

## The P.A.I.I.R. Method

The following is offered as an easy-to-remember tool in organizing a program of disaster preparation, mitigation, and response.

**P**reparation: Use the time available to organize committees and calling trees, develop current information databases, and evaluate the physical plant of the church for disaster survival. Identify and train CDRCs and other individuals with skills and credentials essential to mitigation for and recovery from disasters.

**A**lert: When news of a possible disaster is received, have the CDRC alert the staff and membership of the church through calling trees or other means. Back up all computer records and store in a safe location. Ideally, e-mail them to a secure location at least 50 miles away (the presbytery office, for example). Secure all storm doors, windows, etc.

**I**nform: Following the event, and when personal and family safety is determined, determine the nature and scope of the disaster. Communicate with church staff and membership to begin assessing needs. Communicate with the other CDRCs for your area.

**I**nstruct: Distribute information as to the location and status of shelters, points of distribution, etc. Inform the congregation as to the status of the church and when a service of worship will be held. Coordinate with Emergency Responders as to areas of danger that should be avoided. Direct people to listen to their radios for official information.

**R**ecover: As Emergency Responders finish their work, help with the formation of a VOAD if there is not one already at work. Pay special attention to special needs individuals and families (e.g. the elderly, poor, chronically ill, those with small children, etc.).

This information is taken from PDA materials