



# The Plain Truth About Faith-Based Organizational Planning

Don't be afraid. Be Ready.



# “White Horse Syndrome”



FEMA always rides to the rescue

Would this be a disaster to you or members?

Would this be a disaster to the federal government?

# The “True Nature” of Disaster

Disasters overwhelm the community's emergency response systems.

U.S. averages for citizens to emergency workers: as high as 410 to 1

Citizens need to prepare to sustain themselves for 72 to 96 hours

# Reality Bytes: A Local Hazard Assessment



# Three Keys for Your Organization's Safety & Survival

- YOUR All-Hazard emergency plan
  - All types
  - All sizes
  - Adaptable
- YOUR emergency supplies
- YOUR information sources

# The Key is Basic Preparedness For Your Organization

- Have a Plan!
- Contact local EM for preparedness plan help
- Consider CERT training
- Consider Spotter Training



# Preparedness for Citizens \* Family \* Congregations

**Local churches have the  
“pulse of the community”**

**Churches and other faith  
based organizations are  
often called upon to  
provide for the  
community’s needs.**



# Preparedness for Citizens \* Family \* Congregations

*Do you have a way  
to get emergency  
information  
including Severe  
Weather/Tornado  
Messages?*





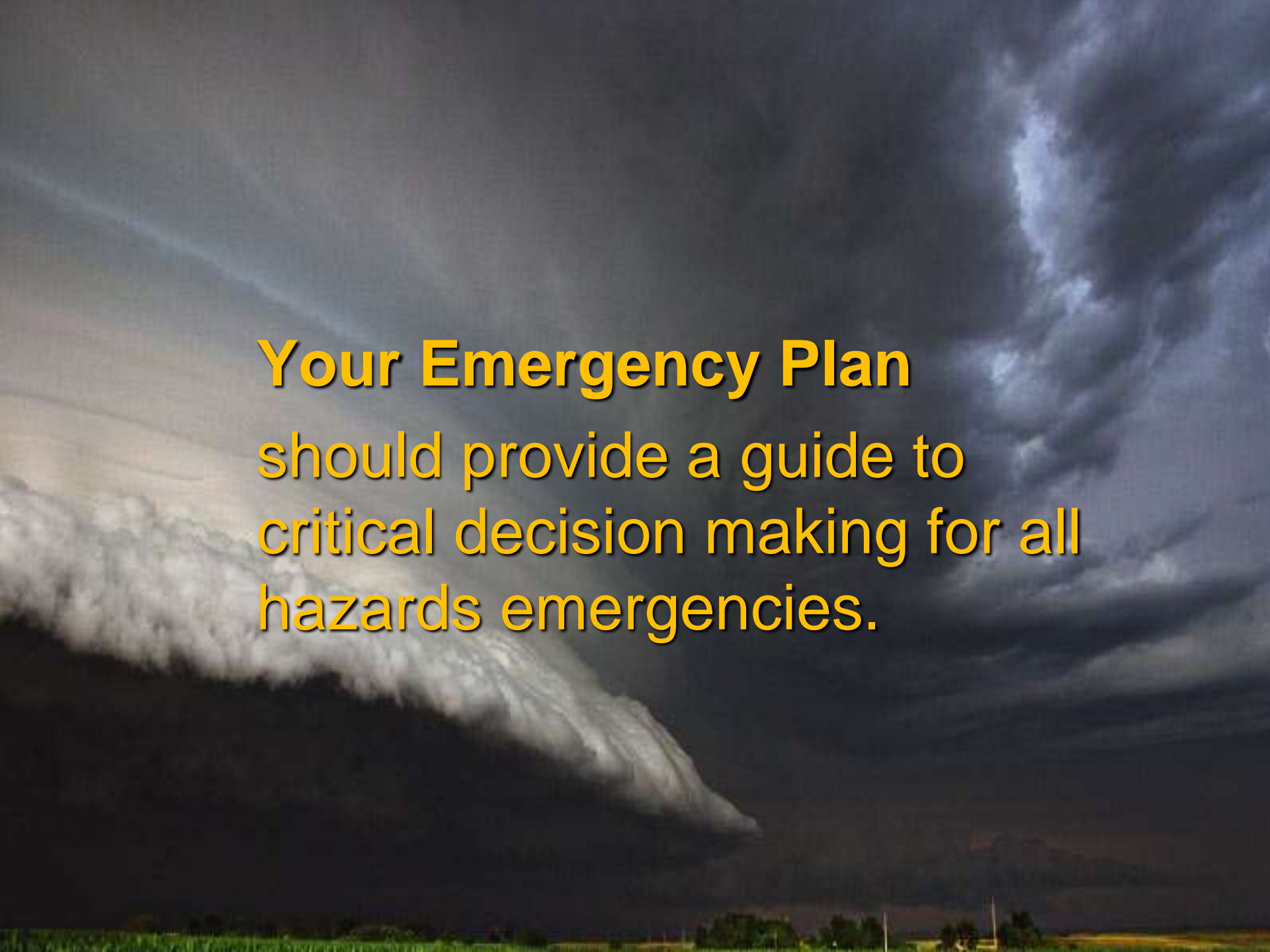
# Planning Basics

- Emergency Contacts
  - Establish yours in advance
- Warnings & Information
  - NOAA Weather Radio
  - Battery powered radio or TV
  - Text Alerts
  - Internet information sites

# Outdoor Warning Sirens

- **Are NOT designed to be heard indoors!**
- **Warn those outside to go in to a safe place and tune in for specific information**
- **Do NOT sound all-clear signals**
- **Should NOT be your primary or only source of warning**





**Your Emergency Plan**  
should provide a guide to  
critical decision making for all  
hazards emergencies.

# “Does my church really need a written plan?”

- Written plans are:
  - The foundation for necessary actions to take during an emergency.
  - The guide for both leaders and members
  - Tailored for your organization’s specific needs

# “What should be in your plan?”

- Basic plan
  - How to accomplish key tasks
  - Applies in many types of circumstances
- Special Situations
  - Specific to certain types of emergencies

# “Who Can Help?”

- Local Emergency Management
  - Local hazard information
  - Plan templates
  - Best Practices
  - Lessons learned from real life
- Governmental and Non-Governmental Agencies
- Other Faith-Based organizations



St Peters Police Department  
Office of Emergency Management  
636-477-6600 ext. 3522



St Charles County Sheriff's Department  
Division of Emergency Management  
636-949-3023



Warren County  
Emergency Management Agency  
636-456-3786