

***St. Philip's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 10476
Southport, North Carolina 28461
(910) 457-5643***

September 1, 2009

Dear St.Philip's family,

The 2009 Hurricane Season is upon us. It has been quite awhile since this area has experienced a major hurricane and we may have become somewhat complacent in making vital preparations for a major storm hitting our area. It is not too late to either review hurricane preparedness plans or to generate a plan if one does not already exist.

We recognize this would best be circulated during the spring, rather than when the season is upon us, but we hope it will still be helpful now. We expect to develop a more timely approach for next year !

While the members of our congregation care deeply for each other, we must all assume the responsibility to take care of ourselves and our loved ones first. With this in mind, and recognizing that St.Philip's is not equipped to serve as first responder, we are providing a suggested guide to assist in your preparations to respond safely and effectively should we be faced with a major storm that could become life-threatening.

Please take a moment to review the items below and circle either "Y" or "N" to determine the extent of your preparations to safely survive a weather emergency.

- I have an emergency evacuation plan. (Y/N)
- I have local points of contact, or nearby relatives who will assist me, if needed.
(Y/N)
- (If you have a pet) I have evacuation plans for my pet. (Y/N)
- I am eligible for Brunswick County Emergency Assistance. (Y/N).
- If eligible, I am registered with Brunswick County for emergency assistance
(Y/N).
- I know my evacuation destination (Y/N)
- I have the following items ready for evacuation:
 - Clothes (Y/N)

- Personal documents, e.g. passport, description of current medications, banking data including ATM card, Social Security card, key to house, points of contact, etc. (Y/N)
- A note to gas-up the car, obtain a supply of important prescriptions, some cash in case ATMs are out of order. (Y/N)
- My property is ready for high winds (Y/N)
 - I have plans for protecting my windows/doors (Y/N)
 - I have secured loose items in my yard (Y/N)
 - I have family or a neighbor/"buddy" nearby who can help me with the above items in plenty of time before a storm approaches (Y/N)
- If I do not have to evacuate but decide to remain in place, I have a contingency plan for loss of water, sewer, electrical power, telephone service, and trash removal (Y/N)
 - I have a supply of food on hand that does not require refrigeration or heating (Y/N)
 - I have a supply of drinking water on hand (Y/N)
 - I have a battery operated or hand-cranked radio (Y/N)
 - I have a weather radio (Y/N)
 - I am sufficiently healthy to withstand high heat and humidity for an extended period of time (Y/N)

If, after you have completed this broad survey, you have some items circled "No" then you need to do something positive to change that item to "Yes".

Attached is a list of selected websites and community phone numbers related to hurricane preparedness and hurricane survival.

Please note particularly that if you or a family member living in Brunswick County has special medical or special assistance needs for evacuation during a major storm, you can register in advance with the County. After registering, a County representative will offer to make a personal visit to discuss the assistance you may need.. Again, this is advance planning for those needing support. Please see Attachment for registering details.

If you are uncertain how to complete your planning, St.Philip's has a wealth of talent that can possibly assist you while there is still time to complete your preparations. If you

need help, please contact Loraine Armstrong or Bill Zell, our Pastoral Care Vestry members, and they will attempt to arrange for assistance, including coordinating with The Odd Jobbers ministry of St.Philip's.

Please remember we cannot wait until the last minute to ensure the personal safety and well being of ourselves and those we love. Thank you, and God bless you.

Loraine Armstrong
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e-mail: wala@atmc.net

Bill Zell
457-9032
e-mail: bandtzell@ec.rr.com

P.S. PLEASE SEE LIST OF COMMUNITY CONTACT POINTS ATTACHED.

Hurricane Preparedness – selected community websites and phone numbers

IN PERSONAL EMERGENCY CALL 911

www.brunswickcountync.gov/hurricane

checklist for hurricane preparedness, hurricane survival, evacuation routes, pet evacuation, etc. or

www.emergencyservices.brunsko.net

Brunswick County Emergency Services 910-253-4376 (regular office number)

Any citizen of Brunswick County who has special medical/evacuation needs can register in advance to receive special assistance during a national disaster. Completion of a confidential form will be required.

The form can also be obtained via website.... www.brunsko.net click on left hand column, “Do you have a special medical need” to print the form and return to Brunswick County.

Brunswick County Emergency Services Hotline: (emergency info, shelter info, local road conditions during a hurricane, etc.)

253-5383 or 1/800-522-2366

Brunswick Public Utilities (water/sewer) 253-2655 or 1-888-428-4426

Brunswick Electric: outages 1-800-682-5309; back-up number 1-800-842-5871

National Hurricane Center: www.nhc.noaa.gov

National Weather Service: www.weather.gov

NOAA at Wilmington: www.erh.noaa.gov/ilm

Local radio stations:

106.3 FM; 93.7 FM 91.3 FM 98.0 AM

Emergency Alert Radio Systems (weather radio)

WMNX 97.3 FM WKOO 98.7 FM

www.ncsmartlink.org ... North Carolina road conditions including I-40 road reversal, evacuation routes, etc. For local road conditions during a hurricane, see Emergency Services Hotline above.

Pet Shelters: Contact Brunswick County Animal Services 754-8204 (first come/first served) or if evacuating check dog friendly hotel websites: www.dogfriendly.com

And www.tripswithpets.com

