



 **TBM**
TODAY

STORIES OF TEXANS ON MISSION

Ukraine relief:

**'We're showing
the world Jesus
cares'**

Students spend Spring Break bringing hope to family who lost everything

While many students spent their Spring Breaks relaxing, Challengers and Texas Tech University students picked up power tools and volunteered with TBM to help a family in the Rio Grande Valley.

The students drove from across Texas to LaFeria where they met a family who lost everything in a devastating house fire last August. Since the tragic event, the parents and six children have been living with different

family members, eagerly awaiting the day they could be together again in their own home.

TBM partnered with Hearts4Kids, a ministry meeting needs of families along the Texas-Mexico border, to begin transforming a bare mobile home into a livable space for the family. In four days, the students insulated the house, put up sheetrock on the walls and ceilings, and tape and bedded the drywall.



It was hard work, but the students diligently gave of their time and effort to help a family in need.

“It reveals the hearts of these students and how the trajectory of their lives is a servant’s trajectory,” said Taylor Davies, Texas Tech’s Baptist Student Ministry associate director. “It reveals a mark of Jesus on their lives and that for them, it’s normal to serve.”

Volunteer Dyllon Daulton, a fourth-year social work student at Texas Tech, said the experience of helping someone in need left him feeling refreshed and motivated.

“Despite some physical exhaustion, I felt rested



mentally and spiritually,” Daulton said. “I have a lot of peace and motivation to keep pushing through the semester. It’s been a wonderful experience to reflect on and remind myself of the Lord’s glory.”

The family was moved to tears by the substantial work the volunteers accomplished in less than a week.

“The volunteers were absolutely amazing,” said Sabrina Pinales, ministry advancement coordinator for TBM. “They came without having the skillset to do all these tasks, but they were willing to learn. Because of that, we were able to help move this family toward their goal of returning home.” **TBM**



The sun never sets on TBM ministry



For the last couple of months, TBM volunteers have been serving non-stop. Literally.

They’re comforting Ukrainian refugees, providing them with food, water and other supplies. And they’re packing up boxes of food to send to those still in

Ukraine where items are scarce. As the sun sets there, it rises in Texas where TBM volunteers are responding to tornadoes and fires.

We have teams scattered across Texas responding to a series of tornadoes that caused devastation in March. Chainsaw teams are cutting and removing fallen tree limbs and other volunteers are picking up debris and cleaning up neighborhoods.

In Eastland, Texas, teams are responding to the Eastland Complex fires that consumed more than 54,000 acres around the Eastland area. Recovery teams are literally sifting through ash for mementos and clearing properties in the aftermath of the fire.

Additionally, we also have rebuild teams in Louisiana, working non-stop to rebuild roofs, fences and decks and hanging sheetrock and doors to make homes destroyed in Hurricane Ida livable again. Because of the work these teams are doing, families can finally go home.

We never want to see disasters happen, but when they do, we are ready to share the love of Christ and help people recover in the aftermath of tragedy. Thank you for supporting us as we go out to help. Because of you, we have teams stretched literally across continents bringing help, hope and healing to hurting people.

Because whenever the sun is up, so are we. TBM ministry never stops.

Mickey B. Lenamon

TBM Executive Director/CEO

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mickey B'.

TBM volunteers serve during ‘Saddest day of most people’s lives’

TBM laundry and fire recovery teams from across Texas responded to needs created by the Eastland Complex fires.

In a series of fires that swept across Texas in March, the Eastland Complex fires are the largest. They have consumed more than 54,000 acres around the Eastland area. The blazes have done considerable damage in Carbon, where more than 20 homes essentially were burned to the ground.

Fire recovery teams sifted through ash for mementos and cleared properties in the aftermath of the fire. In Carbon, most of an entire neighborhood was charred beyond recognition.

“It’s a complete disaster,” said Roger Weeks, part of



a TBM fire recovery team working in Carbon. “It’s the saddest day of most people’s lives. They’ve lost everything.”

In addition to the fire recovery teams, a TBM laundry team washed and dried the laundry of area volunteers, firefighters and the community. As of the deadline for print, they completed 325 loads of laundry

TBM also delivered roughly 20 tractor trailer loads of hay for farmers who lost theirs to the fires

“When people think of disasters, they don’t often think about fires,” said Mickey Lenamon, TBM executive director/CEO. “But when they strike, they burn everything. Walls, floors, roofs, furniture, pictures and even hay for feeding livestock are lost in moments. TBM volunteers provided help to people when they most needed it.” **TBM**



TBM teams respond to Texas tornadoes in four locations

TBM Disaster Relief teams scattered across Texas to respond to a series of tornadoes that caused devastation across the state near the end of March.

Often serving within hours of the storm, TBM chainsaw, shower/laundry, box and feeding teams met needs in Jacksboro, Gilmer, Gordonville, Elgin and Round Rock.

Jacksboro was hit particularly hard. The EF-3 tornado ripped the roof off the high school, struck the elementary school and left a 2-mile-wide gash in the community.

Despite the storm, Jack Maddox, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksboro, said the city is determined to push forward.

“We’re good,” he said. “The sun is out. We are recognizing what has taken place and what we need to do to recover. We had no loss of life, which is miraculous.”

In addition to bringing in volunteers to clear trees and limbs off houses, TBM provided an RV for the pastor and his family to stay in after the storm demolished their home.

“We never stopped to wonder if Texas Baptist Men would be here,” Maddox said. “We knew Southern Baptist disaster relief would be here. We’re grateful.”

In each location, chainsaw teams cut and removed fallen trees and limbs. Other volunteers picked up debris in yards. House by house, TBM teams transformed neighborhoods.

Along the way, they lifted spirits by connecting with

homeowners. They prayed with people, hugged them and offered encouragement.

“Each of us are called to share God’s love,” said David Wells, TBM Disaster Relief director. “Across Texas, people are hurting after the tornadoes. Their homes and properties has been torn apart. We’re striving to clear a path for recovery as we minister to them.” **TBM**





Ukraine relief:

**'We're showing
the world Jesus
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With little more than the clothes on their backs, hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian women and children wait hours to enter the safety of Poland. They shuffle their feet quietly, apprehensively moving toward an unknown future in an unfamiliar country as the Russians devastate their homeland.

They're stunned when they arrive. Volunteers at the Baptist church in Chelm are offering a place of safety and security for a few hours, few days or as long as they need it.

Refugee families sit in silence in an impromptu reception area where church volunteers offer them free food, drinks, showers and places to sleep. The pews are stacked in the front of the sanctuary and simple beds fill every nook and cranny of the building. The congregation has even provided a children's area with bubbles and educational videos. In the middle of it all, Texans are delivering help, hope and healing.

The shelter in Chelm is one of five TBM is supporting in Poland and Ukraine through Baptist churches in both countries. In the first weeks since Russia invaded Ukraine, those shelters have ministered to more than 50,000 people.

"We have three basic needs when we're in a disaster: Food, shelter and safety," said Gary Finley, TBM in-Poland coordinator at the start of the relief effort in the region. "You meet those immediate needs, and it takes that worry off them so they can begin to get a grip on what their lives looks like and what they need to do while the war is going on."

For more than two months, TBM volunteers at the shelter are doing the dirty work it takes to make a shelter function. With roughly 200 people staying in a church that normally holds 80 and another 200 being served through its facilities each day, the building is stressed. TBM volunteers are mopping and sweeping floors, washing, drying and resetting beds and even cleaning showers and toilets multiple times a day.

(Continued on page 10)



Hope at the border

When Ukrainians arrive at the Poland border (bottom), they have little but what they could carry. They're finding Christians welcoming them with open arms and supplies to help (top).



Sharing God's love at home

No matter where the need is, TBM volunteers respond. Whether it's responding to Ukrainian refugees in Poland, tornado survivors in Elgin, Texas, or people affected by fires in Carbon, Texas, the mission remains the same: Deliver help, hope and healing to hurting people.



Your prayer and financial support make every volunteer deployment happen. You are right there with volunteers as they provide a hot meal, prepare a temporary shelter in a church or chainsaw a tree.

Will you consider giving monthly to TBM to transform lives throughout the year?

"We never stopped to wonder if Texas Baptist Men would be here ... We're grateful."

-Jack Maddox, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksboro who lost his home to a tornado

me and around the world

BECOME A WAY MAKER

When all paths are blocked and the days are darkest, you make the way for hope to shine through TBM ministries.

\$25/month
transforms a life.

Put a TBM volunteer on the field for a day each month to share God's love.

\$55/month
transforms families.

In celebration of TBM's 55th anniversary, put several TBM volunteers on the field each month to meet needs.

\$100/month
transforms communities.

Deploy multiple teams throughout the year to meet extensive needs. You make the deployment of one team possible in a major disaster.

\$200/month
transforms regions.

At this level, you are putting a TBM Disaster Relief team on the field for a year or provide clean water for a region.

To get started, scan the code at right with your phone or visit tbmtx.org/waymaker.





TBM is supporting five shelters in Poland and Ukraine that are housing Ukrainians affected by the Russian invasion of their country. TBM volunteers also are distributing supplies across both countries to meet needs.

Using a translation app on their phones, TBM volunteers are connecting and praying with Ukrainians in the shelter, as well as playing games with children.

“We’re showing the world Jesus cares,” Finley said. “His people genuinely care. If you’re going to clean a toilet for somebody, that shows you care for them. We’re doing whatever it takes to provide help for people in this situation.”

At the shelter, the Texan volunteers continually meet people searching for help and hope. One woman was four months pregnant, and her husband sent her to Poland while he stayed behind to fight for Ukraine. She had lost her two previous pregnancies and was extremely concerned about her child and her husband.

“We prayed together, cried together and then she just wanted a hug – a long, comforting hug,” TBM volunteer Ann Neal wrote.

Down the street, more Texans serve in a distribution center. Working throughout the day and sometimes at night, TBM volunteers unload trucks of supplies, sort them and load them on other trucks that take them across Poland and into Ukraine.

TBM volunteers are working alongside people from all over the globe at the shelter, including Ukrainians, Polish, Germans, Russians and Australians.

Drivers are risking their lives for others as they drive into war-torn regions. The items, such as food and water, are almost impossible to find in Ukrainian cities besieged by missiles. Before drivers leave, distribution center volunteers gather around them to pray passionately. The prayers commonly last 10 minutes or more as people exalt God to protect the drivers and bring peace to Ukraine.

“We started the day with prayer,” TBM volunteer Rick Crouch wrote while serving in Poland. “And Wow! Powerful Prayer. Folks from the UK could really pray in the Spirit. We filled trucks, loaded pallets and prayed over drivers heading into danger in Ukraine.”

TBM’s relief efforts extend into Ukraine. The ministry has provided 100,000 meals in the country and is supporting partners who are helping Ukrainians stay safe, travel to places of safety and get the supplies they need.

“This war will impact generations of Ukrainians,” said Mickey Lenamon, TBM executive director/CEO. “More than half of the country’s children have been displaced. The others are enduring a war with their family. These are difficult times for Ukrainians inside and outside their nation. Christ is clear in His command to love our neighbors. That’s exactly what TBM volunteers are doing by serving in Poland and supporting ministry inside Ukraine.”



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—Mickey Lenamon, TBM Executive Director/CEO

TBM is committed to serving long-term during this crisis.

“This situation changes each day,” Lenamon said. “Each time it does, it impacts more people. As it has for the past 55 years, TBM will continue to seek ways to share God’s love during their most difficult days. Please pray for peace throughout the region, for Ukrainians who are living through this conflict as well as those who are responding to needs.” **TBM**

Ukraine relief: by the numbers

In the first weeks after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, you served as the hands and feet of Christ. You served:

50,000
Ukrainians
through church shelters in Poland

100,000
meals in Ukraine

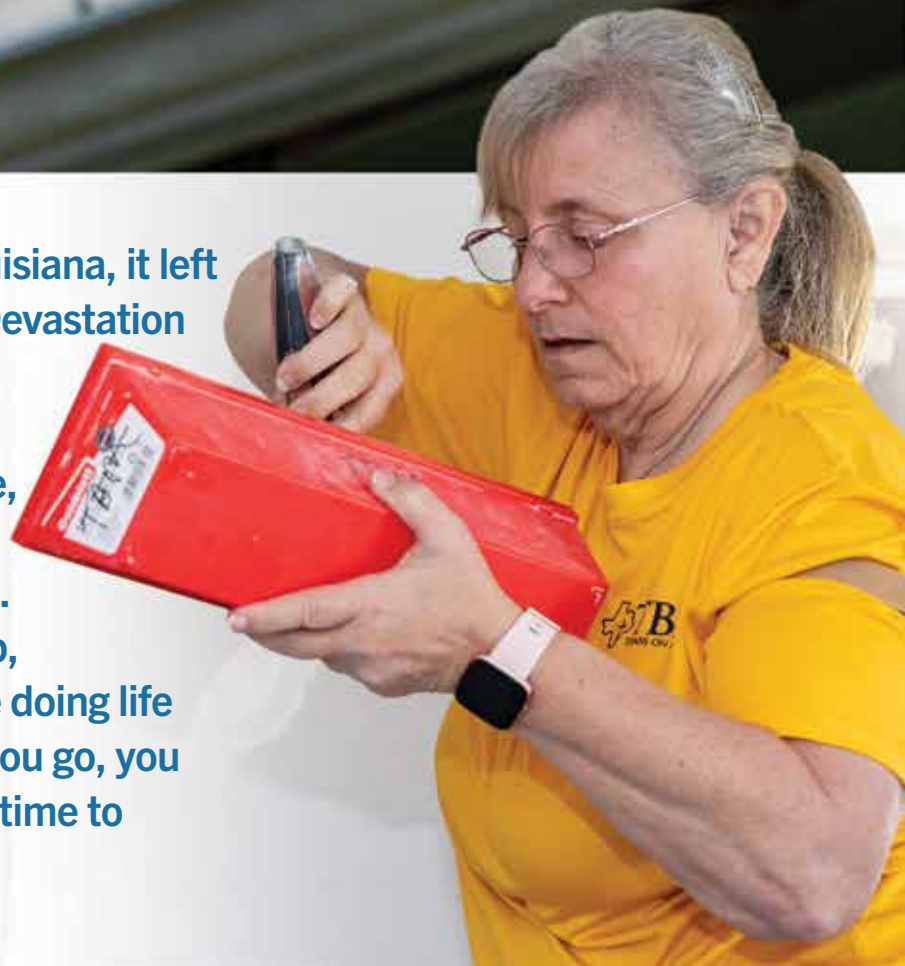
300 tons
of supplies across Poland and Ukraine

TBM volunteers rebuild houses in Louisiana after Hurricane Ida



When Hurricane Ida hit Louisiana, it left devastation in its wake. Devastation that is still evident today, months after the disaster.

“There’s still a lot of damage here, said Rupert Robbins, associate director of disaster relief for TBM. “There’s a lot of blue tarps still up, a lot of roofs missing. “People are doing life regardless, but about anywhere you go, you see damage everywhere. It takes time to



rebuild.”

After the flooding ceased, volunteer teams removed all the water damaged materials from the houses. They tore out sheetrock and insulation down to the studs. The houses are clean, but unlivable. Many of these houses have remained like this until more than 50 TBM volunteers served in Coteau, La. March 28-April 8 rebuilding homes.

TBM rebuild teams installed new sheetrock, tape and float and hung doors. They also did roof work, repaired fences, stairs and decks and even build a wheelchair ramp.

“We do it to make God known,” said TBM volunteer Dana Messer. “We show that there are people who care about you . . . God cares about you. We have no idea who these people are; we’ve never met them before, but we have such a great experience sharing our faith with them and encouraging them, lifting their spirits and seeing the glimmer of hope again in their eyes.”

After so many months out of their homes, homeowners returning home can be emotional.

“There’s usually tears,” said TBM volunteer Don Stansell.

“There’s so many emotions with what they’re dealing with because their lives are turned upside down. It’s just nothing’s normal. So when we get to share in putting their life closer to being back to normal again, it’s emotional. There’s a lot of gratitude.”

During their service, the TBM volunteers were supported locally. A local pastor opened the church to house the out-of-state teams, even moving Sunday School classes to another part of the building. And to cap off each hard week of service, the Louisiana Baptist Disaster Relief blessed the teams with a Cajun shrimp boil.

But at the end of the day, it’s more than walls and roofs that have been rebuilt – hope is also restored.

“The teams here just fall in love with these folks,” Robbins said. “The folks we’re dealing with here, you can see it in their eyes. They’re just hurting so bad. They’re defeated. We get to pray over them and tell them about the hope that Jesus gives us. It’s not over for them. God has plans for them. So we bring our tools with us and do a little bit of work. And we try to be a little ray of sunshine.” **TBM**



Builders reshape washateria in center for pregnant women and new parents

Nail guns, ladders and a love for others are just a few of the tools TBM Builders needed to transform a gutted washateria into an education center for pregnant women and new parents across Northeast Texas.

Church Builders strapped on their toolbelts on Valentine's Day to tackle the weeklong project benefiting the Raffa Clinic, a ministry partner of First Baptist Church in Greenville. The Hunt County-based ministry provides compassionate medical care and education during pregnancy and early parenting for clients in 20 different Northeast Texas counties. Last year alone, the clinic added over 750 new clients.

TBM volunteers framed interior walls and ran electrical lines in an empty building that once housed a washateria. The facility will become an education space for the Raffa Clinic, where they will provide free services such as Christian counseling, fatherhood classes and child care for visiting clients.

"We are beside ourselves with the work TBM has done and how quickly it's gone," said Threesa Sadler, Raffa Clinic executive director. "We have to fund locally that whole project. Any money we can save on not having to spend on the building can go straight into programs. We can use it to serve."

Church Builders volunteer Ray Cuncancic, a retired construction contractor from Huntsville, estimated



TBM's work saved the ministry at least \$12,000 in labor costs.

"You'll never find a harder worker than a volunteer," Cuncancic said. "We're not doing it for the money. It's our passion."

The Cabinet Builders are following up on the Church Builders by handcrafting cabinets for the ministry center. Volunteers are working for two weeks to create all the cabinets needed for the effort. They will install them soon.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities with TBM Church Builders, visit tbmtx.org/builders. **TBM**



Defying odds: TBM volunteer lets nothing stop him from helping others

Jim and Debbie Perryman of Graham, Texas, adopted Grady when he was only 11 days old. While they were uncertain about the extent of Grady's brain developmental delays, the couple was certain about one thing – they were called to love him as a son.

As a young child, Grady experienced seizures and struggled to keep up with other kids intellectually, especially in the areas of reading and writing.



Now 28, Grady is defying the odds. For the past two years, he has served alongside his father on seven different TBM Disaster Relief and Builders trips – something doctors never

imagined would be possible. Despite the challenges he faces daily, Grady has discovered many ways he can use his vibrant personality and unique abilities to help others.

“Grady brings a healthy dose of lightheartedness to our job sites,” said Wayne Pritchard, TBM Builders coordinator. “He has adopted me and refers to me as ‘Uncle Wayne.’ I love having him around.”

Not only is Grady a beacon of light on the worksites with his contagious smile and sense of humor, but he is also a great help to the teams.

“The best task he does is being the gopher,” Jim said. “He loves helping the guys with tools, socializing and playing with local kids.”

Grady tends to make friends everywhere he goes and receives a lot of love and support from his church family at First Baptist Church in Graham. When he's not on a TBM jobsite, Grady enjoys playing sports – such as basketball and bowling – with his Special Olympics team.

“It's really fun!” Grady said enthusiastically about TBM volunteer trips. “I enjoy doing it. I enjoy seeing all the guys there. I enjoy helping. I like to do whatever they need me to do.”

The father-son duo looks forward to many more TBM trips together, where they can bring help, hope and healing to those in need. **TBM**

“Grady brings a healthy dose of lightheartedness to our job sites. He has adopted me and refers to me as ‘Uncle Wayne.’ I love having him around.”

–Wayne Pritchard, TBM Builders coordinator



You make the way for hope



TBM is serving those across the world. And we couldn't do it without you.

Thank you for:

- Praying diligently for deployed teams and those they are serving.
- Dedicating your time and energy to serve with TBM as a volunteer.
- Giving financially to help tangibly provide aid in the midst of a crisis

Because of you and your faithful support, TBM is providing help, hope and healing to hurting people. You are changing the world.