

NWD Disaster Response Sunday – April 28, 2024

Natural disasters are nothing new. Whether we are simply more aware or if there really are more disasters than ever before, they have become almost routine. Since LCMS Disaster Response started with LERT (Lutheran Emergency Response Training) in 2005 after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, it seems we have experienced an unprecedented number of storms. From tragic hurricanes impacting Houston to Atlantic City, hundreds of tornados from Tuscaloosa to our very own Merrill, North Wisconsin District congregations have been represented by hundreds of volunteers called to serve.

Many of our members and dozens of our congregations willingly become Jesus' hands and feet to those who need the loving presence of our Lord during tragic events. By God's grace, we partner with our fellow LCMS brothers and sisters from around the country to impact lives with the love of Jesus, while helping to pick up the pieces after such devastation.

April 28th is North WI District Disaster Response Sunday. Building awareness of this critical ministry is our priority. The NWD has a Disaster Response Coordinator, Pastor Andy Weden, who serves at Peace Campus Center. Pastor Andy serves as our liaison to LCMS National Disaster Response. This role provides him a deep understanding of the support and services the LCMS can provide to disaster areas and to those looking to serve. His role is to help our NWD congregations with training, networking and support, when possible.

Disaster Response Sunday also allows members of the North Wisconsin District to financially support this NWD mercy ministry. When special equipment might be needed and a coordinated response is required, your gifts provide the training, support and networking needed. Your gifts labeled "NWD Disaster Response" provide a resource that is instantly available when disaster strikes.

What can you do?

- Pray for people suffering through disasters.
- Consider your congregation's plan to serve those in need, then contact Pr. Andy to provide training, support and networking. Phone 715-345-6510
- Donate to NWD Disaster Response. Donate online on the "GIVE NOW" tab at [nwdlcms.org](http://www.nwdlcms.org) or mail to NWD LCMS, 3103 Seymour Lane, Wausau, WI 54401
- Review the Bible studies and LCMS links at <http://www.nwdlcms.org/disaster-response.html>