

## Iowa Flood 2008 Update 1

We landed Wednesday afternoon and were greeted by Jen at the airport. They have graciously opened up a place for us to stay and have been more than helpful with all that we need.

We immediately connected with the local authorities to let them know we were here and what are intentions are. They welcomed us and are enthusiastic about teams coming in to help with all the work that needs done. We were able to help them with some paperwork and document issues.

We attended church at CC Iowa City and had a great time of worship, the word, they are teaching through Psalms on Wednesday nights just like we are back home, and then some fellowship time. By the end of that, we went home and passed out!

Thursday we set out to go over the details that Pastor Jeff and Jen had secured. We visited the three locations that will be available for housing, cooking and bath facilities and have all of them ready to go.

We visited with two Red Cross setups, one was a shelter and the other a distribution center. The distribution center was packed up and the volunteer was waiting for their truck to come in and haul the pallets of cleaning kits and water away, among other things. I asked if there was any way that we were could have some of the stuff and they gave it all to us, Praise God!! We will be sharing this with the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief Teams that are in town.

Two other ministries that we have worked with on other projects, ISOH/Impact from Ohio and D.I.R.T. from North Carolina, have two containers of cleaning products being delivered to Cedar Rapids on Friday. They have graciously offered some of their supplies for us to use, again Praise God!

Depending on how many people come in to serve at once, we will probably need kitchen help. We know that some teams may have kitchen qualified help with them and we may need to use them in this capacity. If you are sending a team and have people who feel led to do this ministry, please let us know. We also are in contact with Mercy Chefs from Virginia Beach and they will respond with kitchen personnel if needed.

We also did a short tour some of the areas that were flooded. Most of the homeowners were just allowed back into their homes so the damage is just beginning to be assessed.

Thursday night we took a small men's group out and went door to door in a neighborhood to see what we can do to help and passed out flyers with contact info on them. We got a great response. Some of this neighborhood is still under water.

We already have had several requests to begin helping out from flyers we've already passed out, from the local authorities and some just via word of mouth!

We have some teams coming in beginning this weekend that will be ready to start work first of the week and we have plenty of work to be done.

We are in need of more teams to be scheduled and will process requests as they come in.

We will need tools such as but not limited to: masks, work gloves, Borax, flat shovels, 5 gallon buckets, wheelbarrows, rags, drywall knives, hammers, electrical tools, electrical outlets, electrical rough in boxes and outlet covers, electrical wire, etc. As the list grows, we'll keep you posted. If you have things to send or are heading this way, let us know what you have to donate.

Stores are open in the area so we can go in and purchase all that we need as the funds come in.

The newspapers are reporting that under 10% of the people in this area have flood insurance. The government will be providing some funds, but it will not be enough for many of these people.

Continue to keep them and us in your prayers. God has already opened up so many doors and given us divine appointments and He will continue to do so as long as we remain faithful to what He has called us to do. We are extremely blessed to be here and support what CC Iowa City knows God wants them to do, for such a time as this. What an awesome opportunity to be part of this young church plant and see their desire to serve the only true and living God!