

O God, we place our trust in you.

As the wind and rain has passed through the mountains of Western North Carolina, we name before you those whose lives have been devastated.

We especially remember those who have lost so much, those with the fewest options, the most vulnerable.

Draw near to those who are the most exposed, the most frightened, the most overwhelmed. Hold space for a stillness and a peace even in the midst of the storm.

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In the aftermath of ravaging wind and surging flood, inspire those who give themselves for others.

Let that work be done justly, wisely, safely, generously.

Help us to turn toward one another in our need.

Strengthen our bonds of connection and love for each other.

O God, we place our trust in you, and we say these words in the strong name of Jesus. Amen.

In Christ.

+Ken Carter

Resident Bishop, Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church