

# DRONE

## Disaster Relief Operations News Edition

February 2021

### Director's View

In Chapter 19 of 1<sup>st</sup> Kings we find the prophet Elijah discouraged, isolated, alone and fearful. In a short timeframe he had moved from green, (reference our DR OSFA training) past yellow and deep into Orange and headed for red.

*<sup>4</sup> while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." 1 Kings 19:4 (NIV)*

Elijah's zeal for the Lord God of hosts had been crushed in part by the rejection of God's covenant by his fellow Israelites and their allegiance to the false gods of the king and queen.

The brave and heroic events that Elijah had led in the name of the Lord at Mount Carmel just prior to his current condition did not have

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### New Addition to DR Vehicle Fleet

A 2017 Chevrolet 12 passenger Express Van (3500) was recently added to our vehicle fleet through gifts of a Northern California Wildfire fund. In addition to team transportation the van is expected to be used (with the rear seats removed) for supply and food delivery as well as a support vehicle in cleanup and recovery operations.

the culture-changing results that he was expecting.

In the remaining verses of chapter 19 we see how God gave Elijah rest, nourished him with angel food cake and later displayed His power through what we know as disaster events, fierce winds, an earthquake, and a raging wildfire. Elijah then encountered the presence of the Lord through “a still small voice” that prompted an honest conversation, restored his soul, and gave him new direction and purpose.

Listen for the still small voice of God.

**Mike Bivins**



## Naomi's Notes

We approached the metal door, knowing that there would be poverty and destruction beyond its rusty hinges. The greeting was warm, but hesitant. What could these foreigners from California possibly want in Port au Prince - at this little school hidden behind the block walls of concrete and cramped between failed businesses and street hawkers? There was no agenda, no expectation, and no schedule. Yet, here they stood promising conversation and hope.

After a long conversation with the pastor and his wife, we prayed and asked God's blessings upon their family, the ministry, the school, and the church. We prayed for health, for shelter, for food, and for provision. We prayed for stamina, resilience, strength, and courage. We prayed for grace, we prayed for forgiveness, we prayed for possibilities and hope. We prayed for the salvation of Haiti - spiritually and physically.

The school was cramped - crowded with children of every age and description—eager faces, sad faces, serious faces, and wondering faces. There were children in uniforms and children in rags. There were children from two to twenty. The hope of Haiti is in the children. The pastor said we were here to bring them hope.

When we entered, there was no hesitation. There were no questions. There were smiles and cheers. The young ones ran to greet us. They reached-out to touch us, to hug us, to be carried by us. They longed for the hope that could only be demonstrated by touch. While we smiled and hugged them, I was reminded of how powerful a compassionate touch could be. There was no distance caused by language. There was no misunderstanding caused by culture. There was need and there was love.



The Gospel of Mark tells us we must receive the Kingdom of Heaven like a child. *"I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."* And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them. Mark 10: 15-17

But in today's world of COVID-19, how will we reach out and comfort and give hope when we cannot touch and we cannot hug? How will we communicate our care, our love, our concern when we cannot use that powerful ministry of compassionate touch?

I think you probably do it all the time. You go and visit with people and support them and care about them. You build relationships and create a climate of trust. You connect with your heart.

In today's world of social distancing, we must remember that social distancing is not emotional distancing and it certainly isn't spiritual distancing. We must demonstrate our care, our trust, our hope, and love. We must speak in "heart to heart" conversations that will speak to the very soul of the people with whom we connect. We enter into that holy space - vulnerable, yet courageous.

In another world and in a different time, there was no word for "spiritual care." The emotional connection - the spiritual connection - was called "heart to heart care." California DR Chaplains reach out and touch hearts.

**Naomi Paget**, Director/Instructor,  
CSBCDR Chaplain Program

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## Silverado Canyon Cleanup Deployment

CSBCDR partnered with Team Rubicon and sent 15 volunteers to Orange County January 16-18 to assist with cleanup after the December Bond Fire blazed through this rural canyon.



### Laura's Lowdown

DR Team members... have you had additional training lately? If you have taken a course through K-Love, FEMA, Red Cross, Salvation Army or other groups (either in person or online), please email your certificates of completion to me at [ljohnson@csbc.com](mailto:ljohnson@csbc.com) so we can keep our records current.

We automatically update your records with DR-sponsored training, but not for other agencies' training. It is helpful for us to know the scope of each team member's training and skills so we can match deployment opportunities with those who have specific abilities.

While we're on the subject of records... if you have a change of phone number, address or church/association, please let us know. When we look for volunteers in a specific location, we need to know where you currently live and serve.

Keep an eye on your badge expiration date. If you need help with renewal, please reach out to me!

Thank you for your continued involvement in Disaster Relief!!



Laura Johnson  
CSBCDR Operations Coordinator

### DR Calendar

## DR Sponsored Training:

April 19-22  
Chainsaw Training at Camp Alta  
[Registration Link](#)



Online Courses Sponsored by K-  
LOVE, taught by Naomi Paget:  
[Registration/Info Website](#)

2/9 Foundations for Chaplains

2/23 Crisis Care during Traumatic  
Grief

2/24 Enhancing Resilience - strongly  
recommended for CSBC Chaplains

3/2 Effective Communication

3/16 Strategic Planning &  
Implementation



## Disaster Relief Chainsaw Training Camp Alta

794 Alta Powerhouse Rd. Alta, CA 95701

April 19-22, 2021

This in person training is open to new volunteers, volunteers needing to renew a badge and current volunteers desiring additional training.

*(COVID precautions will be observed so space is limited.)*

### Details for Disaster Relief Chainsaw Training

The Disaster Relief Chainsaw Training will take place at Camp Alta Southern Baptist Assembly at 794 Alta Powerhouse Rd. in Alta, CA beginning Monday April 19, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

To meet the minimum training standards, in person attendance is required Monday 4/19 (9am to 5pm) for classroom training and Tuesday 4/20 (9am to 5pm) for "hands on" and safety training.

Wednesday 4/21 and Thursday 4/22 (9am to 5pm) are scheduled for skill development and advancement and are not required.

Meals and bunk style lodging are provided at no charge. Bring your own bedding, towels, and toiletries.

Participants may choose to arrive Sunday afternoon after 4pm (a light dinner will be served at 6pm) and depart on Friday 4/23 by 11am (a continental breakfast will be served at 8am).

Please bring personal protective equipment - long pants, long sleeve shirts and steel toed boots to wear while working with chainsaws.

#### Disaster Relief Chainsaw Course Cost:

New Volunteer Certification Training (Hat, shirt, DR pin & background check)	<b>\$45</b>
Recertification (Expired badge/new background check)	<b>\$30</b>
Currently Certified (Taking additional classes)	<b>\$10</b>

#### Registration Link:

[https://public.serviceu.com/CSB\\_Disaster\\_Relief-Chainsaw\\_Training-Camp\\_Alta](https://public.serviceu.com/CSB_Disaster_Relief-Chainsaw_Training-Camp_Alta)

#### For More Information Contact:

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916.693.3428 [ljohnson@csbc.com](mailto:ljohnson@csbc.com)

## Help with DRone!

DRone newsletter is for us all, and benefits from your input and perspectives. We need your stories, your photos and your experiences.



Please send your stories, articles, thoughts, suggestions and PHOTOS to Laura Johnson, [ljohnson@csbc.com](mailto:ljohnson@csbc.com). This is a team effort! Won't you join with us?!



DRone is a monthly publication of California Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief to inform and encourage DR team members and friends as we serve together to bring help, hope and healing to a hurting world during a time of crisis. Questions/comments about DRone should be directed to Laura Johnson, [ljohnson@csbc.com](mailto:ljohnson@csbc.com), 916-693-3428.

Please [sign up here](#) to receive this newsletter in your inbox.

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