence that God will protect, preserve and provide. One of the ways he often shows himself strong on our behalf is through fellow believers who step in to be Christ’s hands extended in a personal and tangible way.

We appreciate you being “those hands” this month through your caring and compassionate gift for Mission:Dignity. You have our assurance that 100% of these Christ-honoring resources will be directed into the hands of a longtime pastor or his widow. Whether it’s for some extra help during a natural disaster, or a monthly grant that makes buying groceries or paying the electric bill a little bit easier throughout the year, your gift is one extra shelter against the storms of life that blow their way.

Thanks again for sharing and for being part of our Mission:Dignity family!

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ambra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

John Ambra
Director of Development

P.S. We completed the move to our new office on August 20. We will still get mail sent to our old post office box or street address for the next year, but it will be helpful to us if you can update your records to reflect our new post office box address. Be sure to check with any third-party entities that send funds on your behalf such as online bill-pay at your bank, distributions from investment accounts or stock brokers. That will assure your gifts or other correspondence reach us without any delay.

Here is the info. Let us know if we can be of help in any way!

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(All of our phone numbers and email addresses remain the same.)