

A White Bucket Story

To my friends at Wesley,

On August 31st, 2005, I went to Waveland, Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina hit and was trying to clean out my son's house from all of the water and mud. My son was not able to do this task himself, since he is a Fireman for the town of Waveland and they were on duty 24 hours, 7 days for search and recovery then they went to search and rescue. Waveland was ground zero for Hurricane Katrina

An American Red Cross van came down my son's street, stopped in front of the house and asked if I needed any cleaning supplies. They brought out this 5 gallon "White Bucket" which had on the top of the lid "Wesley United Methodist Church", Evans, Georgia.

I thought he was given me an empty white bucket and to my surprise when he handed it to me, I misjudged the weight of this "White Bucket". I could not believe what you could pack into a 5 gallon bucket, until I opened this bucket ya'all packed. I took this bucket down to the fire station at the end of the block and showed my son what we had been given to clean his house. Everything we needed was in this "White Bucket". My son said "there is the clothes line and clothes pins you needed". At the bottom of the bucket was a small piece of paper with Dan Armstrong's e-mail address.

Right after any disaster like we had, you are not able to purchase anything, no electric or water to clean up your house with. When I received this "White Bucket" that had rubber gloves, bleach, clothes pins, clothes line, and many more items, all the necessary items you need right after a disaster, I was able to clean his house. We normally have cleaning supplies on hand, after a Hurricane but the unexpected four feet of water floated away his supplies he did have. The American Red Cross was kind enough to also give me a "White Bucket" to use for my house in Gulfport, when I finished with my sons house. Later I found out that this bucket had been packed by the people at Wesley, was brought to Mississippi by a team from your Sheriff's department and then delivered to me by a Red Cross volunteer.

I would not have been able to save my sons house, if it was not for the kindness and generosity that all of you had given to us by providing us with the "White Bucket". My son is very grateful to ya'all for helping him save his house by providing him with the items in the "White Bucket". He should be able to move in his house by next month.

Thank you again for your generosity and kindness you have given us, in providing us with the "White Bucket".

For God and Country,

Liz Burchett
Gulfport, Mississippi