

Hurricane Laura Update



Friends,

I have an update on our church after Hurricane Laura.

- Roof damage over the Children's wing left a 4x10 foot hole that allowed water in for several days.
- The hurricane lifted the roof in several places over the Children's wing and Administrative wing, which allowed water to penetrate the walls and seep down to the floors.
- Roof damage over the Sanctuary cause water damage (much less than other areas) in the sanctuary, particularly in the balcony and the wall behind the organ.

- The Children's wing received sufficient damage that must be gutted and rebuilt.
- Portions of the Administrative wing require the removal of a few walls, and some walls only sheetrock removed 4ft and below. All of the flooring will need to be removed.
- The asbestos slate roof over the sanctuary needs to be completely removed and replaced.
- Mitigation work began fairly early, as we have hired BALES ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP to oversee the work.
- The Mustard Seed and LoveJoy buildings received minimal, if any damage.
- The Family Life Center has not been thoroughly evaluated, but does not appear to have sustained significant damage. The roof did receive some, though we've not found water inside.
- The parsonages received no significant damage.
- The two houses behind the church received minimal, if any damage.

WHAT THIS MEANS:

Sadly, we should expect to be out of the Sanctuary, Administrative wing (including Sunday school rooms upstairs and offices downstairs), and the Children's Wing 6-8 months!!

We hope to have in-person worship in the Family Life Center beginning the First Weekend of October. We are scouring the community for a place to meet outdoors for a 30 min. service each Sunday (about 8 a.m. before it's hot) until then. ANY SUGGESTIONS? We cannot use the parking lot at the school next to the church.

God has been and continues to be worthy of praise and celebration. Donations specific for relief are coming in. If you give regularly to our church budget, PLEASE CONTINUE to do so. We still have many of our usual expenses and staff who continue to work.

AND, we are living our faith OUT LOUD by serving our neighbors. We WILL get through this, and what's more, we will continue to bless others because God has blessed us!
I look forward to being with you ALL~

Pastor Juliet

225-281-0737 if you need to reach me.