

THE SINGLE DEADLIEST TORNADO SINCE THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BEGAN KEEPING RECORDS IN 1950 HITS JOPLIN

A massive tornado ripped through Joplin on May 22, killing at least 139 people as it tore through a densely populated section of the city. More than 40 are still unaccounted for. It is the deadliest single tornado in the United States since record keeping began more than 60 years ago!



Entire neighborhoods were reduced to rubble. Piles of debris are all that is left of what was once a home, a place that was supposed to be safe and secure. People wander through the ruins with a dazed look. They mourn. They cry. They hug each other. They wonder where to turn.

Other neighborhoods received a glancing blow. Residents are grateful. Their houses survived. And yet, there is still damage and destruction. Downed trees lay on roofs or in yards. Debris is everywhere. People here are crying in despair and are wondering what to do next.

“We want to come alongside these homeowners who have lost so much and help them through this difficult time.”



Joplin city manager, Mark Rohr, said the tornado cut a path nearly six miles long and more than a half-mile wide. It hit a hospital packed with patients, a commercial area, and numerous smaller businesses and restaurants. Jasper county emergency management director, Keith Stammer, said an estimated 2,000 buildings were damaged.



Joplin mayor, Mike Woolston, has ordered that all flags on city property be flown at half-staff starting today until further notice in memory of those who have lost their lives due to the May 22nd tornado.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

PRAY: For God to comfort the people affected by the tornado.

GIVE: To help provide the resources needed to help families whose homes have been damaged or destroyed.

THINGS NEEDED IN JOPLIN!

Food and water

Blankets

Tarpaulins

Air mattresses

Brooms

Bug spray

Can Openers

Lunch bags

Mops

Pet food

Sunglasses

Tents

Trash bags

Work gloves



American International Ministries in cooperation with HEH, IDES, and several private donations, provided over 96,000 lbs. of food & supplies to the disaster relief work in Joplin during the first week following the disaster.

If you are not able to send these items and you would rather send cash donations to **PROVIDE** these items you can make your check out to: American International Ministries

Because one of the Joplin Post Offices was blown down, you can send mail to:

**AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES
117 FOREST DRIVE
CARL JUNCTION, MISSOURI 64834**

(Carl Junction is a small community about 5 miles north of Joplin that was not affected by the tornado)