

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 13, 2017 Contact: Mark Cobia Manager of Marketing and Communications 386.668.4774 mark.cobia@fumch.org

## Florida United Methodist Children's Home Cleans Up After Hurricane Irma

**Enterprise, FL** – The Florida United Methodist Children's Home evacuated the children in residence at the Enterprise campus, prior to the arrival of the storm. The Methodist Children's Home of South Georgia opened their doors to our children and staff, and provided a safe and supportive environment for the duration of the hurricane. As of yesterday, all of the children and staff have returned. The Madison Youth Ranch was not evacuated.

The Enterprise campus suffered minor damage and had power mostly restored by Tuesday, September 12. Clean up is in progress at this time. The Madison Youth Ranch lost a couple of large trees, but suffered no damage to campus buildings. Power has been fully restored to the Madison Youth Ranch. All foster care families that are served by the Children's Home have been accounted for and are unharmed.

Hurricane Irma marks the first time that the Enterprise campus has ever been evacuated. Thanks to detailed advanced disaster planning and regular rehearsals, the campus evacuation was executed according to plan and without incident.

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For more information about the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, please contact Mark Cobia, Manager of Marketing and Communications at 386.668.4774 or <a href="mark.cobia@fumch.org">mark.cobia@fumch.org</a>.

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home was established in 1908 in Enterprise, Florida on the banks of Lake Monroe. The Children's Home provides services to families and children from childhood to adulthood. Our Residential Care Program provides school-aged children who have been victimized by abuse, abandonment, or neglect with a family-style home environment cared for by loving houseparents, and includes education, counseling, recreation, and ministry opportunities. The Children's Home also provides Foster Care, an Emergency Shelter, an Independent Living Program and early childhood education to the community, and is supported primarily through the generosity of churches with the United Methodist Florida Conference, individuals, and legacy gifts. For more information, visit www.fumch.org.