

**October 7th, 2024,**

Friends and Family of Arbor Dale,

On the way to the church this morning I noted that 2 businesses were open in Banner Elk, but it is not business as usual here. People with power do not have water. People with access to wells that provide clean water don't have power. It is a perfect mis-match and points to the fundamental problems that need to be addressed as communities and individuals try to recover.

Beyond Banner Elk the scope of the devastation is even harder to describe.

In the middle of all of this loss and hurt we have gathered to worship and gone out to love and care and share the mercy of the Lord. That is looking like all different kinds of work and different kinds of ministry. At this point we are shifting from search and rescue and survival to strategic giving and caring. That is possible because so many people have given food, water, and clothing while others have given financially.

Expect to hear in the next week what the next right opportunity will be. As we wait and discern please pray for wisdom and endurance so that we might be faithful today and wise about tomorrow.

In terms of "how to help".you can send folks the link to this page where they can donate by clicking the button at the top of this page titled "Donate. "

peace,

Pastor Tee