

Congregations answer the call for flood buckets

Three years ago the Western Iowa Synod brought 100 flood buckets to help with flood recovery in Greene, Clarksville and Shell Rock. This year the Northeastern Iowa Synod returned the favor by delivering more than 100 flood buckets to help with flood clean-up in Western Iowa.

Earlier this spring, the synod's Disaster Response Network invited congregations to help replenish the synod's flood bucket supply, which had become diminished due to floods over the last two years. Dozens of congregations responded by collecting donations and cleaning supplies to assemble flood buckets. The Lord of Life congregation in Asbury set a goal to donate 40 buckets to celebrate their 40th anniversary, but surpassed that goal by assembling 74 buckets.

The need for buckets became more urgent on April 3 when the Western Iowa Synod requested 100 buckets for flood recovery. Pastor Kyle Barton of St. James, Allison, who serves as facilitator for the synod's Disaster Response Network, picked up the buckets at Lord of Life and then traveled to Grace Lutheran in Tripoli to pick up a cache of buckets stored there.

On April 4, just one day after Western Iowa's request, Barton delivered more than 100 flood buckets to the



Pastor Kyle Barton with some of the more than 100 flood buckets he delivered to the Western Iowa Synod.

Western Iowa Synod Office. The buckets were then loaded in a trailer and delivered to the Mills County Emergency Management agency in Glenwood, Iowa.

Pastor Mark Anderson, assistant to the Bishop, expressed his words of gratitude for all of the congregations that responded by filling flood buckets: "These congregations worked together to assist our neighbors in need. Thanks be to God!"

Tri-Synodical Fall Conference

Sept. 22-24, 2019
West Des Moines, Iowa

Mark your calendars for the Tri-Synodical Fall Conference Sept. 22-24. This event is an opportunity for rostered ministers (pastors and deacons) and spouses from the three Iowa ELCA synods to relax, rejuvenate and be refreshed with their colleagues.

The 2019 event features keynote presenters Deacon Chelle Huth of United Lutheran Seminary and Deacon Dr. Jeremy Myers of Augsburg University. The Rev. Wm. Chris Boerger, ELCA Secretary, will also present. The conference includes theological discussions, worship services, group meals, and designated free time.

Check the synod website for registration information when available at www.neiasynod.org.

NORTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD

Bishop Steven L. Ullestad – ullestads@neiasynod.org
Assistants to the Bishop

Rev. Mark A. Anderson – andersonm@neiasynod.org

Rev. Stephen Brackett – bracketts@neiasynod.org

Linda J. Hudgins – hudginsl@neiasynod.org

ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission

Rev. Dr. Joelle Colville-Hanson – colville-hansonj@neiasynod.org

Star Editor

Marcia Hahn – hahn@neiasynod.org

The *Star* is published 11 times a year by the Northeastern Iowa Synod, 201 20th Street SW, PO Box 804, Waverly, IA 50677-0804; www.neiasynod.org, phone 319-352-1414, FAX 319-352-1416.

Send news for the June 2019 issue to Marcia Hahn by May 13. We welcome story ideas related to the 2019 theme, "Celebrating Renewal: Katherine von Bora Luther — Faith in the Home."

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