

HURRICANE! ARE YOU PREPARED?

THE BIG PICTURE...

- 1) Hurricanes are an opportunity to TRUST in the Lord.
- 2) Hurricanes are an opportunity to SERVE fellow church members at home.
- 3) Hurricanes are an opportunity to SERVE your neighbors (open a door for the Gospel).
- 4) Hurricanes are an opportunity to SERVE your church family as a whole.

Begin by making this commitment...

'Lord, I choose to trust you with all the good and all the bad that comes with this storm. Use IT and use ME for your glory!'

HURRICANES AS A CHURCH MEMBER:

- 1) **Work together with other members of your Community Group. HELP EACH OTHER!**
- 2) **YOUR HELP is needed in preparing the church property.** Many hands make the work light and fast. (Boarding up windows, moving equipment, sealing windows and doors.) Please respond to calls for help as they come to you by email and text.
- 3) **Watch your phone, email or our SHBC website for announcements.** We only cancel worship services when absolutely necessary.
- 4) **Please remember your tithe...** your faithful giving amidst trial brings some of the greatest blessings! (Malachi 3:10)
- 5) **Our church facility is not capable of sheltering the public community** (our buildings were not designed to be 'hurricane proof' – many windows are exposed and we do not have emergency generators or emergency water supply). **HOWEVER**, there may be a small team of people from our church who choose to stay on our campus for their own safety AND to help care for our buildings during a CAT 3 or greater storm. If you think you would like to stay at the church during a storm and be part of the team you need to inquire with the church office at the beginning of hurricane season. Only church members whom we know will be considered for the Building Care Team during a CAT 3 or greater storm. Anyone approved to stay will be required to agree to and sign our HURRICANE SHELTERING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING prior to arrival.

CHECK YOUR SUPPLY OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS – JUNE 1st every year:

- Prescription medications
- Cash
- Battery operated radio (TV and internet may be down)
- Bottled water -- lots of bottled water!
- Energy/breakfast bars, Ensure/Boost drinks,
- Can goods, dry goods and pasta
- A manual can opener
- Gator-Aide (for hot sweaty days of prep/cleanup)

- Gorilla Tape! (can be used for many things before, during or after storm)
- Hardware for fastening shutters! Repairs from last hurricane??
- Fill propane tanks
- Fill extra fuel tanks (for generator or equipment)
- Consider buying a Rigid Wet/Dry Vacuum for mitigating water damage.
- Batteries
- LED lanterns
- 12volt power inverter (300 to 400 watts)
- Mosquito repellent and sunscreen for cleanup efforts
- Basic first aid kit or supplies for nicks and cuts
- 5 gallon bucket for roof leaks and ability to flush toilets
- Sponges
- Good working fans (for drying water intrusion—reducing water damage)
- Nylon rope to tie down yard items before storm or tarps after storm.
- Board games and decks of playing cards

THINGS TO CHECK/DO:

- Check all your shutter hardware! Are all fastening points working properly?
- Top off propane tank(s)
- Set freezers to coldest setting as storm approaches
- Freeze large blocks of ice (to keep freezer cold longer)
- Keep car fuel above ¾ tank as storm approaches (call friends if you find fuel avail).
- Seal leaky outside doors and windows with Gorilla tape.
- Do your roof vents and/or gable vents need to be covered or sealed?
- Do you plan to use a generator? Test it! Service it – change oil, filters. Buy extra oil.
- Do you use a generator near your home? Perhaps you need a Carbon Monoxide alarm.
- Do you plan to use a propane grill or stove? Light and turn it on HIGH with lid closed for 10 minutes to kill spiders and critters before bringing into the garage or house.
- Check recovery tools such as chainsaws... test them! Sharp chain? 50/1 oil for fuel?
- Dog or cat? Pet crate! If you go to a shelter it will be required.
- If you normally use cable or internet television, you may want to purchase a digital TV antenna (\$10-\$20) for your television so you can still get news if cable or internet service is out.
- Fire extinguisher... during every hurricane fires are caused by candles, generators, gas cooking, and electrical shorts. A fire extinguisher could save your life or home.

CATEGORY 4 or CATEGORY 5 HURRICANE PREP:

- 1) Bag photo albums, computers, hard drives, important docs in large, heavy 'drum liner' plastic bags -- BUT MAKE CERTAIN THEY DO NOT GET THROWN AWAY.
- 2) Fill bathroom tubs with water (for flushing/sponge baths). Clean with bleach first.
- 3) If you live East of I-95 consider finding shelter with friends elsewhere.
- 4) CAT 5 -- consider going to an official shelter.
- 5) As you recover your home... please also remember to help recover your church.
- 6) Again, link with the other covenant church members in your Community Group to help each other recover!