

Haiti Earthquake Relief

You Can Help – Here’s How

1. Donate Money

Members of the ELCA have contributed nearly \$2 million to the ELCA International Disaster Response for Haiti Earthquake Relief in the first two weeks since the disaster struck. 100% of these contributions will go directly to aid victims of this disaster. Many members of St. John’s have already contributed. Disaster Response envelopes are available in the Church Office and in the Sanctuary for those who would like to contribute.

2. Donate Health Kits

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) recently sent a shipment of Health Kits to Haiti which completely depleted the supply in their Maryland warehouse (many churches regularly contribute Health Kits which LWR sends to people in desperate situations around the world). At St. John’s we are collecting Health Kits in the weeks leading up to Ash Wednesday (February 17). You can help by donating one or more Health Kits. Let’s see how many hundreds of Health Kits St. John’s members can send to LWR. Here’s how to assemble a Health Kit:

- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- One washcloth, dark color recommended
- One bath-size bar (4-5 oz.) of soap in its original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One **metal** nail file or nail clippers with file attached, remove packaging (do not substitute cardboard emery boards for the file)
- Six Band-Aids, preferably ½" to ¾"; secure together with a rubber band

Please do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed above. All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap small items in the washcloth; wrap washcloth and remaining items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

It costs LWR about \$3.00 to send each Health Kit overseas. If you wish to help defray this cost, please put it in an envelope and mark it “LWR Health Kit”. Scott Alderfer is the coordinator of this project.

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You Can Help – Here’s How - CONTINUED

3. Knot Quilts

The crisis in Haiti has also depleted the LWR supplies of quilts. St. John’s Christian Service Workshop (CSW) has been making quilts and sending them to LWR for many years. These quilts are distributed to refugees and other people in need. It becomes a bed, a room divider, a backpack to carry belongings, and at times even a home.

Our CSW group has 30-40 quilts ready to be “knotted”. Let’s have a St. John’s “Knotting Blitz” to get as many quilts ready to go to LWR as soon as possible.

If you can tie a square knot you can “knot” a quilt. “Knotting” means using a sewing needle to pull heavy thread through the three layers of the quilt to hold them together and then tying the thread in a knot. Knots are sewn at each corner and at the center of each of the 48 squares in each quilt.

You can help on one or both dates:

1. Tues., Feb. 2, 9:00-10:30 a.m., Room 4 (the regular CSW meeting time).
2. Sun., Feb. 14, 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Parish Hall (between and after services) – a **Knotting Blitz!**

If possible, please bring a small pair of scissors. Barb LaMotte is the coordinator of this project.