

# Our Life Together Is a Life for Others

November 26, 2017

Wonderful Mercy Church



# **Our Life Together Is To Be A Life For Others**

- Most churches are essentially churches for us, organized with our comfort, preferences, and perspectives in mind
- What if our thinking and doing in our life together were first informed by deep compassion for those who are lost in the seductive embrace of a world that promises everything but delivers so little?



# What Makes a Church Great?

- 1 Corinthians 12:31b AMP

“And yet I will show you a still more excellent way, one that is better by far and the highest of them all—love.”

- Love. That’s what makes a church great, and its overflow is what makes a church great for its community





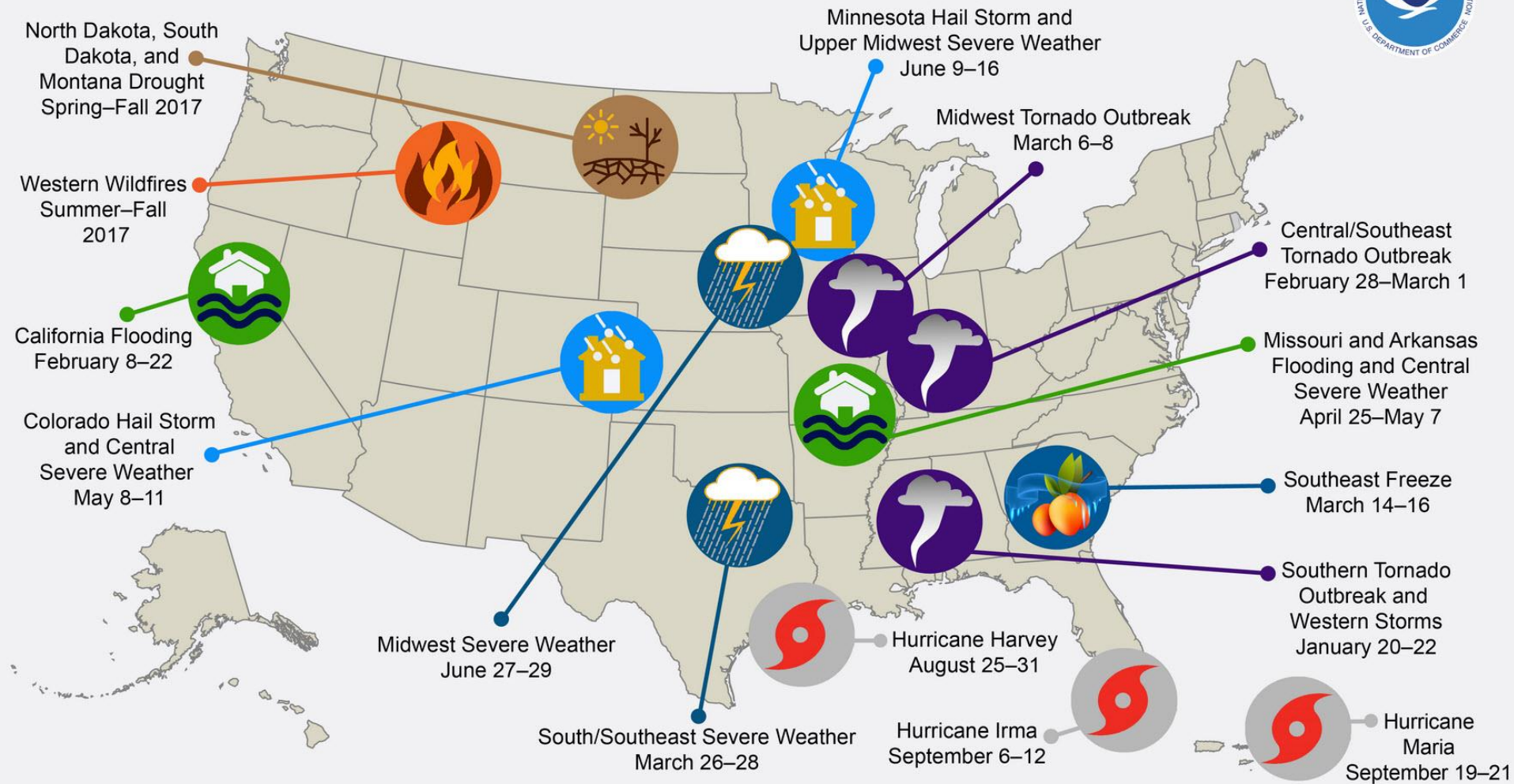
“I’m quite sure there will be another pandemic.” — Wendy Barclay, chair in influenza virology at Imperial College, London

[\[http://www.cnn.com/2017/04/03/health/pandemic-risk-virus-bacteria/index.html\]](http://www.cnn.com/2017/04/03/health/pandemic-risk-virus-bacteria/index.html)





# U.S. 2017 Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters



*This map denotes the approximate location for each of the 15 billion-dollar weather and climate disasters that have impacted the United States January through September of 2017, a record pace.*







# **Pandemics and Terrorism and Natural Disasters**

- Jesus' prophetic voice indicates things are going to get tougher for us and more troubled for the world
- Our intimacy with Father as daughters and sons and the authenticity of our life together really is an expression of our life for others. Who else are they going to turn to when the worst comes?



# Closer to Home: Here & Now

- Patterson Elementary is the long game
- We've not seen much in terms of results but it's the field God has given us—we love that field and we're going to work it joyfully, faithfully





# Midweek Advent Services

- December 13 & 20 Advent services will be for the Patterson families
- Half hour services at 7:00 p.m. in the Prayer Garden with cookies, carols, and a story
- December 13 will be dog-friendly...bring your pup!
- December 20 will feature pics with Santa



# **Our Life Together Is A Life For Others**

- When God builds His church He doesn't build it for us. He builds it for the people He misses the most
- Jesus wants to raise up a church that rises to the occasion of God's heart for the world



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