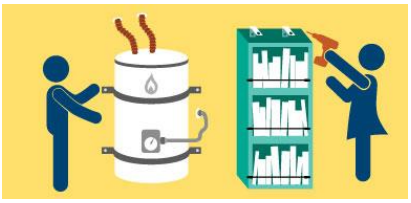
Episcopal Diocese of Northern California | *Missioner for Disaster Resilience*
Earthquake Resources | Preparing for an Earthquake

Step 1:
Secure your space by identifying hazards and securing moveable items.



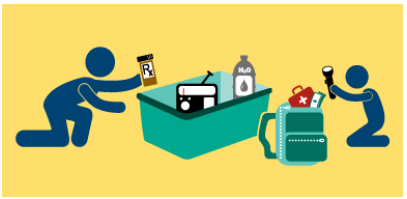
Try securing at least one item every weekend until you get everything done. Start with what you can do for free. You may need to ask others for help or to borrow tools. Perhaps you might help them in return, or help others in your community. We're all in this together!

Step 2:
Plan to be safe by creating your emergency plan and deciding how you will communicate.



Planning for an earthquake or other emergency is not much different from planning for an event or vacation. Make sure that your emergency plan includes evacuation and reunion plans; your out-of-state contact person's name and number; the location of your emergency supplies and other pertinent information. Finally, have occasional earthquake "drills" to practice your plan, and share your plan with people who take care of your children, pets, or home.

Step 3:
Organize emergency supplies in convenient locations.



Everyone should have emergency supplies stored in accessible locations at home, at work, and in vehicles. Having emergency supplies readily available can reduce the impact of an earthquake or other emergency on you and your family.

Step 4:
Minimize financial hardship by organizing important documents, strengthening your property, and considering insurance coverage.



You may need to leave your house quickly after an earthquake, if there's a fire, etc. To help you organize the most important information you will need, begin with designating a "grab-and-go" backpack or bag. Consider what documents you will need if you are away from home for an extended time (such as what you will need as identification, to reach loved ones, to file an insurance claim, etc.) Put all of these important documents in a sealed plastic bag, then place it into your "grab-and-go" bag. Leave your "go bag" somewhere you can get to easily.

Consider what important documents you will need:
Copies of identification.
Copies of insurance cards.
List of emergency contact numbers.
Photos of belongings in your home. (This will help you file an insurance claim)