



## Mission of the Month for MARCH 2016

### LCMS Disaster Relief

### for Mid-west Flood & Tornado Relief



LCMS district and local disaster responders continue their recovery efforts on the heels of devastating weather across the nation in late December that included intense rainstorms with flooding in Illinois and Missouri as well as tornadoes in Mississippi and Texas.

While North Texas and Northern Mississippi reeled from unseasonable twisters, St. Louis and its surrounding communities endured a deluge of rainstorms that flooded residential and industrial areas, major highways and other roadways. Places farther northeast, like Watseka, Ill., also were hurt by intense storms.

As disaster responders from the affected districts and LCMS Disaster Response continue to assess the

conditions in the affected regions to help where needed most, the Synod has approved disbursement of at least \$56,000 in grants for immediate relief and recovery while also distributing \$6,000 in \$100 gift cards to congregations for basic necessities.

“Our collaborative response network is working, and these storms underscore how important it is to have trained people from the districts ready for safe and timely disaster response,” said Johnson. “LCMS districts and congregations are the leaders in responding to these crises, and LCMS Disaster Response trains and supports them while also building on the capacity of the church’s partners to respond to needs with Christian care.”

“It’s all about our own capacity to help both those outside the LCMS family who are hurting — and we do that in the clear name of Jesus Christ the Savior of the world — and helping our own LCMS people,” said Harrison. “You change their lives forever. They are so thankful — it’s amazing.”

**For more information on LCMS Disaster Response, visit [lcms.org/disaster](http://lcms.org/disaster).**

### Thank you for giving!

The Mission of the Month for January was the Hendersonville Rescue Mission. **\$307** was contributed to provide food, shelter, guidance, education and support to those in our community looking to better their lives.

Many of you regularly give food and personal care items for the Interfaith Assistance Ministry to distribute to those in need in Henderson County. Combined total poundage of items contributed by Mt. Pisgah during January was over 30 pounds.

The Mission of the Month for March is LCMS Disaster Relief, specifically aiding Lutherans in the Midwest that were hit with severe flooding in late December of 2015 and in January of this year. Unusual winter storms in the Midwest sent torrents of water into rivers and their tributaries, causing massive floods in Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas and imperiling cities downstream. Destruction could rival the flooding of 1993, which killed 50 and caused \$15 billion in damage.

Your contributions to LCMS Disaster Relief will aid those fellow Lutherans whose homes were destroyed to receive help, both material and spiritual.

Community Concerns Chair, Kathy Kirchoefer