



National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
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Julius R. Scruggs
President

"SOLIDARITY WITH THE SAVIOR"

January 15, 2010

**MORE ON OUR
DISASTER RELIEF
PLAN FOR HAITI WILL
BE ANNOUNCED
DURING THE
MID-WINTER BOARD
MEETING,
JANUARY 18-22, 2010**

To All National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Auxiliaries, Boards, Commissions, Ministries, Churches, State Conventions and District Associations:

I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As we are all aware, Haiti was devastated by an earthquake on Tuesday, January 12, 2010 that was recorded at 7.0 on the Richter Scale. Current estimates indicate that tens of thousands of people have been killed and nearly 3 million Haitians have been displaced from their homes. I am asking all members to pray for the Haitian people, get involved with relief efforts as recommended by the U.S. Department of State and USAID and to contribute generously to the Convention's efforts to bring aid to those impacted by this terrible disaster.



The U.S. Department of State and USAID have the lead for foreign disaster assistance from our country. The Convention is a part of the USAID Clearinghouse that serves to coordinate and communicate humanitarian aid across all organizations providing assistance to Haiti. These entities are requesting that we follow their guidance and not attempt to organize efforts that will bring people, goods or services to Haiti at this time. The infrastructure of Haiti is severely compromised, disease is rampant and frankly, it is dangerous for inexperienced volunteers to go there at this time. The U.S. Department of State and USAID have indicated that the most urgent need that the response community can fulfill right now is supporting

ongoing disaster relief fundraising efforts. For the most up to date information from the White House throughout the coming days please visit

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/HaitiEarthquake>.

The Convention supports the humanitarian relief plans as outlined by President Obama and his administration and we look forward to joining in with other relief agencies to help the people of Haiti. The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. is coordinating relief efforts through our Disaster Management Office and Foreign Mission Board. Please understand that our investment in Haiti grows not only out of our Convention's mission for *preaching, teaching and healing*, but also from our long-standing interests in supporting our mission work there. While the

Convention will craft a plan of its own to assist our missions and churches as well as other churches in Haiti, we will do so while working collaboratively with the Red Cross and other local and international relief agencies to assure that resources are targeted where they are needed most and distributed in a manner that allows for the greatest possible number of people to benefit from our efforts.

To this end, I am requesting the cooperation of all National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Auxiliaries, Boards, Commissions, Ministries, Churches, State Conventions and District Associations to work together under the leadership of the Parent Body. By working together, our impact will be multiplied. As the situation in Haiti becomes clearer and more stable over the next several days and weeks, the Convention will develop and execute a disaster relief plan with measureable goals and objectives. In the meantime, we must focus our efforts on raising funds which ultimately will determine how much assistance we will be able to provide.



The Convention has established a special disaster relief fund for Haiti. All gifts are tax-deductible. Please consider giving online using our secure system, or, if you prefer, you can mail a check or money order to the Baptist World Center. Please contribute what you can and remember that ***all gifts will make a difference to somebody.*** For those of you who will be attending the Mid Winter Board Session, more information about our plans to assist Haiti will be announced there. ***Please plan to bring a special offering for Haiti Disaster Relief.***

For the most up to the minute report on the Convention's disaster relief activities, continue to visit www.nationalbaptist.com. And please, spread the word to encourage everyone you know, regardless of their church affiliation, to help us help the people of Haiti.

Ways to Give

To Give Online: Visit www.nationalbaptist.com. A link will be visible on the homepage concerning Haiti. Simply follow the instructions provided to make your tax deductible donation using Visa or MasterCard. If you are reading a PDF copy of this message, you can also click on this button:

Donate to NBC, USA, Inc.
Haitian Disaster Relief Fund

To Give By Mail: Mail your checks or money orders made payable to "*National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.*," with "*Haiti Disaster Relief*" clearly indicated on the subject line to:

National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
ATTENTION: HAITI DISASTER RELIEF
1700 Baptist World Center Drive
Nashville, TN 37207

We are so bountifully blessed in this country – and each and every one of us has the power to be a tremendous blessing to our brothers and sisters in Haiti who are suffering under conditions so adverse that they are unimaginable to most of us. Please give generously.

For His Cause and in His Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julius R. Scruggs". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Julius R. Scruggs
President, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.