



Florida-Bahamas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.
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2016 Disaster Response

The Office of the Bishop has responsibility to shepherd and resource rostered leaders and congregations in times of disaster. The Bishop administers the response through Michele Hilton, Assistant to the Bishop for Administration.

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) works with the Office of the Bishop and the Florida-Bahamas Synod in times of disaster. To coordinate an assessment of the needs of affected congregations and communities. The Bishop may appoint others to assist with this assessment and care plan. The Florida-Bahamas Synod and the Office of the Bishop will work with ecumenical disaster response groups.

DISASTER RESPONSE PROCEDURES

1. Deans and Conference Contact Persons, please contact Ms. Michele Hilton, at 941.373.5596 or by e-mail at MicheleH@fbsynod.org and provide information about needs, updating information at least daily.
2. Michele will advise the bishop, deployed staff, Lutheran Disaster Response, and Lutheran Services of Florida of all updates.
4. The Bishop, staff, deans, or designated synodical representatives will visit the affected areas as soon as practical.
5. Ms. Hilton will be in conversation with the bishop, deployed staff, and deans about needs and the most helpful ways to shepherd and resource rostered leaders and congregations.
6. The deans and contact persons in affected areas should continue to provide regular updates to Ms. Hilton at MicheleH@fbsynod.org or at 941.373.5596.
7. Ms. Hilton will coordinate with LDR and LSF to identify the most appropriate responses and responsibilities.
8. Volunteers will be coordinated by the Office of the Bishop.
9. Financial contributions may be made:
 - a) To the Florida-Bahamas Synod Disaster Response fund, specifically designating "Disaster Response"
 - b) To LDR by mail to the address below,

Lutheran Domestic Disaster Response
P.O. Box #71764
Chicago, IL 60694-7164 or
 - c) through secure credit card transaction contributions at ELCA's web site at www.elca.org/disaster.

Back-Up Plan

If a disaster strikes a widespread area, Ms. Hilton will coordinate efforts of deployed staff, deans, chairs and other key lay and rostered leaders to implement additional portions of the above plan. Updates about needs should be provided daily to Ms. Hilton's mobile phone at 941.373.5596, or by e-mail at MicheleH@fbsynod.org