Pray for the Flood Victims in China

From the Uniting Church partner, the China Christian Council

Department of Social Service

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洪水无情人有情——请弟兄姊妹为全国洪涝灾情代祷

May love manifest among the people although the floods are ruthless. Appeal to sisters and brothers to pray in intercession for people effected by the nationwide floods in China.

今年主汛期以来，全国降水总体偏多，从 6 月 30 日开始，长江中下游沿江地区及江淮、西南东部等地出现入汛以来最强降雨过程，湖南、湖北、安徽、贵州、河南、江苏、浙江等省有逾百条河流发生超警戒水位洪水。

Since this year's major flood period began, the overall amount of rainfall has increased rapidly. Starting from June 30th, the middle and lower reaches of Yangtze River received heavy rains, effecting Jiangsu and Anhui provinces, and the eastern part of the southwest regions of China. In Hunan, Hubei, Anhui, Guizhou, Henan, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang provinces, hundreds of rivers have passed their alert water levels.

7 月 3 日，国家防总、水利部防汛抗洪新闻发布会上通报，全国已有 26 省（区、市）1192 县遭受洪涝灾害，农作物受灾面积，受灾人口万人，紧急转移万人，因灾死亡 186 人、失踪 45 人，倒塌房屋 5.6 万间，直接经济损失约 506 亿元。预计未来三天内，长江中下游干流莲花塘至大通江段，及洞庭湖、鄱阳湖水位将全线超警，太湖水位也,将继续缓涨。

At the National Flood Prevention press conference of July 3rd, the State Flood Prevention Headquarters and Ministry of Water Resources reported that 26 provinces and 1,192 counties in China, together with 2,942,000 hectare crops, had been hit by the floods, with 3,282,000 people being effected, 148,000 people being evacuated in emergency. So far 186 people are confirmed dead, whereas 45 people are missing. The floods have caused the direct economic loss over 50.6 billion RMB. It is expected that in next three days the water levels of the main streams from Lianghua Pond to Datong River, Dongting Lake, and Boyang Lake will pass their alert water lines. The water level of

Tai Lake will continue to rise as well.

洪水无情人有情，大灾面前有大爱。在险情面前，需要社会各界力量的通力协作、密切配合。基督教全国两会将持续关注今年全国性的洪涝灾情，适时地根据灾情变化做出应对。在此，我们也呼吁全国的教会和信徒关注此次的洪涝灾害，为当前受灾的地区及群众代祷，让洪水退去、爱心彰显。

Let love manifest among the people, although the floods are ruthless. During this period of emergency, we seek support and cooperation from different sectors of the society and the Church. This year the CCC & TSPM will pay close attention to the disaster caused by these nationwide floods, and will make the appropriate response accordingly. Hereby we appeal to all churches and church members to be mindful of the disaster and pray for the affected regions and the people. May we all pray that the flood subside and the shared love is manifested through this time of emergency.

(The request to pray is translated by Rev Zhao Chengyi, a PhD candidate from the CCC who is currently studying at Centre for Theology and Ministry in Melbourne.)

Pray of Intercession

God of compassion
You are the source of all comfort and care.
Today we pray for the people in China,
for the lives have been devastated by rain and flood.
Bring them safety and comfort,
Protect their homes and belongings,
Sustain them with care and love,
We pray.

May our prayers strengthen the weak,
Keep the spread of disease within the limits of God's compassion.
We pray for all members of the Chinese church,
support their brothers and sisters in this time of needs.

May our prayer strengthen the rescue workers and forces,
Have mercy on them.
We pray for the local communities
as they feed the hungry and care for the homeless.
Give them your enduring care.

We pray the peace of the Lord be with our partner church
and our response to their suffering be compassionate.
May the Lord give comfort to all the peoples in suffering.
and our fraternal solidarity give them support in their needs.
For we ask it in Jesus name,
Amen.

(Prayer of Intercession is written by Rev Dr Ji Zhang, manager church partnerships – Asia.)