Hi All,

For many Episcopalians, the summer months can be tinged with anxiety. Different regions of the country are facing elevated risks for wildfires, hurricanes, floods, drought and other severe weather. In short, it's disaster season.

Fortunately, Episcopalians across the country are joining forces with their local governments and other organizations to increase their capacity to respond to disasters. In June, church leaders in the Pacific Northwest participated in Cascadia Rising, an exercise to prepare for a major earthquake along the Cascadia Subduction Zone, and this fall diocesan disaster coordinators are planning to participate in The Great California Shake Out and national PrepareAthon.

You can get involved too! By building relationships with your local first responders, doing congregational disaster planning and participating in preparedness events, you can help reduce your risk for disasters. We hope that you will consider taking part!

In Peace,

Katie, Lura, Sara and Tamara
West Virginia

Last month, severe flooding in West Virginia killed 24 people, damaged more than 1,200 homes and left more than 18,000 without power across the state. Episcopal Relief & Development is supporting the Diocese of West Virginia as they respond to needs in the community through temporary housing assistance and gift card ministries for those impacted.

Liturgy After Violence

In May 2014, seven young adults were killed during a shooting near the campus of the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB). Several months later, St. Michael's University Church in nearby Isla Vista held a healing service for those affected by the violence. The effects of trauma after an act of violence remain long after the event, and it is important for communities and individuals to process and mourn the event at their own pace. In our latest Resource Library piece, The Rev. Julie Morris shares her experiences creating a service of lamentation several months after the shootings.

Wildfire Webinar

Are you interested in hearing more about what you can do to prepare for wildfire season? Join us on July 14th for a webinar and discussion! For more information, contact Lura Steele.

Episcopal Asset Map Survey

Big things are happening on the Episcopal Asset
Currently, 96 of the 99 United States dioceses have signed on to the mapping project. We have transitioned to a new developer and are working on ways for the map to better meet the needs of users.

As part of this effort, we are collecting feedback about the Asset Map. Our short survey is available [here](#). We would love to hear about your mapping experiences!

**Resources for Disaster Preparedness and Response:**

Visit Episcopal Relief & Development’s online [Resource Library](#) for numerous case studies and best practices in disaster response at the diocesan and congregational level.

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