

Hurricane Policy First Presbyterian Church Gulfport

In the event that our area should be placed under a hurricane watch/warning (meaning that hurricane conditions could be in our area within 24/48 hours) the following procedure is in effect:

1. If you need any kind of assistance, in preparation for the storm please contact any of the people on the Emergency Call List.
2. The Pastor and Session will determine if Sunday services and Wednesday evening activities are to be cancelled. Pastor will contact the Church Administrator if services are cancelled and the following will take place:
 - a. For the purpose of communicating the service cancellation, the Church Administrator will contact church staff. The Administrative Staff will contact radio, TV, and the congregation via Constant Contact email. The Music director will contact choir members, the youth director will contact the youth and the nursery coordinator will contact the nursery workers and volunteers. Administrative staff will also change the phone message at the church office to include information about the cancellation of services/activities.
 - b. Church Administrator will contact the Chairman of the Deacons, who will then communicate to the deacons. The deacons will contact congregational members who need assistance.
 - c. Administrative staff, Administrator and Deacons will secure the church property and facility to the best of their ability.
 - d. Deacons will secure the Long Beach property and grounds.
3. Church offices will be closed if local school districts are closed and/or when Civil Defense issues an evacuation advisory.
4. If you are planning to evacuate, please contact someone on the Emergency Call List to let them know where you will be and give them a contact number where you can be reached.
5. If you are planning on staying here, please communicate that to someone on the Emergency Call List. If at any time after the storm you need assistance, please get in touch with someone on the Emergency Call List, even if it means going to their house.
6. After the hurricane has passed, staff will meet at the church office at 1:00 p.m. on the 2nd day after the hurricane made landfall. (i.e., hurricane makes landfall on Monday, we gather on Wednesday) and every day afterwards at the same time.
7. In the event the hurricane strikes our area, meetings with the Pastor, Diaconate, Session and staff should take place to determine needs of the congregation and property/grounds of the church facilities.