

## *Responding to Needs*

Many people – regrettably, not all – are eager to help others in an emergency situation. Dramatic examples of that occurred right here in Bradley County when five tornadoes roared through our community on April 27, claiming nine lives and destroying 500 homes. Folks from all around the Southeast Tennessee region swarmed around the victims to help with chainsaws in the cleanup of streets and yards, bringing food and water and beginning the process of rebuilding lives.

Roger Storms, pastor of Chandler (Arizona) Christian Church, shared another incident on this subject.

One Sunday, a car had broken down in the alley behind the church facilities, and the driver had jacked up the car and crawled underneath to work on the problem.

“Suddenly, we hear him scream for help,” Storms said. “The jack had slipped, and the car had come down on top of him.”

Someone shouted, “Call 9-1-1!” and a couple of people ran for the phone. Several men of the church gathered around the large vehicle and strained to lift it off the trapped man. Nurses from the congregation were rounded up and brought to the scene.

Somehow the men were able to ease the car’s weight off the man, and he was pulled free. The nurses checked him over. He was scratched up and shaken, but otherwise okay.

When this driver was in peril, people did all they could to help – risking themselves, inconveniencing themselves. Whatever was necessary to save this man, they were ready to try.

Admirably, the men and women who work in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home have the same commitment. Theirs is a calling to help the frail and infirm residents entrusted to them – to do whatever it takes and then some to address their needs and to bring comfort and pleasure.

We applaud the never-ceasing demonstration of the outpouring of their skills and compassion.

– Beecher Hunter