## NMI Central

### NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

12 February 2025

## **USA-Canada Region**



The work of the Church of the Nazarene began officially in the United States in 1887, though the formal organization of the denomination occurred in 1908 with the merger of several like-minded holiness groups. Today, Nazarenes gather in local churches in every state within the US. As is the case across all regions in the Church of the Nazarene around the world, when disaster strikes, regions engage, districts collaborate, local churches respond, and volunteers step up to help wherever and however they can. Recent hurricanes in the United States prompted Nazarenes from across the US to respond to critical needs along the Southern and Eastern coasts.







4,216 Fully Organized Churches; 685 Not Yet Organized Churches;



2,129 District Licensed and 11,223 Ordained Ministers on 73 Districts

#### **PRAYER**



- Pray for those in the aftermath of the hurricanes in Florida and along the US East Coast, who are still trying to recover from the devastation of October's hurricanes.
- Pray that they may find strength and resilience as they continue on the long journey to restoration.
- Pray for all around the world grappling with unexpected challenges due to natural disasters.

#### **PRAISE**



- Thank God for the remarkable generosity shown by people across the globe, coming together to raise funds and resources for those affected by the hurricanes.
- Thank God for the Church of the Nazarene, which has stepped up as the hands and feet of Christ during times of difficulties.

# NMI SNAPSHOT

#### **USA-Canada Hurricane Response**

In October 2024, Florida and the Eastern coast of the United States were battered by two devastating hurricanes, resulting in profound loss of life and widespread destruction. Entire communities—homes, churches, and towns—were left in ruins, leaving countless individuals in urgent need of help. Nazarene Compassionate Ministries swiftly mobilized resources to assist in response to this crisis.





NMI District and Local Presidents called upon their churches to unite in prayer, give generously, send, and go. Churches prepared Crisis Care Kits, filled trailers with essential supplies like food and water, and dispatched volunteers to aid in clean-up and rebuilding efforts. Quilt-making groups made handmade quilts, providing warmth and comfort to those in shelters. Local congregations opened their doors, providing physical shelter and crucial emotional support.



A standout example of this collective response came from the Kentucky district, which had initially planned to send a mission team to Nicaragua. Those plans took an unexpected turn when the team arrived at the airport at 4 a.m. only to find their trip canceled by the Nicaraguan government.



Determined to serve, they turned to Nazarene Mission Teams. Director Stephen Sickel coordinated efforts to redirect them to Clearwater, Florida, USA. There, they repaired the Clearwater Church and reached out to the community, distributing crisis care kits, repairing roofs, and sharing hope amid the devastation. With the timely support from the South Florida district supplying trailers of tools, the team cleared tons of debris and helped restore some sense of normalcy. Together, as we selflessly share our time and talents, we can ignite hope and healing—even in the darkest times.

#### **Could You Serve?**

Is God calling you to become more involved in practical ministries in times of crisis? For more information, click <u>here</u>.

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