Seasonal Preparedness Resources from UMCOR & FEMA – Spring

UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community’s ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States, as well as internationally. These beneficiaries are seen as partners, not victims, and UMCOR works to empower them. In its holistic response to disasters, UMCOR:

- Offers disaster preparedness training. In addition, UMCOR helps communities in the United States and abroad prepare for emergencies and to reduce the risk of disasters through a roster of training programs.
- Provides essential supplies and care—both physical and psychological—in the immediate aftermath of a disaster.
- Supports long-term rebuilding efforts and assists communities as they adapt.
- Financial Assistance. If the bishop of the affected conference contacts UMCOR, an emergency grant may be sent.
- Networking. Getting connected with NGOs, volunteers, experts, local government, and other organizations can help communities recover from disaster.

UMCOR’s US Disaster Response

When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR’s US disaster training and response.

General Preparedness
- Make a family emergency communication plan and include your pets.
- Identify an out of town emergency contact to coordinate information with family/friends.
- Check on neighbors and church members.
- Keep an emergency kit wherever you spend time: home, car, work etc.
- Download the FEMA App and set up local alerts
- Listen to local officials by radio, TV, or social media and take action.
- Practice your preparedness plans with a drill or exercise.
- Take a first aid class so you can help until first responders arrive.

Severe Weather
- If ordered to evacuate, take action immediately. Know the route and plan where to go.
- Identify a safe location, in case of tornado.
- Severe Weather Safety Social Media Toolkit

Flood
- Never drive or walk through flooded streets; Turn Around, Don’t Drown.
- Check your insurance policies to ensure you have enough coverage.
- Flood Safety Social Media Toolkit
- Weather Ready Nation NOAA Spring Safety Resources