

THE REASON BEHIND FLORIDA DISTRICT DISASTER RELIEF:

Each year, an average of 12 tropical storms form in the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico. On average, 6 of these storms become hurricanes. The Atlantic hurricane season lasts for six months out of the year – June 1st through November 30th. Other dangers involved with hurricanes include storm surge, wind damage, flooding, and potential tornadoes. Without proper preparations such as evacuation plans and preparedness, those in track of a disaster are vulnerable to the worst effects caused by a hurricane.

The Florida District of TWC is located in the state of Florida and the Bahamas. This region is very vulnerable to disasters, particularly hurricanes. It is necessary for the Florida District to establish a program and plan as a response for when such disaster effects the region. It will also serve as an opportunity for those with skills and servant-like hearts to get involved in helping with recovery efforts.

**florida** DISTRICT
THE **wesleyan** CHURCH



3807 Maryweather Ln.
Wesley Chapel, FL 33544



Prepare.
Rebuild.
Serve.

PLAN

Hurricane relief is the primary focus of Florida District Disaster Relief. This involves exposing helpful *relief plans* prior to destruction along with a plan that is put in place and *implemented post-disaster*. The Florida District may work alongside other organizations to accomplish a task, goal, or to *meet a need* within the Florida District family.

PREPARE

The question to be asked is “when,” not “if.” A hurricane will come, it’s just a question of when it will come. Preparing for a hurricane is a practical and necessary step each family should take, and this starts with building a disaster supplies kit. Basic kits should include essentials such as these listed below:

- Water (for drinking and sanitation)
- Food (at least a three-day supply)
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle (to signal for help)
- Dust mask (to help filter contaminated air)
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties
- Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
- Manual can opener (for food)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery



In the event of a natural disaster, the Florida District will take necessary steps to help re-construct damage that has occurred to church buildings of or associated with the Florida District of TWC. It is also the intention of the district to help serve local communities when the need is greatest due to a natural disaster. This is an opportunity to get involved in projects that may include but not limited to: construction projects, remediation projects, preparedness projects, and public service projects.

Attending a disaster relief trip with the Florida District of TWC may expose team members to working environments that contain poor air and water quality and may not have direct access to public facilities. Team members may come in contact with materials that are infused with large amounts of mold, dust, and other allergens.

Participants must be 18 years old or older and have common knowledge on the effects of a disaster and the work required in order to relieve those effects. Participants must also have a valid driver’s license in order to participate in disaster relief under the leadership of the Florida District and must have a current passport in order to participate overseas.

RESOURCES

For more information on disaster preparation, precautions, or information on current weather patterns and maps, please visit these helpful online resources:

<http://nhc.noaa.gov>
weather.gov
spherestandards.org



SUPPORT

If you would like to give towards the effort of disaster relief in the Florida District, you can send a check labeled “disaster relief” to our district office (address on back panel) or go to floridawesleyan.com, click on “Contributions,” and select “Disaster Relief” from the designation options.