




# NEBRASKA DISASTER CHAPLAIN NETWORK NEWS


## November, 2006

 THOUGH UNPREPARED CHURCHES FILLED VITAL ROLE IN KATRINA: Baton Rouge churches, even though they were unprepared, successfully helped thousands of people in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, according to a Louisiana State University (LSU) Public Policy Research Laboratory study, "Tangible and Spiritual Relief after the Storm: The Religious Community's Response to Katrina". The role of disaster relief wasn't new for these congregations, but according to Dr. Daphne Cain, the study's primary investigator and an assistant professor of social work at LSU, "the churches here in the Baton Rouge area were called upon at a volume that was very different than anything they've ever experienced before." Churches held two keys to successful disaster relief: a lack of red tape and a ready source of volunteers. Observes Cain, "in the event of future disasters, churches across the nation will have the benefit of learning from Baton Rouge's experiences."

To read the November 3 article, go to [LSU Press Release](#)

 FLU SHOTS: We are encouraging everyone to think about talking with groups in your congregation and community about being prepared for the possibility of Pandemic Influenza. We would especially encourage you and members of your congregation to get your flu shots this year. Flu shots won't keep you from getting pandemic influenza, but they will help you stay healthy. . If you would like more resources for addressing the topic of pandemic influenza in your congregation, please contact us at: [im50427@alltel.net](mailto:im50427@alltel.net)

 NATIVITY FESTIVAL: Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska is sponsoring the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Nativity Festival – "O Holy Night" – a display of over 300 nativity sets and angels – on December 8 and 9. In each of the past years, we have taken a free-will offering at the festival and this year, that offering is being designated to the Nebraska Disaster Chaplain Network. We would like to extend a special invitation to our Disaster Chaplains to come to the festival – if you are already in Lincoln on either of those days. If you have a nativity set that you would like to share, please let us know, and we will make arrangements to see that it gets set up. Please feel free to share the **attached flyer** with family, friends and your congregation.

 THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Sometimes our light goes out but is blown into flame by another human being. Each of us owes deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this light.  
- Albert Schweitzer



The Nebraska Disaster Chaplain Network is a program of  
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