

Bring a flood bucket to Synod Assembly

The Northeastern Iowa Synod and the Disaster Response Network invite congregations to join in a flood bucket preparedness project at this year's Synod Assembly.

Each congregation attending Synod Assembly is asked to bring a prepared flood bucket clean-up kit to share. Flood buckets contain essential cleaning supplies that can help families and communities affected by flooding, tornadoes or other disasters. The buckets collected at Assembly will be divided into three groups and stored at locations in Mason City, Decorah and Waverly — three areas prone to flooding.

“When a flood comes anywhere near these communities, our goal is to get the buckets to a local church to distribute to help families respond to the disaster,” says Pastor Mark Anderson, assistant to the Bishop. “Cleaning supplies are one of the first things lost during a flood because they are often stored in the basement. And when a flood hits, cleaning supplies are among the first items sold out.”

Anderson says the goal is to collect at least 150 buckets at Assembly so that 50 buckets or more can be on hand in each of the designated communities for quick distribution to families. The buckets must be assembled according to instructions, with all items listed.

The buckets can be brought to the Center for Faith and Life registration area on the Luther College campus where they will be displayed throughout Assembly. For more information, contact Anderson at 319-352-1414 or email andersonm@neiasynod.org.

MAKE A FLOOD BUCKET

Each assembled flood bucket has a value of approximately \$60.

Bucket Contents:

- One five-gallon bucket with re-sealable lid (If bucket has been used, clean well but do not use if it has held chemicals of any kind.)
- Four scouring pads
- One scrub brush
- Five dust masks
- Seven sponges, assorted sizes (at least one fairly hefty for washing mold)
- Eighteen cleaning towels (reusable, like Easy Wipes®)
- One 12 oz. bottle of liquid concentrated household cleaner (like Lysol®)
- One 25 oz. bottle liquid disinfectant dish soap (like Dawn®)
- One 50 oz. or two 25 oz. bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- One package of 48-50 clothespins
- Clothesline, two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.
- Two pairs latex gloves (long heavy-duty, like Playtex® dish-washing gloves, not the thin ones sold for painting etc.)
- One pair work gloves
- 28-bag roll of heavy-duty trash bags (30-45 gallon)



- One 6-9 oz. bottle of insect repellent (pump, drops or lotion, not aerosol)

Assembly Instructions:

All cleaning items must be new — all liquid items must be capped and securely tightened.

Place all items into the bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment. Snap the lid on tight and seal with packing tape.

Please Note: Do NOT substitute items, add items, or leave items out of the buckets. If the requested item size is not available, go down to the next available size.

Suggestions from Lutheran Disaster Response: Many items can be purchased at local dollar stores at a substantial savings. The Lysol cleaner can be difficult to find — be sure it is a concentrated formula.

If items are in boxes (like the trash bags), the box can be removed to conserve space in the bucket. Packaging from the dust masks can also be removed and the mask placed in a zip lock bag.