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# DISASTER RESPONSE SUNDAY



*SERVING AS  
THE HANDS  
OF GRACE.*

Kevin Van Iddekinge  
DRS Volunteer

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## LEADERS GUIDE

# THANK YOU FOR JOINING WORLD RENEW IN DRS SUNDAY 2021.

Each year, faith communities throughout Canada and the United States draw together to support hurting families and communities still experiencing devastation in the aftermath of hurricanes and other natural disasters. And each year, World Renew Disaster Response Services (DRS) feels deeply moved by your physical and spiritual reminder that none of us are ever asked to walk alone.

This year, as the time draws near to once again give, we turn our attention to all the storm survivors whose build sites were paused due to COVID-19. Many of those still recovering from Hurricane Harvey were forced to postpone recovery because World Renew volunteers were unable to safely rebuild their homes.

*Let us not leave these families suffering any longer.*

## IN THIS LEADER’S GUIDE YOU WILL FIND:

- A detailed action plan to ensure your DRS Sunday is a success
- Prepared bulletin announcements to be used the week before, the week of, and the week after DRS Sunday
- A litany to be spoken during your order of service
- Additional opportunities for involvement with DRS

As you share the work of World Renew with your church, we hope you feel encouraged to connect with the larger Body of Christ and the work of God’s kingdom through the world. And again, for all of the ways you join World Renew in pursuing that work, thank you.

To download all additional resources including offering and litany slides, a poster, and the “DRS Sunday 2021” offering video visit: [worldrenew.net/resources](http://worldrenew.net/resources)



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**ACTION PLAN FOR ORGANIZERS**

Thank you for leading your church in gathering a collection for DRS Sunday this year. Below, you will find the schedule of everything you need to do in the week leading up to and the week after the collection.

**ONE WEEK BEFORE**

- Print bulletin announcement #1 and publish as a social media post.
- Ensure the DRS Poster is added to the church bulletin board or volunteer area.
- Add the DRS Sunday slide to the slide deck.
- Make verbal announcement in church that DRS Sunday is next week.

**DRS SUNDAY**

- Print bulletin announcement #2.
- Add the DRS Sunday slide to the slide deck.
- Consider weaving the DRS Litany into the order of service.
- Play the DRS Sunday 2021 video and hold offering for DRS during your collection.
- Publish the social media posts as a reminder to give.

**1 WEEK AFTER**

- Forward last week’s collection to World Renew.
- Print bulletin announcement #3 and publish as a social media post.

**PREPARED BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ONE WEEK BEFORE**

Next week, consider joining our church to give a gift to the work of World Renew in responding to disasters like Hurricane Harvey. Thanks to World Renew, communities impacted by such storms have the support required to respond to needs after the storm, create a plan of repair, and rebuild together. When we give to this work, we remind beloved children of God that they never walk alone.

**DRS SUNDAY**

Today, we are taking a collection to support the work of World Renew in responding to natural disasters in Canada and the US. In 2020, many DRS sites were forced to close due to the spread of COVID-19. This year, DRS is returning to continue the work they began prior to the outbreak. When members of our church give and go to assist in that work, we remind storm survivors of God’s unyielding love. As the hands and feet of Jesus, we encourage storm survivors in their hope. Join us in giving.

**WEEK AFTER**

Praise the God who holds our hand through every storm. Last week, our church partnered with World Renew to bring hope to the survivors of disasters like Hurricane Harvey. Thank you. Together, we raised [\$XX amount] to come alongside suffering communities and help rebuild. Your part in that story makes a lifetime of difference to families recovering from the storms.

**Want to help more?**

Visit [worldrenew.net/disasterresponseservices](https://worldrenew.net/disasterresponseservices)



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**LITANY FOR DRS SUNDAY**

**READER 1:** Faithful God who holds us in your hands, you keep and protect all of your children. **(John 10)**

**READER 2:** When we feel crushed by violence or destruction, we rest in the knowledge that you will not abandon us and you look on us always with love. **(2 Cor. 10)**

**PEOPLE:** Through any storm, no height or depth can separate us from your love. **(Romans 8)**

**READER 1:** Lord, we name the places where our hope has grown weary. **(Psalm 23)**

**READER 2:** We ask that you bind what is broken, and speak hope to our suffering. Continue to make all things new. **(Isaiah 61 and 43)**

**PEOPLE:** Today, as we remember those currently suffering from dark storms, we ask for courage and compassion to join in your healing work. Give us eyes to see as you see. Give us hearts that yield to love. Give us hands quick to hold and quick to comfort. May we serve and love as your body. Amen.

**NOTES**



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**Morgan**  
DRS Volunteer

**Thank you for joining  
us to participate in  
2021 DRS Sunday.**

***There's more than one way to share love after the storm.***

On DRS Sunday, we share hope with storm survivors. But you can also volunteer your time to bring that hope. Repair homes this spring or summer by registering your church, youth group, family, or self to help renew hope for disaster communities.

► [\*\*worldrenew.net/DRSsunday\*\*](https://worldrenew.net/DRSsunday)

World Renew's one-to three-week home-repair opportunities meet needs for hurricane and wildfire survivors. If you'd like to learn more about the part you could play in helping hurting communities heal and rebuild, visit:

► [\*\*worldrenew.net/disasterresponseservices\*\*](https://worldrenew.net/disasterresponseservices).