

Emergency Preparedness

Description

Equips individuals, churches and communities to be ready for natural disasters, crises, and urgent needs in order to help others in times of need.

Annotated Books & Readings

Sipes, B. (2014). Disaster ministry handbook. IVP Academic.

Practical guide for congregations to prepare, respond, and recover faithfully.

URL: <https://www.ivpress.com/disaster-ministry-handbook>

FEMA. (2025). Developing and maintaining emergency operations plans (Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101, Version 3.1).

Gold-standard template for local organizational emergency plans.

URL:

https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_npd_developing-and-maintaining-emergency_052125.pdf

Aten, J. D. (2019). A walking disaster: What surviving Katrina and cancer taught me about faith and resilience. Templeton Press.

Reflections on faith, trauma, and resilience with lessons for churches.

URL:

<https://www.rutgersuniversitypress.org/templeton-press/a-walking-disaster/9781599475752/>

Movies / Documentaries

Fire in Paradise (2018, PBS Frontline).

Examines California wildfires and emergency response; prompts reflection on disaster readiness.

URL: <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/fire-in-paradise/>

Storm That Drowned a City (2005, PBS NOVA).

Explores Hurricane Katrina's impact; helpful for discussing resilience and preparedness in faith communities.

URL: <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/video/storm-that-drowned-a-city/>

Best Practices / Toolkits

• FEMA: Faith-Based and Volunteer Partnership Resources

URL: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/individuals-communities/faith-volunteer>

- National Child Traumatic Stress Network: Psychological First Aid (PFA) and SPR
URL:
<https://www.nctsn.org/treatments-and-practices/psychological-first-aid-and-skills-for-psychological-recovery>
- Ready.gov: Build an Emergency Supply Kit
URL: <https://www.ready.gov/kit>
- Red Cross: Disaster Training
URL:
https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/disaster-training?srsltid=AfmBOoqvR2jNdp3iLK4_jGJDUKanQhW7yPyMhUbEcMo6tljN6xAX8rt7
- Red Cross: Ready Rating (Preparedness self-assessment)
URL: <https://www.readyrating.org>

Nazarene Resources

- Nazarene Disaster Response (NDR)
URL: <https://www.usacanadaregion.org/compassionate-ministries/nazarene-disaster-response>

Regional Resources (New England)

- Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
URL: <https://www.mass.gov/mema>
- Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA)
URL: <https://riema.ri.gov>
- Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)
URL: <https://portal.ct.gov/demhs>
- NH Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEM)
URL: <https://www.hsem.dos.nh.gov/>
- Vermont Emergency Management (VEM)
URL: <https://vem.vermont.gov>

National / Equity & Justice Resources

- National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)
URL: <https://www.nvoad.org>
- Advocates for Disaster Justice
URL: <https://www.advocatesfordisasterjustice.org/>