Preparedness for Clergy

Alabama-West Florida Conference
Disaster Response

2016
Is YOUR Church Ready?

- Fire
- Water Damage
- Hurricane
- Tornado
Think about…..

- How and what do I communicate with my congregation as disaster strikes
- What are protocols for reporting damage
- How do we connect
- How do we protect programming and property
- What training is available
All disasters are LOCAL

You will be the key to an effective response

Communicate to
staff & church leadership,
congregation & community
district & conference disaster team
Considerations

- Insurance
- Protection of Property
- Church Records
- Worship Continuum
- Special Ministries
- Congregational skills/talents
- Local Community assets
- Communication
Property Protection

- Who will: (if you know ahead)
  - Cut off utilities?
  - Cover windows?
  - Secure outside fixtures?
  - Secure loose items in/around church?
  - Protect historical records or items

*Can any changes be made permanently to protect special objects?*
First Actions for Local Congregations

- Access church damage
- What is church’s capacity to serve
- Identify a “point person” to communicate and receive communications
- Attend to member/community immediate needs
- Report damage to District Coordinator and District Superintendent

UMCOR’s Connecting Neighbors training is advised for each district
May be scheduled for district or pod of churches
Know Your LOCAL VOAD EMA
City Leaders

- VOAD- voluntary organizations active in disaster
- COAD- community organizations
- Community organizational leaders
- Other pastors
Conference Resources

- Conference Website
- ministries
- disaster response & recovery
  - clergy protocols
  - district coordinators
  - volunteer forms
  - current needs and requests
  - trainings scheduled, trainers, contact info
TRAININGS OFFERED

- **Connecting Neighbors** - local church planning
- **ERT** - early response training – first teams into area after disaster-UMCOR based training- 4 to 6 hrs- badged
- **UMCOR** chainsaw training- ERT a prerequisite

WEBINAR-August 8 @7:00 pm
local church preparedness

**Also consider**
- Red Cross shelter training
- **CERT**- Community Early Response Training- taught by EMA
- CPR/first aid
Call for more information
or
to schedule a training

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