

Serving the needs of the brethren and communities in Abaco and Grand Bahama following the devastation of Hurricane Dorian.

A work in partnership with the
**Palm Beach Lakes
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
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Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420

*"...through love serve one another....You shall love your neighbor as yourself...Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ...As we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially those who are of the household of faith"
(Galatians 5:13-14; 6:2, 10).*

**Hurricane
Relief**

Bahamas
Churches of Christ

Report from Palm Beach Lakes for
September 27, 2019

*Thank you for supporting this relief effort designed to help those precious souls who are trying to **recover and rebuild (physically, emotionally and spiritually)**. Every dollar that is donated goes directly to the purchase, shipping and distribution of these much-needed supplies.*

Update on the Churches in Abaco and Grand Bahama

Every week seems somewhat the same, but every week is so different in its own way. We are amazed at the response from our own members—so many are actively involved—and from the response from churches and friends and coworkers throughout America. Even more uplifting is to see how God, having heard the prayers from the Bahamians, is opening doors we never dreamed would happen.

Each week the Bahamian Christians send us the list of their most pressing needs. These reports arrive by Wednesday and by Thursday of the next week the items they requested arrive in Freeport. That's an eight-day turn-around and it is working in such a remarkable way! This week, in addition to being involved in the work in Freeport, we also sent a container to the brethren in Nassau. The church in Nassau is doing two things with the supplies we send: (1) they are using them to help the church in South Abaco (as they have more

direct access to them), and (2) they are using them to help the brethren who had to relocate to Nassau from Marsh Harbour, after Dorian decimated that city.



It now appears that very soon we will hopefully be involved in the work in Marsh Harbour. The port there is not yet open because of the massive winds near the eye of the hurricane that were in Marsh Harbour for over thirty hours. The homes of almost every member of the church were heavily damaged and many have fled to other places in the Bahamas, especially Nassau.

The doors may be slowly opening in Marsh Harbour. It looks like that this next week one of the leading men in the church in Marsh Harbour will return to his damaged house to assess the situation with the church building, the members' homes and to begin to head up the relief work. Once he is there, we will know more.

Update on the Relief Efforts

In addition, we are working with the church in Moore, Oklahoma, who oversees the Bahamian preacher in Eight Mile Rock, in bringing help to those in that area. The church in Eight Mile Rock is about fifteen miles from the port at Freeport. Hopefully this next week we will be sending one container, possibly two, to aid in their work.



The workload is increasing. Our first container was sent less than two weeks after the hurricane and contained generators, chainsaws and food. This was followed with clothes, household supplies, cleaning supplies, and building supplies. Our involvement has increased so that this week we sent a total of three containers. Their needs change so rapidly and

it is wonderful to see so many members at Palm Beach Lakes working so diligently to handle these situations. It would not

be possible without God's help and your support of these efforts.

Our Bahamian brethren are getting highly organized in handing out what we send to them. They are using the church bus, trucks and their own cars to deliver what we send. Their lives are slowly improving and one great blessing is that this week the church building in Freeport had power restored to it. Fortunately, parts of Freeport were not flooded and the church building in Freeport had no flooding. This will be a great blessing to them, giving them a secure base to store and distribute what you are sending. There will be some opportunities for us to help in a more personal way in Freeport soon, but more about that next week.

Insight Into the Work in Marsh Harbour

Some of the finest Christians anywhere on this earth were part of the church in Marsh Harbour. Many of them will be returning to that city as conditions improve. Imagine how they feel, having left their homes and every earthly possession as the fled. We have great hope for the future of that church.

Photos from Marsh Harbour



Aerial photo after the hurricane. Notice the flood waters had not subsided. Photo shows the church building and classroom building (on the left) with roof blown away.

Exterior of building after the waters had subsided—few windows or doors left and major damage to the roof. The container (on its side) and tons of debris were left behind by the storm.



Inside the auditorium. Water was 8-feet high, destroying pews and everything inside.



Inside one of the classroom areas.

*Paul described the help the Corinthian church gave to the saints in Judea as "proof of your love." Thank you for being part of this effort and **showing the "proof of your love"** to the suffering brethren and communities in the Bahamas!*