

Hurricane Florence: Helping with the Long-Term Recovery

Presbyterian News Service



Members of the Coast Guard helping people evacuate from flooded homes following Hurricane Florence in South Carolina. — Coast Guard photo by Chief Petty Officer Stephen Kelly

[Presbyterian Disaster Assistance \(PDA\)](#) urges your support for those affected by Hurricane Florence. PDA is delivering immediate aid to those impacted by Hurricane Florence on the eastern seaboard of the United States. Initial assessments suggest catastrophic destruction, but the full scope of the damage will not be known for many months.

The storm's path is cutting across areas still recovering from Hurricane Matthew (2016). While these winds and waters have meant loss and destruction, the work of PDA might become, as the Psalmist says, "a river whose streams make glad the city of God."

PDA is deploying teams to affected presbyteries to meet with Presbyterian and community leadership to assist in coordinating relief efforts and mucking out homes and churches. After initial needs are addressed, PDA will remain—providing spiritual emotional care and Long Term Recovery to address unmet needs of those impacted. Through your prayerful gifts we draw hope out of the chaos.

The needs for the response will be great. God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP"—Give. Act. Pray.

GIVE: Donations can be made through your local congregation (by marking "Hurricane Relief" in the memo line). Or, if you prefer to mail a check (please designate Disaster Relief—U.S. Hurricane Response, [DR000194](#)), you may send it to:

**Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700**

You may also call Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EDT), at 1-800-872-3283 and donate by phone.

ACT: Learn how you and your congregation can help families who have lost everything in the devastation. Stay informed and share updates with your congregation.

PRAY: We are thankful for the grace of days of preparation that in the face of the storm kept many out of harm's way and lessened the effects of wind and water on others. At the same time, we open ourselves to those for whom this storm was not a near miss: communities deeply affected, some still struggling to recover from Hurricane Matthew, whose livelihood, homes and stability have been destroyed. Amen. *(Excerpt from a prayer by Rev. Dr. Laurie Ann Kraus, PDA Director)*