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September 6, 2013

Syria Refugee Emergency Appeal

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

More than 2 million Syrians have fled the violence in their country. More than 4 million Syrians—mainly women, children and the elderly—are displaced within their own country. The refugee crisis in Syria and beyond is being called one of the worst ever. Almost 33% of Syria's population is now in critical need of relief support. And the crisis is growing.

The United Church of Canada is launching an immediate, church-wide appeal for gifts to support Syrians uprooted by civil war. The United Church has already distributed \$90,000 for humanitarian relief. Far more, however, is needed to deal with this crisis and so in the name of Jesus Christ we now turn to you.

We are asking all United Church people for their generous support of this emergency appeal. Working with the United Church partner ACT Alliance, your gifts will be used to provide refugees with:

- Counselling and support for the traumatized
- Clean water and sanitation
- Shelter
- Food
- Blankets and toiletries

You may give in the following ways:

On Line: www.united-church.ca/syria

We will process your gift immediately and you will receive your tax receipt right away.

By Mail: The United Church of Canada, 3250 Bloor St. W., Suite 300, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4
Please note "Emergency Response – Syria Relief" on the face of your cheque or money order.

By Phone: 416-231-5931 or toll-free 1-800-268-3781 ext. 3050 and use your Visa or MasterCard.



Through Local Congregations: Please indicate your gift is for Syria Relief. Your congregation will forward all gifts to the church's General Council office.

The United Church will not deduct any administration fee from your gift. Regular support of the Mission and Service Fund enables our church to provide staffing and cover administration costs of emergency response work.

A three-year civil war has left the Syrian economy in shambles. Inflation has left the poor in an extremely precarious position. Most attempting to escape the hostilities have had to leave their possessions behind. Host communities in Lebanon and Jordan cannot cope with the volume of refugees and tensions are building.

The situation is dire. The need for our financial gifts is urgent. Thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Paterson". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Gary Paterson
Moderator

For more program information contact:

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