



Disaster Response Trip Summary Tornado Response, Clarksville, TN Aug 25-31; Sept 1-7, 2024

In Partnership with: <u>The Fuller Center for Housing's Disaster ReBuilders</u>

Host Location(s):Grace House Ministries
Grace Church of the Nazarene
3171 Trenton Rd.
Clarksville, TN 37040Contact:Tommy Lamb, Director
ARDF Domestic Disaster Network
tommy@ardf.org
Mobile: (281) 802-8378

Dates: Aug 25-31, and/or Sept 1-7, 2024 (Dinner on the first day, breakfast on the last day, then depart)

Cost: \$500. This includes the Disaster ReBuilders' fee of \$125. Register here.

- Background: Information about the Clarksville tornado may be found <u>here</u>. Information about Clarksville, TN, may be found <u>here</u>. Information about the Anglican Church of the Resurrection, Clarksville, may be found <u>here</u>.
- Summary: On December 9, 2023, at 1:42 p.m., an intense EF3 tornado formed and struck the northern parts of the Clarksville metropolitan area in Tennessee before moving through Todd County, Logan County and into Simpson County in Kentucky. In total, the tornado killed four people and injured 61 others as it traveled 47.76 miles. 114 homes were destroyed while another 857 were damaged, and at least 20,000 people were without power in Clarksville alone. The tornado killed four people, including a child, and injured an additional 61 others.

While one casualty is too many, we give thanks to God for protecting Clarksville from a potentially more devastating event, as the Clarksville School of Fine Arts was set to have a Christmas play on December 9 at 1 p.m. However, a student was leaving the country, so the play was moved up to December 2, which had 300 in attendance. The director of the school later stated, "If we would have had 300 people in the building on the ninth instead of the second, we would be talking about the destruction of possibly hundreds of lives because there's nothing left of the theater."

Our partner, The Fuller Center for Housing, was founded by Millard Fuller of Habitat for Humanity fame. The Fuller Center's president, David Snell, is an Anglican attending St. John's in Americus, GA, Millard Fuller's hometown. We give thanks for this connection and the opportunities to serve survivors in long-term recovery alongside The Fuller Center for Housing.





Disaster Response Trip to Tennessee Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the trip's requirements?

A: This is an adult mission trip so you must be <u>at least 16 years old</u> to volunteer with ARDF. Volunteers under 16 years old are permitted to work on the construction site but must <u>always</u> be supervised by a parent or legal guardian.

ARDF requires background checks on all volunteers. If you have not processed a background check in the past two years, you may apply for a background check through your home parish or the ARDF website. If you have processed a background check within the past two years, you may forward the "Pass" certificate to tommy@ardf.org. In addition, you are to acknowledge that you have received your home parish's "Safeguarding Our Children" or "Safe Church Policy" training. The ARDF Activity Liability Waiver, Safe Church Acknowledgement Form, Background Check Application, and Media Release Form may be found here. There is a \$24 fee for the processing of your background check, payable to our service provider, Protect My Ministry.

- Q: How much is the registration fee?
 - A: \$500. Register <u>here.</u> This fee covers our partner's \$125 fee, meals, transportation while in Clarksville, tools, and administration costs. Because you are receiving goods and services, your fee does not qualify as a donation.
- Q: What if I want to donate to ARDF's Domestic Disaster Network?
 - A: Donations are a blessing in building the Domestic Disaster Network. If you would like to donate, please use this <u>link</u> to ARDF's Domestic Disaster Response Network Fund to submit your tax-deductible gift.
- Q: Describe the mission **housing**?
 - A: Thankfully, Grace House and Clarksville Grace Church of the Nazarene were not in the direct path of the tornado. The mission housing sits on a beautiful property located next door to the church. We are utilizing the main floor of the home, which has 3 bunkrooms, 2 full bathrooms, living room, kitchen, and a large dining area. We can house up to 15 volunteers comfortably. Volunteers may choose to stay in an area hotel or bring an RV, at the missioner's expense. The ARDF fee still applies if alternative housing is preferred.

Q: Are there alternative accommodations, such as hotels or RV parks?

A: There are hotels in the area, as well as RV parks, which you may find on the internet. Be sure to check availability for your planned travel dates. The ARDF fee still applies if alternative housing is preferred.

Q: What is the closest airport? Is airport transportation available?

- A: The closest major airport is Nashville International Airport (BNA), which is 57 miles from our base camp. If you would like transportation to and from the Nashville airport, please contact Tommy Lamb at <u>tommy@ardf.org</u>.
- Q: Which meals are provided?
 - A: Meals will be supplied by ARDF but must be prepared and served by volunteers in a fully equipped and functional kitchen at the base camp. Meals begin with Sunday dinner and end with Saturday breakfast. Lunch will be prepared in the morning at the base camp and eaten on the worksite. If you are interested in serving as a cook or kitchen helper, please <u>volunteer here</u>. There will be opportunities to eat out as a group during the week, supporting local restaurants.
- Q: Will there be an orientation on Sunday night?
 - A: Yes, please plan on arriving between 3:00 5:00 PM on Sunday. Dinner will be served at 5:00 PM followed by worship and a ministry orientation at 6:00 PM.
- Q: What type of construction will we be doing?
 - A: We are currently doing repairs. This includes insulation, drywall, siding, windows and doors, floors, cabinets and vanities, trimming, painting, etc. We will give you more details on the status of the work within a week or two of your arrival.
- Q: Are there vehicles available to get to the worksite?
 - A: If needed, ARDF will provide transportation to and from the worksites.
- Q: Is **WIFI** available?
 - A: Yes, WIFI is available. You will be given the details when you arrive.
- Q: Do you provide bedding, linens, and towels?
 - A: No, we do not. Please bring your bedding, linens or sleeping bag, pillow, and towels.
- Q: Is there a washing machine and dryer available?
 - A: Yes, there is a washer and dryer available. It will not support multiple people doing

multiple loads throughout the week so please plan accordingly.

Q: What is the daily schedule?

A: The approximate daily schedule is as follows:

6:30 - 7:45 AM	Breakfast, Devotion, & Announcements
7:45 - 12:00 PM	Worksite Ministry
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Worksite Lunch
1:00 - 3:45 PM	Worksite Ministry
3:45 - 4:00PM	Cleanup Worksite
4:00 - 6:00 PM	Free time
6:00 - 7:00 PM	Dinner
7:00 - 8:00 PM	Prayer & Debrief
9:00 PM	Lights Out

Q: Should we bring our own PPE and tools?

A. It is always a good idea to bring your own safety shoes, work gloves, safety glasses, face masks, and personal protection equipment (PPE). We have stocked tool trailers, but for those of you who prefer to use your own, feel free to bring what you'd like. If you are flying, please check TSA restrictions.

Q: Are there volunteer opportunities other than construction?

- A: Yes, spiritual care, meal preparation, serving, debris clean up...there is something for everyone!
- Q: Do you have tee shirts for this mission?
 - A: Yes, one ARDF Disaster Response tee and one Disaster ReBuilders tee will be provided and given out during orientation. Please be sure to include your tee shirt size upon registration <u>here.</u>
- Q: Where do I find a packing list of what to bring?
 - A: You may find the *ARDF Volunteer Preparation* document <u>here</u> which includes helpful information for trip readiness, including a packing list.
- Q. Who is my ARDF contact for additional information?
 - A. Tommy Lamb, Director
 ARDF Domestic Disaster Network
 Mobile: 281.802.8378
 Email: tommy@ardf.org