

Preparedness for Clergy



**Alabama-West
Florida Conference
Disaster Response**

2016

Is YOUR Church Ready?



Fire

Water Damage

Hurricane

Tornado



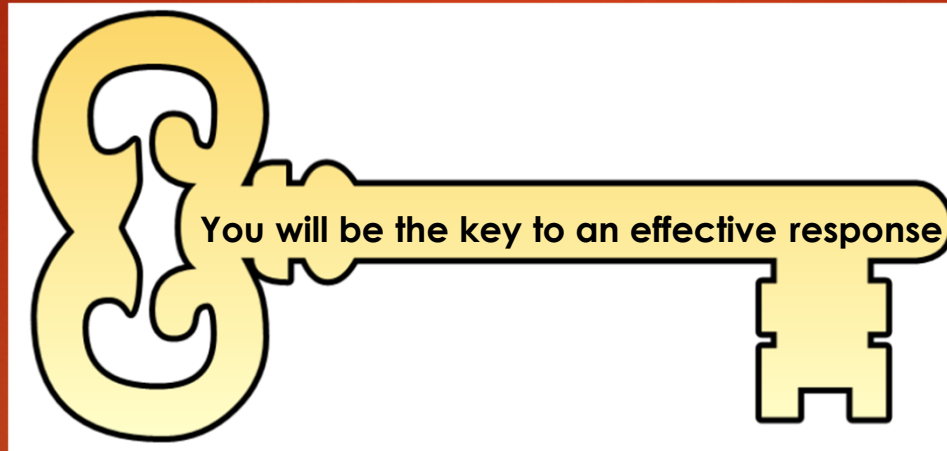
**Alabama-West
Florida Conference
Disaster Response**



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



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



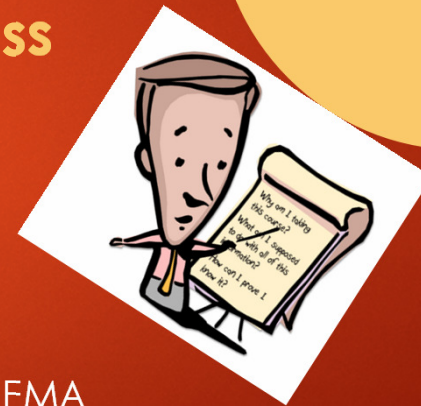
TRAININGS OFFERED

- ▶ **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



RESOURCES & FORMS

- ▶ Reporting Damage Protocol
- ▶ Local Church Preparedness and Resources
- ▶ Disaster Preparedness and Response for Pastors (PDF File)
- ▶ What to know about Disaster Spiritual and Emotional Care (PDF File)
- ▶ District Disaster Response Plan (PDF file)
- ▶ Reporting Damage Protocol (PDF file)
- ▶ Emergency Plans for Houses of Worship (PDF file)



**Alabama-West
Florida Conference
Disaster Response**

Call for more information
or
to schedule a training



Amelia Fletcher
251-968-2549 office
251-978-8384 cell

amelia@gulfshoresumc.org



Alabama-West
Florida Conference
Disaster Response

