



Committee on Relief

Western North Carolina Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

RESPONDING TO NATURAL DISASTERS DURING COVID-19

Responding to a natural disaster in unprecedented times of COVID-19 can make the process more complicated. John Wesley's simple rules are "Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God." As we seek to do good, let us not also harm. We can not have an adequate response if we are putting ourselves or those we are helping at risk. As we listen to our neighbors and lend a helping hand, we must make sure we adhere to the following guidelines.

GUIDELINES:

- Do not leave your house if you are experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in contact with anyone with symptoms.
- Be familiar with and comply to all local ordinances in your community-area.
- Communicate with homeowners (by phone or text) to discuss the health of everyone inside the home before you interact with them in person.
- Volunteers must follow social distancing guidelines at all times.
- Response teams need to be smaller than 10 people.
- Volunteers must wear a face mask of some sort at all times such as: homemade, bandana, dust mask, etc. (N-95 masks should be donated to healthcare workers)