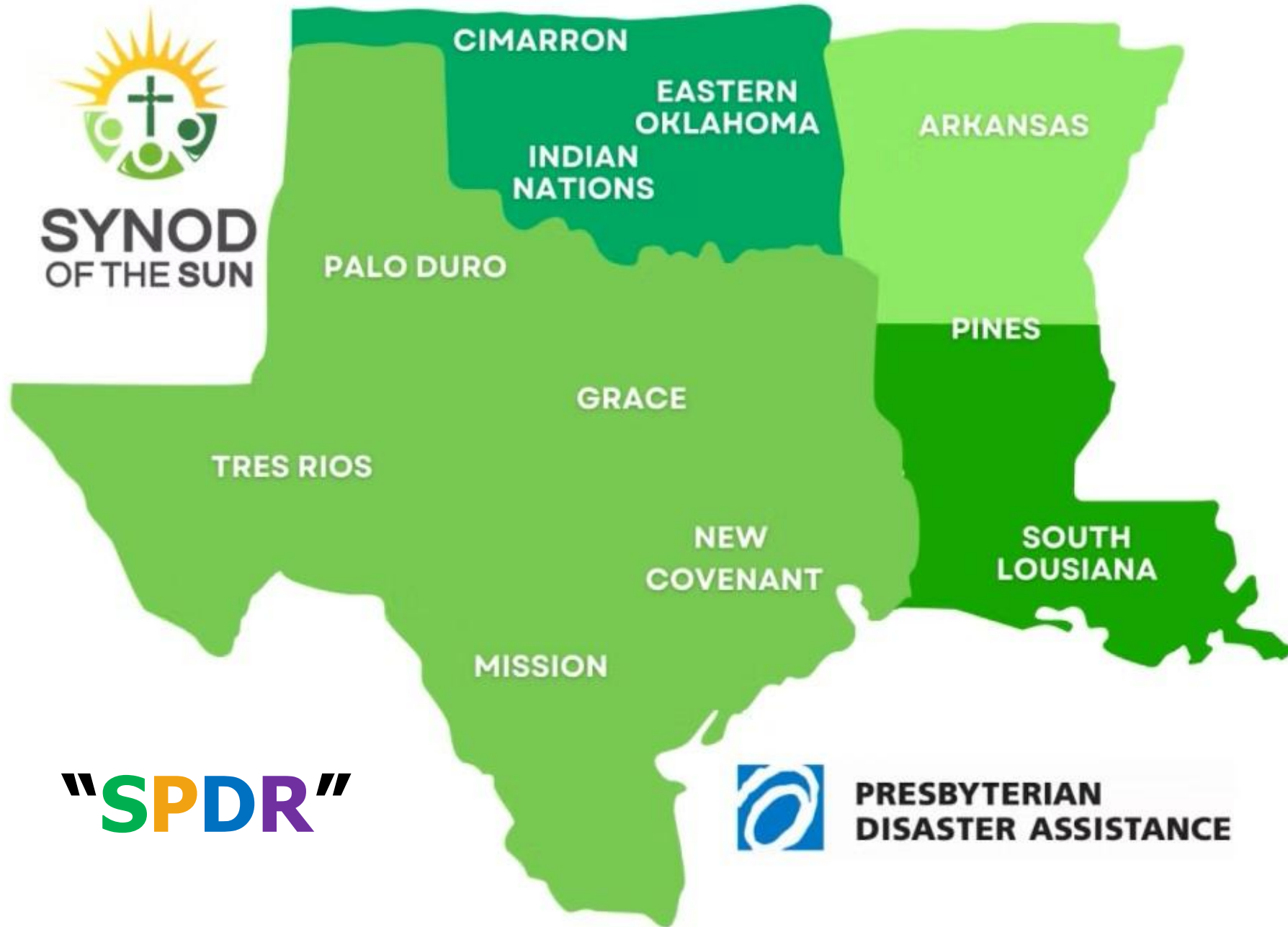




**SYNOD
OF THE SUN**



"SPDR"



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

Synod Partnership for Disaster Recovery

Libby Janes

Director of the Synod of the Sun
Partnership for Disaster Recovery

Grew up Presbyterian, lots of youth ministry!

Bachelor of Arts, Austin College, Class of 2015

Master of Social Work, Texas Tech
University, Class of 2018

Master of Divinity, Austin Presbyterian
Theological Seminary, Class of 2026

**My husband, Jesse, and I were volunteer youth directors
at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lubbock
from 2015-2019!**

Now combining **Social Work & Ministry**
in Disaster Recovery work
for the Synod of the Sun

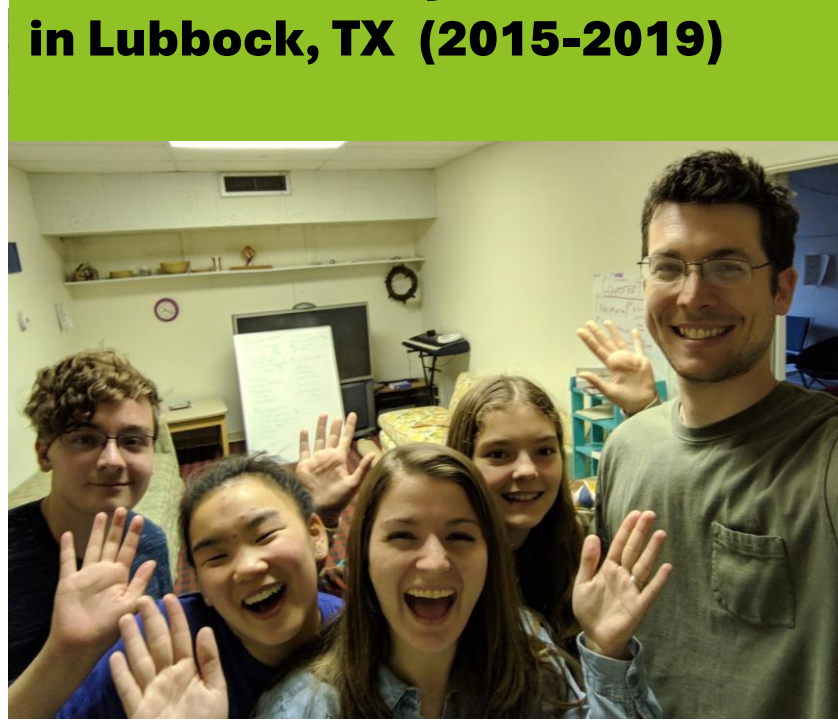


**SYNOD
OF THE SUN**





**Libby & Jesse's
Ministry in Palo Duro Presbytery
Covenant Presbyterian Church
in Lubbock, TX (2015-2019)**





I used to lead Palo Duro Presbytery Youth with ACTivators at WARP'D in 2017 & 2018!

**Next summer,
I'll be the Keynoter
for Synod Youth
Workshop 2027
at the University of
Tulsa!**

**Hope to see lots of
Palo Duro Youth
there!!**



Working for the Synod of the ~~Sun~~... Fun!



What is a synod?

Congregation

(We are currently in the First Presbyterian Church of Plainview)



Presbytery

(Palo Duro Presbytery)



Synod

(11 Presbyteries: all of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas)



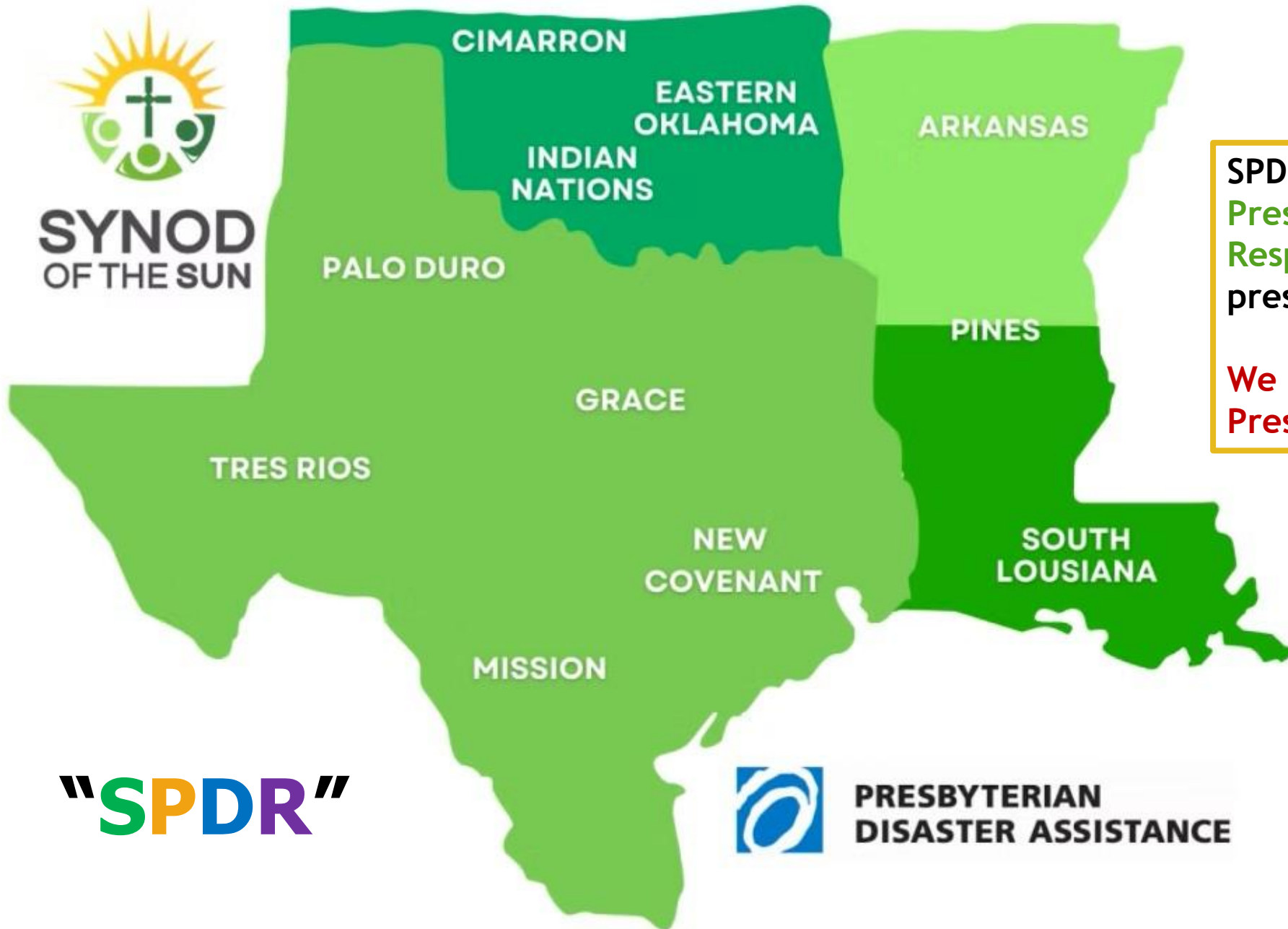
Presbyterian Church (USA) National Denomination

(16 synods, 166 presbyteries)

From Greek, πρεσβύτερος
We are *Presbyterian*!



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SPDR is building
Presbytery Disaster
Response Teams in every
presbytery -

We need a Palo Duro
Presbytery Team!

"SPDR"



PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Synod Partnership for Disaster Recovery

Disasters Our Synod May Prepare For, or Respond to:

- ▶ Medical: CPR/AED/Medical
- ▶ Active shooters
- ▶ Damage not covered by insurance, or uninsured facilities
- ▶ Overwhelmed food ministries
- ▶ Emotional & spiritual trauma following a disaster
- ▶ Ministries overwhelmed trying to meet humanitarian needs resulting from public policies
- ▶ Wildfires or church fires
- ▶ Tornadoes
- ▶ Freezes and winter storms
- ▶ Heat waves & drought
- ▶ Floods
- ▶ Hurricanes
- ▶ What else?



**Has your church experienced any of these disasters?
How did you prepare?
How did you respond?**

Disaster Spiritual & Emotional Care Needs

SPDR can also help resource your church with:

- ❖ Resources for preparing prayers & liturgy after disasters for worship, vigils, or remembrance events
- ❖ Receiving emotional-spiritual care programs to cope with grief & trauma
- ❖ Pastoral & caregiver support resources
- ❖ A network of chaplains & pastors, from around the synod, willing to listen & support you & your congregation



Art by Miriam Payton

Disaster Phases

Does your church
have a weather radio?
See Libby for a discount!



Relationship Building
Updating Contact Information
Planning
Delegating
Assessing resources
Training
Organizing
Stocking emergency supplies

What else?

Preparation

Relief

Recovery

Does your church have a written disaster plan?

(Ask Libby for the **NEW** Adaptable Church Disaster Plan Template!)



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A Disaster Happens.

Perhaps suddenly? Perhaps with warning?

What are examples of disasters with no advance notice?

What are examples of disasters with warning time? How long?

Disaster Phases

Connect with local emergency managers for relief resources

Mobilize church and presbytery disaster teams to make calls and assess what happened and what help is needed.

Call vulnerable church members to check on them.

Contact SPDR and your presbytery to report what happened.
What **needs** are known?
What **ministries and resources** are mobilizing?

Take **photos** of damage and take steps for insurance/FEMA/local relief assistance



Preparation
Relief
Recovery

Why should my church call SPDR?
SPDR can connect your presbytery with initial relief or church damage grant assistance!

“Hi FPC! I’ve heard there’s been a disaster. How have you been impacted?”

- ❑ A call to provide a **ministry of presence** & listening
- ❑ Can help lift up your needs to the **presbytery** and **SPDR** for additional resources & assistance
- ❑ Connect about local news and **Emergency Manager FB posts** for **disaster assistance centers** so you can share these updates with your congregation



If a disaster happens
in your community,
please call me!

(972)741-5777

Disaster Phases

Supporting your local community
recovery efforts over months or years

Long-Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs)
organizing to rebuild and meet unmet
needs

Spiritual and emotional recovery

Preparation Relief Recovery

Recovery involves the long-term process of
restoring a community, following a disaster.

You are not alone.

**Our Synod of the Sun Partnership for
Disaster Recovery
will walk alongside you!**



Presbytery of New Covenant's Disaster Team

The disaster team's purpose is to connect and resource all churches in Palo Duro Presbytery for:

- disaster preparation
- disaster response
- disaster recovery

Building our Disaster Team can bring
Synod, **Presbytery**, & **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** resources
straight to your congregation!



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

- ▶ SPDR can help a **Presbytery** apply for a **PDA grant** to support disaster recovery.
 - ▶ **Initial Assistance Grant:** up to \$7,500 for immediate assistance
 - ▶ **National Recovery Grant:** support long-term recovery initiatives which may help with rebuilding or other gradual steps to restoring a community
 - ▶ **Church Damage Grant:** up to \$5,000 to support church building repairs after disasters
 - ▶ **Faith Leader Resilience Support Grant:** up to \$1,000, for up to 5 people per presbytery per disaster to support faith leaders in finding renewal and foster resilience (note: Board of Pensions also has a similar relief program)
- ▶ PDA may deploy specialized **National Recovery Team** leaders to support recovery work, as particular needs arise.
- ▶ PDA offers **Emotional & Spiritual Care** workshops and resiliency trainings.



2025 DISASTER GRANTS



\$78,000 Long Term Recovery Grants



\$15,000 Church Damage Grants



\$67,500 Initial Response Grants

\$160,500 TOTAL GRANTS

Awarded by
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
& the Synod of the Sun



SPDR Disaster Trainings

Trainings & education for **specific hazard types**

CPR/AED certification programs for church members

ALICE or PDA-based **Active Shooter Trainings** for Congregations

Church Emergency Plan Resource & Elder Training Workshops

Tabletop Exercises, in case of disaster

American Red Cross warming and cooling shelters

Theological/Worship liturgy support for times of crisis or disaster anniversaries

Emotional Spiritual Care programs through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Long-term recovery group (LTRG) development support



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South Texas Flood Relief

► Donate Today!

- **FPC Uvalde:** contact Laura Dabney, stated clerk (830)278-8153
- **FPC Kerrville:** online at <https://www.fpckerrville.org/give>

► Take your church on a Disaster Recovery trip. Volunteers are needed to help with debris clearing in Kerrville.

- Stay at Mo-Ranch & serve in Kerrville!

► Pray for Uvalde, Kerrville, & other affected South Texas communities, continuing recovery from past tragedies & now enduring the challenges of this flood recovery.



SCARS REMAIN, HEALING BEGINS
Flood anniversary a reflection of recovery, resilience.



**Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly
is hosting relief groups for flood
recovery to be deployed
throughout Kerr County.**



**For more information, contact
Lisa Winters via email.**

**lwinters@moranch.com
Subject Line: Volunteer Interest**

Join the Palo Duro Presbytery Disaster Response Team today!

Calling all active or
retired military, teachers,
first responders, and
social workers!

We want the church person
who is always calling to
check on their neighbors!

Come see Libby Janes
to sign up today!



We are inviting
the person at church
who takes good care
of the building!

We are calling anyone
who misses going on
church service trips
to respond to
disasters!

All ages & abilities
welcome!