

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church

Weather Policy

1. **Tornado Watch** – a tornado watch is issued when conditions are right for the development of tornadoes. If, one hour prior to the start of a church event, a tornado watch is in effect during the time of the scheduled church event, that event will be canceled. If a church event is currently underway when a tornado watch is issued, the event will continue. The weather will be monitored for further developments using the weather radio, television and Internet.

2. **Tornado Warning** – a tornado warning is issued when a tornado is sighted, either visually or by radar. Any church events currently underway when a tornado warning is issued will be immediately canceled and all in attendance will go to the church basement to seek shelter. All church events scheduled to begin during a tornado warning will be canceled. Further developments will be monitored using the weather radio, television and Internet. Attendees will remain in church until the storm has passed.

3. **Thunderstorm Watch** – a thunderstorm watch is issued when conditions are right for the development of severe thunderstorms capable of producing large hail, damaging winds and occasional tornadoes. The issuance of a thunderstorm watch will not affect any church events which are scheduled or currently underway. Further weather developments will be monitored using the weather radio, TV and Internet.

4. **Thunderstorm Warning** - A severe thunderstorm warning is issued when trained storm spotters or a Doppler weather radar indicate a strong thunderstorm is producing dangerously large hail or high winds, capable of causing significant damage.
 - a. If a thunderstorm warning is issued during a church event, the event will continue and weather developments will be monitored using the weather radio, TV and Internet. If it appears that a strong storm may impact the East Muskegon area, the event will be moved to the church basement if possible. Attendees will remain in church until the storm has passed.

 - b. If a thunderstorm warning is issued for our area within one (1) hour of the start of a church event, attendees are urged to use the information on the storm's path and their discretion on whether it is safe to travel to church.

5. **Other occasions** – Cancellation of church services for other related weather reasons (snow, flash flood warnings, power outages, etc.) be the responsibility of the Executive Committee, which will reach these decisions by consensus on a case by case basis. Cancellation of other church activities will be the responsibility of that group's leader(s).

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6. In the event of any cancellations, the clerk (assistant clerk) will contact WZZM TV-13 (616) 785-1313 and WOOD TV-8 (616) 771-9633 to publicize the cancellations. If time does not permit at least a 2-hour broadcast via the local media, district elders and deacons will be asked to call the members in their district to inform them of the cancellation.