

DISASTER RECOVERY

NO. 4



PERSONAL
PREPAREDNESS

CHURCH
PREPAREDNESS

RECOVERY UPDATE



The Florida Conference
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Disaster Recovery



PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

While we want to ensure preparedness across all aspects of our conference, your first line of defense should be your home. No matter what your home situation looks like, it is important to be prepared for Hurricane Season. On top of staying up to date on weather forecasts, here are a few steps you can take to make yourself and your family more prepared for a disaster.

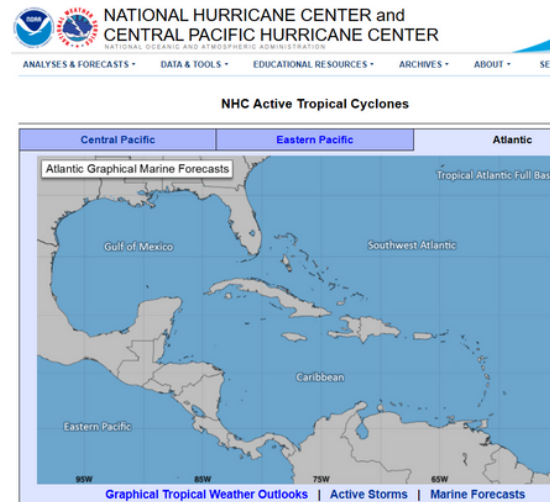
Make a Kit

A disaster supply kit for your home is essential because after a disaster you may not have access to food, water, or other supplies.

Be sure to have the essentials in your kit:

- Water
- Nonperishable Food
- Flashlight
- Extra Batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Backup phone battery

Other items should include personal medications, pet supplies, baby formula and other supplies. Additional needs should be determined based on your family's specific needs. Visit [Ready.Gov/kit](https://www.ready.gov/kit) for a full list and more information on building your kit.



Make a Plan

When preparing for a disaster, it is important to think through what your household's plan of action is should one occur. Below are a few questions you should think through to know what to do in chaotic times.

- If you need to evacuate, where will you go?
- What are the specific needs of your household?
 - Do you have children, pets, or elderly residents?
 - Do you have any dietary restrictions or special medical conditions?

Creating a plan can help with some of the difficult decisions that need to be made when a disaster occurs. Making these decisions when you are not in a chaotic or stressful situation can allow you to make better and safer decisions for your family.


For assistance in creating your plan, The American Red Cross provides a family readiness disaster plan template which can be found linked on our [website](#).

Sources:

[Ready.Gov](#)

[The American Red Cross](#)



 **American Red Cross**

Family Disaster Plan Template

Family Last Name(s) or Household Address: _____ Date: _____

Family Member/Household Contact Info:

Name	Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Pet(s) info:

Name	Type	Color	Registration #
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Plan of Action

1. The disasters most likely to affect our household are:

2. What are the escape routes from our home?

CHURCH PREPAREDNESS

Church disaster plans are due!

Thank you to the local churches and ministries that have submitted their disaster plans. If your church has not yet submitted your plan, there is still time. The church disaster plan is intended to be a tool to help you make decisions in your church's best interest prior to an emergency or disaster. This is why we have requested the submission of a plan for every church. As more knowledge is gained, and leadership changes, the disaster plan and asset survey can be updated at any point through the church dashboard.

Next Steps

Once your disaster plan is submitted, it is important to allow your congregation to be familiar with the plan, so they are also aware of what the church leadership will do in event of a disaster. Other activities prior to a storm can include encouraging congregants to create their own plan and disaster kit, maintaining your church asset inventory, packing disaster response kits, and holding an early response team training.



RECOVERY UPDATE

An update from Trish Warren, Conference Disaster Response Coordinator:

As we look ahead to our next phase in our journey of recovery from Hurricane Ian, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each one of you for your unwavering support and commitment. Your dedication has been the backbone of our efforts, and as we move forward, it's important to reflect on our achievements and anticipate the road ahead.

We have announced the beginning of our demobilization process from the Hurricane Ian Long Term Recovery. Our journey through this recovery phase has been marked by resilience, compassion, and a shared commitment to rebuild lives and communities. I am immensely proud of the progress we have made together.

As we step into this new chapter, I want to express our profound appreciation to our invaluable partners who have stood beside us throughout this journey. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), The American Red Cross, Volunteer Florida, our staff, and all individual donors and volunteers who have been instrumental in our recovery efforts. Their generosity and support have been indispensable, and we are deeply grateful for their unwavering commitment to our cause.



Throughout our journey, we have had the privilege of working closely with the survivors of Hurricane Ian. Their resilience in the face of adversity has been both inspiring and humbling. Together, we have listened to their stories, shared their pain, and celebrated their triumphs. They are the heart and soul of our recovery efforts, and their strength has fueled our determination to continue supporting them in every way possible.

With the end of our current UMCOR grant approaching on August 31, 2024, we are actively preparing to submit a proposal for a new UMCOR grant for the Hurricane Ian Long Term Recovery. Our aim is for this new grant to begin on September 1, 2024, and conclude on August 31, 2025. This proposal is crucial to sustaining our efforts and ensuring continued support for those affected by Hurricane Ian.

However, with this new grant comes a significant reduction in field staff. While this may bring changes to our operations, please know that our commitment to serving those in need remains unwavering. We will continue to work tirelessly to support and uplift our communities as they rebuild and recover.

As we move forward, let us carry with us the spirit of resilience, hope, and unity that has guided us through this journey thus far. Together, we have proven that even in the face of adversity, we are stronger when we stand together.

Thank you once again for your unwavering dedication and support. Together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of those affected by Hurricane Ian.

With gratitude,

Tricia Warren



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Early Response Team Training Bridges UMF (Bunnel) - 5/11/24
 - Registration closing May 3rd!
- Pre Annual Conference Workshop - 5/20/2024
 - 1:00 PM - Register at FLUMC.org
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Interested in hosting an ERT Training? Please reach out to our ERT Coordinator, Tom Vencuss at tvencuss@flumc.org



Warren Willis Camp Serve Days:

Service days are 8:00 AM -4:00 PM and will be led by an ERT member, all participants school age and older are welcome.

- May 18, 2024
- June 29, 2024
- July 27, 2024
- August 24, 2024

Registrations can be found on our website.



CONNECT WITH US

Thank you for being a part of our ministry. Your support and engagement mean the world to us! Here's how you can reach out and stay in the loop:

Social Media

Follow us on our social media platforms for real-time updates, behind-the-scenes content, and interactive discussions.

- Facebook: Disaster Recovery Ministry - Florida Conference - United Methodist Church
- Instagram: @flumcdisasterrecovery
- LinkedIn: Disaster Recovery Ministry - The Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church
- TikTok: @flumc.dr
- Website: <https://www.flumcdisasterrecoveryministry.org/>

Events and Webinars

Stay informed about upcoming events, webinars, and workshops. Mark your calendar and join us for insightful sessions!

Events Calendar: [flumcdisasterrecoveryministry.org/training-events](https://www.flumcdisasterrecoveryministry.org/training-events)



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