



## PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

Revised 2019-12-05

# Winter Haven, FL RV

HURRICANE IRMA — 2017

### LOCATION

Winter Haven is located in central Florida, about an hour away from both Orlando and Tampa. The town has a population of approximately 70,000 people, and the temperature is typically between the low 70s and low 90s.

Winter Haven is known as the Chain of Lakes City, with 50 lakes inside the city limits. Legoland Florida opened in Winter Haven in 2011. Before becoming Legoland, the site was a botanical garden and theme park called Cypress Gardens, which operated from 1936 to 2009.

### DISASTER

Hurricane Irma was the strongest observed hurricane in the Atlantic since Wilma in 2005 in terms of maximum sustained winds. Throughout its long lifetime Irma caused major damage in the Caribbean and the Florida Keys. Irma first made landfall in Florida as a category 4 hurricane and then a second time as a category 3 hurricane.

### MDS RESPONSE

MDS volunteers will be staying at St. Johns United Methodist Church. Water and electric hookups will be available at each RV site.

Volunteers will primarily be focusing on interior repair work.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Physical & Mailing Address

St. Johns United Methodist Church  
1800 Cypress Gardens Blvd.  
Winter Haven, FL 33884

#### Telephone

(717) 682-6842 (Office Manager)  
(717) 413-5471 (Project Director)

#### Email

winterhavenrv@mds.mennonite.net

### DIRECTIONS

Use GPS to direct you to the project site. The church is located along a major road.