



## The flame shall not consume you

*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you. (Isaiah 43:2)*

Your hearts, like ours, have been broken as the devastation wrought by wildfires in California continues to increase in severity. The cost to lives and community has been unprecedented, in addition to the destruction of land. The town of Paradise has been leveled; at this writing, more than 80 people have been confirmed dead and thousands more are unaccounted for. Unhealthy air quality and risk of mudslides are both widespread concerns.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has been working closely with leadership in the affected presbyteries, which have released emergency grants to meet the urgent needs of their neighbors. PDA has deployed national response teams to American Red Cross shelters to provide disaster spiritual care and to support the presbyteries in their assessment and response as they help their neighbors begin their lengthy recovery.

**The needs for the response will be great. God’s people are once again called on to stand in the “GAP”—Give. Act. Pray.**

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