Southwest California Synod Disaster Relief Ministry



ARE YOU EL NIÑO READY?

El Niño can contribute to intense winter weather and periods of heavy rain. Every El Niño is different, so now is a good time to prepare your household, vehicle, and congregation for winter storms.

PREPARE • STAY INFORMED • CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBORS

LIVE NEAR A RECENT BURN AREA?

Heavy rain can create an increased risk of flash flooding, mudslides, and debris flows in and around wildfire burn areas.

Pay close attention to weather forecasts and local emergency alerts. Be prepared to leave if an evacuation warning or order is issued.

Never drive or walk through floodwater.

LEARN MORE & GET PREPARED

- ✓ **NOAA:** Understanding El Niño
- ✓ **Ready.gov:** Preparedness for households, vehicles, kids & older adults
- ✓ **Local Public Works:** Flood preparation & sandbag locations

3 THINGS YOU CAN DO TODAY

SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

Emergency alerts provide information about severe weather, flooding, evacuation warnings, road conditions, and other hazards.

Los Angeles County: Alert LA County
City of Los Angeles: NotifyLA
Ventura County: VC Alert
Santa Barbara County: ReadySBC

Not sure which system serves your community? Visit **CalAlerts.org** to find your local emergency alert system.

CALL 211 FOR LOCAL HELP

Dial 211 to connect with local community and emergency-preparedness resources, including information about services available in your area.

Resources vary by location, so 211 can help you find local sandbag locations, preparedness assistance, and other community services.

PREPARE BEFORE THE RAIN

- Clear gutters and drains and check for leaks.
- Know your risk for flooding, mudslides, or debris flows.
- Find your nearest sandbag location before a storm.
- Prepare an emergency kit with food, water, medications, flashlights, and essentials.
- Charge phones and backup batteries.
- Make a plan for pets and anyone who may need extra assistance.
- Avoid unnecessary travel during severe weather.

OLDER ADULTS & NEIGHBORS WHO MAY NEED HELP

- ✓ Check in with older adults, homebound neighbors, people with disabilities, and others who may need assistance preparing for a storm.
- ✓ Older adults are encouraged to keep medications, important documents, emergency contacts, and necessary medical or mobility supplies easy to access.
- ✓ In Los Angeles County: Eligible homebound adults age 65+ in flood-prone areas may qualify for free sandbag delivery and installation. Call 211 to ask about the Sandbags for Homebound Seniors program.

Southwest California Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.