**Moment for Mission: Times of Crisis with World Central Kitchen**

*Sunday, November 8, 2026, offered by Rebecca LaBarr*
*First United Presbyterian (the "Red Door" Church), Oneonta, NY*

**November Mission Emphasis is World Central Kitchen (WCK)**

WCK responds to natural disasters, man-made crises, and humanitarian emergencies around the world. They are a team of food first responders, mobilizing with the urgency of NOW to get meals to the people who need them most. Deploying their model of quick action, leveraging local resources, and adapting in real time, they know that a nourishing meal in a time of crisis is so much more than a plate of food -- it's hope, it's dignity, and it's a sign that someone cares.

In Gaza, WCK continues to bring food and clean water to the victims of the genocidal war on the Palestinians.

As Ukraine prepares for another winter of war, intensified Russian attacks on the country's energy infrastructure are threatening to leave families without electricity, heating and water as temperatures begin to fall. World Central Kitchen (WCK) is preparing for this reality by adapting how they cook, distribute and deliver food across Ukraine. From alternative cooking methods that do not require electricity or gas -- to new distribution points -- their teams are preparing to reach people even when power outages, damaged infrastructure and security conditions make traditional food distribution impossible.

Over the past 16 years, World Central Kitchen has watched cyclones become increasingly common and intense. In response, WCK teams around the world have served over 27 million meals in over 20 countries with the support of hundreds of local partners, volunteers, and community members.

In 2026 alone, WCK has responded to nine major storms across the world. From Cyclone Gezani, which slammed into Toamasina, Madagascar in February -- to the trio of hurricanes that struck North America in the fall -- WCK teams have been serving families impacted by these storms. As their global networks grow and become more robust, they are increasingly able to respond to more and more disasters, supporting local community members as they lead the way towards recovery.

Globally this past year we have seen unprecedented wildfires, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes and now the oceans seem to be wreaking havoc on coastlines. El Nino is slated to continue its damage well into 2027.

Join me in helping Chef José Andrés in meeting the needs of so many victims of disasters worldwide. As always, make checks out to FUPC with WCK on the memo line.

And please give generously.