



Our Connection

After Hurricane Harvey in 2017, we came together with Chapelwood UMC, St. Paul's UMC, and Westbury UMC to launch a long-term recovery strategy for our city. The strategy resulted in the launch of The Restoration Team to help restore homes to safety, sanitization, and functionality. To this day, The Restoration Team continues to restore homes damaged by storms, but has expanded to include homes in need of repair due to economic hardships or homes in need of modifications that enable seniors to "age in place" and live in their homes unassisted for longer.

Meet Mr. Garret & Ms. Angela

Mr. Garrett has been on dialysis for 30 years and is now confined to a wheelchair. He is unable to reach his microwave or kitchen cabinets, nor can he fit his wheelchair into his bedroom or bathrooms. TRT is making many improvements to Mr. Garrett's home, including a bathroom modification, similar to the one our volunteers from the Spring Big Serve helped install in Ms. Mary's home, pictured below.



before



after

Ms. Angela lives in the home her father and grandfather built over 70 years. She worked as a manager at two Kroger stores until she was violently robbed and beaten while out shoe shopping, leaving her with physical and emotional scars that prevented her from returning to full-time work. Angela found strength in part-time work caregiving for others. When a tree fell on her home during Hurricane Beryl, it caused major structural issues that were well beyond what Angela's part-time job could cover. She has resorted to running a garden hose through her kitchen window just to have water indoors. Still, Angela holds on to hope, home, and the legacy her family built. "This house is everything to me," she says. "It's the only piece of my parents I have left."

TRT hopes to tackle many repairs to Ms. Angela's home, but the size of the project will require significant funds.

Inspired?

- **Give:** We've supported TRT's general operations since their inception in 2017 through an annual grant from our Outreach operating budget. Your gift to this year's Christmas Offering will help us go above and beyond, investing in specific home repairs and aging in place modifications for four families and individuals like Mr. Garrett and Ms. Angela.
- **Serve:** Interested in serving as an individual or small group on these or other home repair projects in our city on a weekday or Saturday? All skill levels are welcome, and all tools, materials, and guidance are provided! Email asumrall@stlukesmethodist.org to learn more!