

UU Church at Washington Crossing Sends “Critters for Katrina’s Kids

"Critters for Katrina's Kids" is a project started by Julie Lambert and children, Shannon, Brendan and Emma, members of the UU Church at Washington Crossing (Titusville NJ). The Lamberts collect and send stuffed animals to kids in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama for a bit of comfort after all they've endured. The response and request from Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama has been remarkable. They were contacted by a Louisiana school and by the local Disaster Relief Committee for the stuffed animals. By the end of October they had sent over 1000 animals. They began selling cookie dough to offset the mailing costs. The congregation then took a collection for the mailing costs, and had part of the offering be stuffed animals at the Thanksgiving Intergenerational service. They have reached the 2000 critter mark, and received an official call from the US Department of Education thanking her for the project. During the week of November 30, Julie received another request for 600 animals to go to Slidell. They are going to FEMA parks and to children still living in tents where there former homes once stood. Julie states, "It is amazing how many little critters have gone to help some kids feel a hug."