

HURRICANE IMMEDIATE RESPONSE PROTOCOL

For
Peace River Presbytery

Immediately prior to an event (2 days)

1. Broadcast fax and e-mail to church offices a pastoral letter and the protocol
2. Presbytery office takes steps to prepare for alternate location if necessary.
3. Presbytery executive staff & PRP Disaster Preparedness & Response (DP&R) Task Force share proposed shelter location arrangements (where will they go if unable to stay at home or church).

During

BE SAFE

Immediately following an event

1. Presbytery executive staff and PRP DP&R Moderators are in touch with each other.
2. Initial calls are made by unaffected members of the PRP DP&R leadership team.
3. The General Presbyter will make pastoral visits to pastors of affected churches as soon as safe and possible.
4. The 1st or 2nd contact person from each affected church will call the Presbytery office to give initial assessment to the DP&R of their church, staff, and congregation.
5. 48 hours (the 2nd day) after a storm significantly impacts your area, all pastors in the affected area will meet at 3:00 p.m. at one of the following places:
 - ▶ **First, Bradenton**
 - ▶ **Pine Shores, Sarasota**
 - ▶ **Presbyterian Center, North Port**
 - ▶ **First, Fort Myers**
 - ▶ **First, Bonita Springs**
 - ▶ **Moorings, Naples**

Check-in with a coordinator from the PRP DP&R leadership team, talk about next steps, and pray.

6. 72 hours (3 days) after a significant/devastating event, all members and other concerned folk will meet at the Presbyterian Center in North Port, (if damaged, then Church of the Palms, Sarasota, or Moorings, Naples) for debriefing, prayer, and beginning recovery work.

Congregational/Pastor Responsibilities of Affected Congregations

1. Key people in congregation should have similar plan as Presbytery above.
 - a) Send out information to congregation.
 - b) Alternate location for operation.
 - c) Where will they be if evacuated – contact information, etc.
2. Have plan (such as a buddy system by deacons) for your most vulnerable members, i.e. who will contact them to make sure they are okay. **(Suggestion)**
3. 24, 48, and 72 hours after a storm at 5:00 p.m., members who can, will meet at the church for prayer, checking in, communication, coordination, and need sharing. **(Suggestion)**
4. ASAP, either the pastor or designated contact person will call 1-800-736-4488 to let the Presbytery staff know how you are.
5. Pastor, Business Manager, Trustees of a particular congregation will begin its triage (secure its building ASAP).
6. As soon as possible, hold a church staff meeting.
7. As soon as possible, the Moderator of Session will call a Session meeting.

ESSENTIAL CONTACT NUMBERS

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