

The Proclamation

November 2020 Newsletter



"Our mission is to help others experience
the love of God, as revealed through
Jesus Christ."



2020 Congregation Council and Officers

Pegg Wreg – President, Coordinator Good News + Amen

Lisa Clark – Vice President

Nancy Baum – Secretary

Jayma Davis – Treasurer

Robin Carrig – Financial Secretary

Theo Jesionowski – at Large

Diane Nicholson – at large

Chuck Horn – at Large

Sandy Leis – at Large

John Dyer – Pastor

Staff

Jayma Davis – Church Administrator

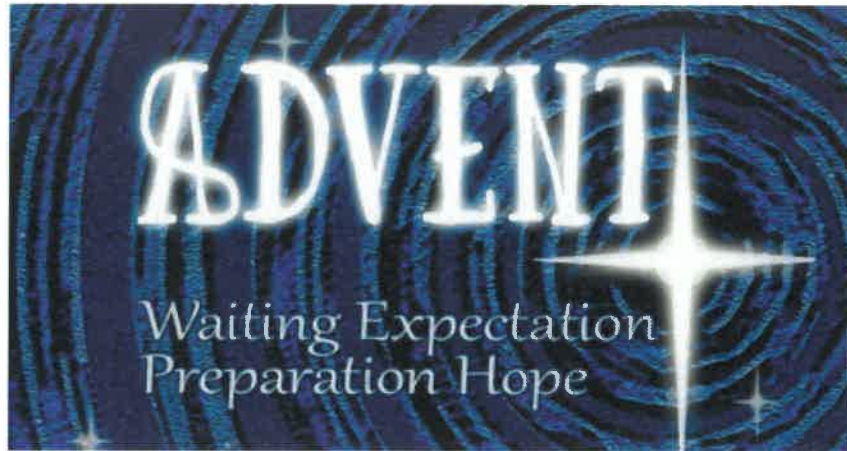
Mike Buxton – Building and Grounds Coordinator

Kathy Kilty – Custodian

Michelle Kindell -- Music

Within the Congregation

Pastoral Reflections
Council Minutes
Financial Reports
Mission 7- No Report



Looking Ahead to a New Church and Calendar Year

November 29 begins four weeks of the Advent season and a new church year. After the significant interruption caused by the global pandemic, 2021 will be a very important year for Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Kenton, Ohio.

The plans for the new church year include walking alongside our sister congregations of the Northwestern Ohio Synod using the theme "On the Way."

We are familiar with the story from the Gospel of Luke about two of the disciples *on the way* to Emmaus. They encountered Jesus who walked with them. That proved to be an eye-opening experience.

The Christian church has never stayed put. It has always been *on the way*. As promised by Jesus, whenever two or three (or more) gather in his name, he walks with them. Our Savior's has been "on the way" from 1981 to the future. Jesus met this congregation on the way. He continues to walk with us. Do you recognize him? Where have there been eye-opening moments?

Do you think that Jesus continues to walk with congregation today? If so, where are we going? Do you still trust the promise of his presence with us when we gather in his name?

Our synod has assembled outstanding resources to help move the congregations into a blessed future. Are we will to walk alongside the congregations of the synod?

The church year will include time for prayer, study, partnership, and action. If OSLC wants to have a future, this will be a year that will help us get there.

Pastoral Reflections for November 2020

Anyone who once listened to Marty and Joe on Red's Radio might remember how Joe Nuxhall signed off from his post-game show. "This is the old lefthander rounding third and heading for home." In his words, he thought it was "kind of cheesy, but the fans seemed to like it." Right now, at least, I think I am happy that the current church year is "rounding third and heading for home." On November 29 we will begin the year of Mark.

"What a year!" has become much more than a cliché in 2020. It took a tragedy to bring people together in prayer and action to search for a four-year old special needs boy. But this year has been marked with a both Christ-like care for the neighbor, along-side of anger and division. People are divided over whether COVID-19 is a health crisis, a political crisis, a constitutional crisis or just a hoax. Some even violate "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." There are many "shepherds" calling for their flock to follow. Jesus warned us about the different shepherds.

This year we have been focusing on Matthew. Jesus is seen as the teacher. And so many of the lessons for us this year have happened during the pandemic. There has been division among the people who prefer to listen to other teachers. The teaching of Jesus have always caused division.

Jesus taught that there is nothing more important than seeking and working toward the Kingdom of God. That happens through love of our neighbors throughout the world. And, yes, Jesus even teaches us to love our enemies.

Jesus taught by using parables. His lessons included the necessity of forgiveness, our God-given command to make new disciples, the crucial difference between loyalty to "Caesar" as opposed to loyalty to God, and that there will be judgement between "sheep" "goats." There is a clear criteria which explains the difference. There's so much more. You get the idea.

If "THE" Teacher would give a test, how would we do? Thank the God who knows who we are, and who died on our behalf. That's amazing grace! So as forgiven sinners, we are about to end a church year and begin another. No matter what the pandemic does, let's draw on the Christ in us to be healers.

Grace and Peace! Pastor Dyer

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Council conducted a special church council meeting via Zoom on October 9, 2020. Members in attendance were Pastor John Dyer, Pegg Wren, Nancy Baum, Chuck Horn and Sandy Leis.

Pastor John opened the meeting with a devotion about our job of proclaiming the Gospel and helping people experience the love of Jesus Christ through the Church.

Pastor John purchased a microphone for expanding service.

Furnace repairs and replacement were discussed. Mike Buxton contacted Quality Mechanical to inspect the current issue. The inspection included the duct work and return air vent. The original proposal presented to the congregation in June of 2018 is as follows: 1 furnace for the sanctuary and 1 for the offices and educational classrooms. Heat ducts would be placed in the ceiling. The return air vent would be in the lower ceiling in the back of the sanctuary. 1 system would cost \$13,000 and the other would cost \$15,000. The total cost \$28,000. The recommendation is to purchase new 7,000btu, 80% efficiency down flow air Carrier furnace at a cost of \$2,085. Nancy made a motion to purchase the furnace and Sandy Leis seconded the motion.

Pastor John noted that the roof leak is still an active problem with more discoloration occurring in the sanctuary. No further discussion occurred.

The meeting closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Baum
OSLC Secretary

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council
Minutes for October 2020

The council met several times throughout October on Zoom or through email responses. There were issues that needed council's attention on several occasions. A summary of the business follows:

- Furnace #3 (offices, restrooms, children's room) went out and is beyond repair. The council discussed whether put the earlier recommendation before the congregation. That would be to replace the three furnaces with two. Install them in the attic with new, above ground ductwork; or to replace furnace #3. That would mean hoping that the other two furnaces will continue to work. It was decided that to increase our current debt by \$30,000 is not a good idea at this time. The council voted unanimously to have Quality Mechanical Services replace furnace #3 with a new furnace for less than \$2,000.
- In view of the tremendous amount of study and work the council has done in 2020 in order to plan for dealing with the pandemic, Pastor Dyer recommend that their current year be extended through 2021. The council approved the recommendation. The item will be included in the December congregational meeting agenda.
- The council received the resignation letter of Frank Marsico from treasurer of the Good Steward Committee. They expressed gratitude for Frank's years of service. Then they elected Jayma Davis as the new treasurer of the committee. Pastor Dyer will also sign on to the account.
- Since the Good Steward Committee has not met in 2020, and since the terms of any of the remaining members have expired, the council will take the issue up at its November meeting. Also, the proposed budget for 2021 will be included on the November agenda.

In Christ,
John Dyer, Pastor

ACCOUNT SUMMARY



Share accounts

Account	Name	Available Balance	Actual Balance	Last Transaction	Accrued Dividends
000	REGULAR SHARES	\$6,425.14	\$6,430.14	8/4/2020	\$0.00
011	PARKINGLOTFUND	\$0.43	\$0.43	8/4/2020	\$0.00
012	SAVINGS	\$1,834.04	\$1,834.04	12/30/2019	\$0.00
045	CHECKING	\$821.23	\$821.23	10/30/2020	\$0.00
ACCOUNT TOTALS		\$9,080.84	\$9,085.84		\$0.00

October 2020

Loans

Account	Name	Regular Payment	Amount Due	Due Date	Balance
600	CLOSED END LOAN	\$467.57	\$452.67	11/8/2020	\$10,363.22
915	SBA-PPP	\$337.44	\$337.44	2/1/2021	\$8,040.48
ACCOUNT TOTALS		\$805.01	\$790.11		\$18,403.70

Credit Cards

Account	Name	Regular Payment	Amount Due	Due Date	Balance
820	EXPLORER CC	\$0.00	\$0.00	12/28/2020	\$0.00
ACCOUNT TOTALS		\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00

Credit Card

10/30 Intuit 2.00
 10/29 USPO 55.00
 10/20 Tithely 19.00
 10/8 Walmart 13.91
 10/1 Intuit 2.00
\$ 91.91

beg. balance \$ 2787.28
 Deposits 3805.65
 Checks (3895.70)
 Taxes, Pensions (1166.52)
 Parking Lot (467.57)
 Credit Card (91.91)
 Transfer Mem. (150.00)
\$ 821.23

Reg. Shares
 beg 6429.07
 Int 1.07
\$ 6430.14

Parking Lot
 beg. .43
 End .43

Savings
 beg. 1833.81
 Int .23
1834.04

Budget Item	Budget 2020	2020 Jan-Oct Actual
66001 Pastor Salary	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 19,351.32
66002 Pastor Pension	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 6,233.46
66003 Secretary Salary	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,962.84
66005 Workers comp	\$ 200.00	\$ (3.76)
66004 Supply Pastor	\$ 350.00	\$ -
66700 Accountant	\$ 500.00	\$ 472.00
65200 Church Cleaning	\$ 720.00	\$ 790.00
65202 Organist	\$ 1,620.00	\$ 390.00
68600 Utilities	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,445.66
60800 Building & Grounds	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 4,952.20
63300 Insurance	\$ 1,950.00	\$ 1,656.00
60000 Publicity Advertising	\$ 200.00	\$ 50.00
Parking Lot Debt	\$ 5,611.00	\$ 4,675.70
64601 Missions	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,287.50
64602 Local Benevolence	\$ 500.00	\$ -
64603 Flower Fund	\$ 200.00	\$ -
64604 LOVEINC	\$ 500.00	\$ 200.00
64605 Church Materials	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 478.25
61800 Conv & Eduction	\$ 375.00	\$ -
64900 Janitor/ Office Supplies	\$ 700.00	\$ 196.88
67100 Office Equip	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,918.71
66500 Postage	\$ 250.00	\$ 262.40
Total	\$ 77,026.00	\$ 58,319.16

\$1254 Landscape/Paver sidewalk \$2600
Sealing Parking Lot

Date	Amount	Current	2 Cent	Missions	Building	Memorials	Parking Lot	Misc	Total
1/5/2020	\$ 1,393.00	\$ 1,062.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 177.50	\$ 45.00		\$ 102.50	\$ 5.00	\$ 1,393.00
1/12/2020	\$ 1,315.00	\$ 927.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 127.50	\$ 40.00		\$ 212.50	\$ 5.00	\$ 1,315.00
1/19/2020	\$ 808.00	\$ 517.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 152.50	\$ 35.00		\$ 102.50		\$ 808.00
1/26/2020	\$ 945.00	\$ 632.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 152.50	\$ 45.00		\$ 112.50		\$ 945.00
2/2/2020	\$ 1,599.00	\$ 1,257.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 62.50		\$ 102.50		\$ 1,599.00
2/9/2020	\$ 1,725.00	\$ 1,290.00		\$ 177.50	\$ 45.00		\$ 212.50		\$ 1,725.00
2/16/2020	\$ 738.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 127.50	\$ 25.00		\$ 102.50		\$ 738.00
2/23/2020	\$ 1,230.00	\$ 912.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 152.50	\$ 35.00		\$ 122.50	\$ 5.00	\$ 1,230.00
3/1/2020	\$ 1,382.00	\$ 889.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 127.50	\$ 25.00		\$ 337.50		\$ 1,382.00
3/8/2020	\$ 1,355.00	\$ 947.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 152.50	\$ 35.00		\$ 212.50	\$ 5.00	\$ 1,355.00
3/15/2020	\$ 1,592.00	\$ 1,301.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 152.50	\$ 35.00		\$ 102.50		\$ 1,592.00
3/22/2020	\$ 555.23	\$ 430.00	\$ 0.23	\$ 100.00	\$ 20.00		\$ 5.00		\$ 555.23
3/29/2020	\$ 1,520.00	\$ 1,100.00		\$ 150.00	\$ 70.00		\$ 200.00		\$ 1,520.00
4/5/2020	\$ 785.00	\$ 635.00		\$ 50.00			\$ 100.00		\$ 785.00
4/12/2020	\$ 2,605.55	\$ 2,180.55		\$ 150.00	\$ 50.00		\$ 225.00		\$ 2,605.55
4/19/2020	\$ 1,268.55	\$ 798.55		\$ 200.00	\$ 70.00		\$ 200.00		\$ 1,268.55
4/26/2020	\$ 545.31	\$ 308.55		\$ 100.00			\$ 136.76		\$ 545.31
5/3/2020	\$ 2,330.00	\$ 1,795.00		\$ 200.00	\$ 135.00		\$ 200.00		\$ 2,330.00
5/10/2020	\$ 1,190.77	\$ 940.00	\$ 0.77	\$ 105.00			\$ 145.00		\$ 1,190.77
5/17/2020	\$ 803.55	\$ 663.55		\$ 127.50	\$ 10.00		\$ 2.50		\$ 803.55
5/24/2020	\$ 1,280.00	\$ 805.00		\$ 202.50	\$ 70.00		\$ 202.50		\$ 1,280.00
5/31/2020	\$ 913.55	\$ 703.55		\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ 160.00		\$ 913.55
6/7/2020	\$ 1,258.55	\$ 858.55		\$ 150.00	\$ 50.00		\$ 200.00		\$ 1,258.55
6/14/2020	\$ 1,430.00	\$ 1,135.00		\$ 150.00	\$ 22.50		\$ 122.50		\$ 1,430.00
6/21/2020	\$ 1,513.55	\$ 983.55		\$ 200.00	\$ 70.00		\$ 260.00		\$ 1,513.55
6/28/2020	\$ 662.35	\$ 147.35		\$ 110.00		\$ 405.00			\$ 662.35
7/5/2020	\$ 2,833.62	\$ 1,920.00	\$ 3.62	\$ 200.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 295.00	\$ 335.00		\$ 2,833.62
7/12/2020	\$ 566.50	\$ 396.50		\$ 100.00		\$ 55.00	\$ 15.00		\$ 566.50
7/19/2020	\$ 973.55	\$ 508.55		\$ 150.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 200.00		\$ 973.55
7/26/2020	\$ 818.55	\$ 648.55		\$ 150.00	\$ 20.00				\$ 818.55
8/2/2020	\$ 265.00	\$ 155.00		\$ 100.00		\$ 10.00			\$ 265.00
8/9/2020	\$ 2,537.35	\$ 1,987.35		\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 300.00		\$ 2,537.35
8/16/2020	\$ 902.39	\$ 483.55		\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 118.84		\$ 902.39
8/23/2020	\$ 1,580.00	\$ 1,390.00		\$ 150.00	\$ 40.00				\$ 1,580.00
8/30/2020	\$ 830.00	\$ 730.00		\$ 100.00					\$ 830.00
9/6/2020	\$ 2,008.55	\$ 1,298.55		\$ 175.00	\$ 90.00		\$ 445.00		\$ 2,008.55
9/13/2020	\$ 960.00	\$ 735.00		\$ 185.00	\$ 40.00				\$ 960.00
9/20/2020	\$ 1,192.23	\$ 972.35	\$ 4.88	\$ 150.00	\$ 65.00				\$ 1,192.23
9/27/2020	\$ 1,810.00	\$ 990.00		\$ 175.00	\$ 145.00		\$ 500.00		\$ 1,810.00
10/4/2020	\$ 655.00	\$ 505.00		\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00				\$ 655.00
10/11/2020	\$ 1,403.55	\$ 953.55		\$ 75.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 200.00		\$ 1,403.55
10/18/2020	\$ 793.55	\$ 593.55		\$ 75.00	\$ 25.00		\$ 100.00		\$ 793.55
10/25/2020	\$ 753.55	\$ 548.55		\$ 175.00	\$ 30.00				\$ 753.55
	\$ 53,627.35	\$ 38,514.25	\$ 32.50	\$ 5,905.00	\$ 1,845.00	\$ 1,015.00	\$ 6,035.00	\$ 280.60	\$ 53,627.35

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Within Our Neighborhood at Home

Safe Haven

Women of the Church

Table One

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Love INC-No Report

Hope, Help and Healing



Times photo/Dan Robinson

Getting word out

Law enforcement agency representatives and board members of Safe Haven placed purple signs and attached purple ribbons to trees on the lawn of the Hardin County Courthouse on Thursday to call attention to October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Safe Haven Director Deb Oestreich said

calls to the organization for assistance have increased significantly in recent months. Pictured are (from left) Ada Chief of Police Michael Hamisheger, Lisa Clark, Bev Bahr, Gloria Grappy, Oestreich and Hardin County Sheriff's Deputy Scott Holbrook. For assistance in domestic violence situations, Safe Haven be reached 24 /7 at 419-679-4147.

It is a challenging time for the WELCA group at OSLC due to Covid-19. In October, we will meet and conduct business in a different fashion. We are a very active group who accomplish many projects. Thanks to Kathy Hilty, items for Lutheran World Relief were collected, assembled, packed, and delivered to the collection center. Thank you Kathy. Deb Dyer has cut squares for quilts which will be assembled this winter. Backs for the quilts are needed such as sheets in good repair (64x84 in.) or large pieces of fabric that can be sewed for backs. If flannel purchased diapers for the baby layettes will be made.

The annual bazaar was cancelled due to covid. It would have been very difficult to meet a safe and healthy area and recruit help for setting up and tear down. Hopefully, a bazaar will be possible in 2021. In the meantime, please think and share some ideas for fundraising.

Thank offering will be collected and sent to the conference treasurer. We will collect these in mid-November. Thank offering collections are used to support of WELCA in many ways.

Please send ideas for suggestions for our shut-ins at Christmas time, delivery possibilities. Shut-ins are contacted during the month. Visiting is curtailed at this time due to possibility of spreading the virus.

Altar Guild calendars will be distributed when Pastor John deems it is safe.

We are a strong congregation with much time and many talents. And we have the ability to teach and reach out to others.

Churches in this area are celebrating drive-in accommodations and pastors bring the service outside or it is available by zoom. I have attended worship each Sunday by zoom and it is wonderful to stay connected with all of you.

Please social distance and wear a mask. You have been my blessing today.

Alice Jane Davis



A Little Brother or Little Sister just right for you!

Big Brothers Big Sisters has been matching Hardin County children with mentors in life-changing 1-to-1 relationships for 15 years.

The children are boys and girls in the 1st through 8th grades who need companionship, guidance, a positive role model. They may have academic needs as well.

We set goals for each child. Mentors help children achieve those goals. One child may have trouble getting along with others. Another may be struggling at school. Some boys just need a man to help them learn how to drive a nail, hit a baseball, or use a computer.

We'll match you with a child you'll enjoy spending time with. We provide training, tips for bonding with children, and ongoing support.

How do you become a Big Brother or Big Sister? Complete a short application and attend an interview. We check your references. It's that simple!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Andrea Richardson
Telephone 419-675-1850

I'd like to be a mentor!

I'm interested in learning more about Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Hope, Help and Healing

**Support groups offered by
Our Savior's Lutheran Church weekly
725 East Eliza Street, Kenton, Ohio**

Tuesday at 7 PM

**Codependents Anonymous
Family Group**

Support for those whose lives have been affected by substance abuse, dysfunctional relationships, grief and loss. Available on Zoom only at this time.

Wednesday at 7:00 PM

**Book Study of
Codependents' Guide to the Twelve Steps
Available on Zoom only.**

Al-Anon: Friday 10:00 am

**For friends and families of alcoholics
Meeting in-person on Fridays
and on Zoom.**

CoDA: Friday 11:30 am

**Codependents Anonymous
Same format as Tuesday's group.
Meeting in-person on Fridays and on Zoom.**

**For more information text or email Diane:
419-889-0241 or dbnicholson07@yahoo.com**

Partnerships within Northwest Ohio Synod

From OSLC to LWR during a Global Pandemic



On October 16th and 17th, The Northwestern Ohio Synod collected materials for Lutheran World Relief. As we have in the past, Our Savior's made an important contribution during a year when the entire world is dealing with COVID-19. Not pictured above are the quilts that will also be delivered to the collection sight at Waldo, Ohio.

With Kathy Hilty again leading the way and a number of volunteers quilting and collecting items, we see that God continues to do big things through us. The items were packed on October 6th and dedicated during worship on October 11th.

Founded by Lutherans in the United States at the end of World War II, grounded in Lutheran theology and building on decades of experience, Lutheran World Relief tackles global poverty by helping people adapt to the challenges that threaten their livelihoods and well-being.

Our goal is to help people build self-sufficiency and create new community-owned approaches to problem-solving that will last long after our projects end.

Partnerships within ELCA

Many Are Suffering. What Can We Do?

You hear the news: “Record number of wild fires,” “Record number of hurricanes,” “Record high temperatures,” “Record flooding,” “Record Tornadoes,” “Global Pandemic.”

If the news gets you down, you are certainly not alone. But we are the body of Christ. And we live in a country with considerable wealth and many resources. There are many in the world who have no hope. If you are feeling depressed because of the news, there is a way to help. Take action. Anyone can pray. Perhaps you can volunteer or provide financial gifts. Listed below are some of Lutheran Disaster Relief’s programs for the USA. You can be informed and even take some kind of action.

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

The situation:

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), a new respiratory infection, was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO). More than 37 million people around the world have tested positive for COVID-19, and more than one million people have died, according to WHO.

Our response:

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is responding to this pandemic here in the United States and around the world.

Since January 2020, we have supported responses in 39 countries around the world including the United States, plus five global responses, that address a wide range of needs, from supplying personal protective equipment and medical equipment; to provision of food and other necessary supplies; to water, sanitization and hygiene and awareness education. Additionally, 28 synods and three social ministry organizations have received LDR support for congregational feeding ministries, such as food pantries, hot meal delivery and meal distribution.

What you can do:

Pray

Please pray for our nation and the world as we face uncertainties. May God's healing presence bring peace and hope in this time of need. Pray that

God will deliver comfort to those who mourn the loss of loved ones and strength to those who are working diligently to care for affected communities.

Give

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response's general account enable us to respond quickly whenever and wherever disaster strikes.

U.S. Wildfires

The Situation:

Fueled by a heat wave and unfavorable winds, wildfires have erupted across California, Oregon, Washington and other western states. At least 20 people have died, hundreds of thousands of people are under evacuation orders and more than 3.5 million acres have burned across the three states. Some evacuees face the difficult decision of whether to stay in a shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Response:

Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with at least three Lutheran social services agencies and five synods to assess the situation and determine the best ways to respond. We expect immediate needs may include food and other necessities, as well as emotional and spiritual care for those who have been traumatized.

What you can do:

Pray:

Please pray for the communities that lie in the paths of wildfires in the western United States. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. Pray that God will deliver comfort to those who mourn and strength to those working diligently to contain the fires and care for affected communities.

Give:

Your gifts will support wildfire survivors. Gifts to "[U.S. Wildfires](#)" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by wildfires until the response is complete. Or make a general [donation to Lutheran Disaster Response](#) so we can respond to disasters whenever and wherever they strike.

Hurricane Response

The situation:

Hurricane Laura, a powerful Category 4 storm, hit Louisiana and parts of Texas with devastating force in August, causing at least three deaths, major damage and leaving hundreds of thousands without power. With extremely dangerous storm surge and winds of at least 150 mph, it was one of the most powerful storms to hit the area in a century, and it left widespread destruction in its wake. Before the storm arrived, thousands had to evacuate.

On Sept. 16, Hurricane Sally, a Category 2 storm, made landfall on the Gulf Coast, dropping more than two feet of rain in some areas and causing widespread power outages throughout eastern Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. Another Category 2 hurricane, Delta, made landfall in Creole, Louisiana, on Oct. 9, less than 20 miles from where Hurricane Laura hit weeks earlier. The impact of Hurricane Delta will likely set back recovery efforts by weeks.

Our response:

Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response (Upbring) and the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana, Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast and Southwestern Texas synods to respond to Hurricanes Laura and Delta, assessing needs as they look forward to long-term recovery in the area. Following Hurricane Sally, under the leadership of the Southeastern Synod, the synod and Inspiritus are working together to provide relief assistance to survivors in Baldwin County, Alabama. With LDR support, they are hiring a disaster coordinator for the response effort. Additionally, the Florida-Bahamas Synod received a grant to distributed relief supplies, such as tarps, food, and water, to survivors in Pensacola, Florida. While the extent of the damage is not yet known, we will accompany communities devastated by hurricanes from immediate relief through long-term recovery. This is our commitment as a church.

What you can do:

Pray

Please pray for people who have been affected by hurricanes. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

Give

Your gifts designated for "Hurricane Response" will be used entirely (100%) for direct response until it is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by hurricanes.

U.S. Tornadoes**The situation**

A powerful and destructive tornado ripped through central Tennessee in March 2020, leaving destruction in its wake. At least 24 people were killed, homes and other buildings were destroyed, and thousands of people were without electricity. The tornado was part of a series of severe storms.

Our response:

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is working with those in the impacted area — including the ELCA Southeastern Synod, Inspiritus (formerly known as Lutheran Services of Georgia and Lutheran Services in Tennessee) and local congregations — to respond with immediate relief. Given the extent of the destruction, recovery is expected to take years. LDR plans to accompany the synod and Inspiritus to address survivors' needs over the long haul.

What you can do:**Pray:**

Please pray for the people who were impacted by this destructive tornado. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. Pray that God will deliver comfort to those who mourn the loss of loved ones and strength to those who are working diligently to care for affected communities.

Give:

Gifts to "U.S. tornadoes" will be used entirely (100%) to assist those affected by tornadoes until the response is complete.