\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Tis The Season: Hurricane Season that is!

Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage; preparing in advance, and having a plan can greatly reduce your risk and subsequent losses.

* Stock up and make accessible an Emergency Supply Kit.
* Non-perishable foods.
* Water.
* Battery-powered or crank radio – The American Red Cross makes an excellent one.
* Fully charged cell phone and / or battery backup.
* Flashlight(s) and extra batteries.
* Copies of prescription medications and first aid supplies.
* Bedding and clothing.
* Copies of important documents such as: driver’s license, proof of residency, insurance documents, computer files etc.… Keep these in a secure and discrete location to protect your privacy!
* Have an electrician elevate electrical panels to a safe height.
* If you live in a hurricane zone prepare a written crisis management plan.

Once a hurricane watch or warning is issued, leaders should initiate immediate action to safeguard lives and church property.

* Establish emergency shutdown procedures for the building and equipment. Know how to shut off gas, power / electricity and water main.
* Provide periodic instruction and training on your emergency response plan.
* Evacuate as soon as officials announce! Wasting time can lead to being stranded and may cost lives!
* Prepare your building. Cover all windows with storm shutters and / or plywood.
* Bring in all outdoor furniture and decorations.
* Ensure a large supply of water for sanitary purposes. Filling bathtubs with water before you leave might provide a supply when you return.
* Consider installing backflow valves to prevent water backup.
* Make sure gutters remain free from debris to ensure proper runoff of rainfall.
* Make sure you have adequate insurance coverage!

*More than 4100 churches participate in the program insuring more than $14 billion dollars in property value. A board of 20 directors governs IB and is comprised of United Church of Christ Conference Ministers, Disciples of Christ Regional Ministers, Presbyterian Church (USA), Alliance of Baptists executives, and lay leaders with experience relevant to our mission. We are a Recognized Ministry Partner of the Disciples of Chris t (Christian Church). We are recognized by the Presbyterian Mission Agency as one of only three insurance companies that meets their guidelines for their churches. We are endorsed by Alliance of Baptists, and we are a recognized financial ministry of the United Church of Christ.*

*Our insurance serves you so you can serve God.*

 *Serve God* 

Linda Senez, CPCU

Insurance Board Representative

410-409-5154 Cell / 443-345-1055 Office

InsuranceBoard@senezins.com

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_