



LUAD NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025

PRESIDENT'S NOTE—Dale Holmen



As we come to the end of the summer season, we are reminded that there is always a chance for personal disasters in Wisconsin. We have seen some heavy rain fall as well as high winds this year so far. We need to remind everyone within our Synod that we are just a phone call away when needed.

When there is a possible disaster, it is up to a congregation to make a call to LUAD. We do not go looking for a disaster or recovery work.

LUAD is governed by a council of members make up of representatives from each Synod Conference. We would like to see each Conference represented by an active delegate and one alternate member. To date more than half of the Conferences are not represented.

Only you can help with this need. Is this your time to serve our Synod?

Keep in mind that we are also able to speak at your church during a special program or an educational session. Please contact LUAD at info@luad.org or 888-237-0433 if you have a need or feel called to serve on our Council.

HELP! - Pat Nicholson

There are inches and inches of water in my basement with water soaked drywall along with floating boxes of family treasures.

Or...trees have fallen on my driveway and I can't leave the house.

Or...are there tarps available to cover a hole in my roof?

LUAD has heard these cries for help following an unanticipated weather event many times. We are prepared for such weather events with a trailer ready to be towed where needed and packed full of anything needed to HELP!...and a slew of dedicated volunteers to do the job.

Or.. in my personal experience, as the lead of the Evangelism team, I called for HELP! from my congregation: Our Savior's Lutheran in Sun Prairie. For many years, we have participated in the annual Corn Fest Parade usually in the form of a hay wagon filled with musicians and speakers, pulled by a truck as walkers passed out candy.

Early in the year the team met to toss out ideas for the parade: (corn stalks to highlight the harvesting of corn), passing out candy to hundreds of children? (maybe no candy this year as there is never enough candy -what no candy!), how to engage people to help with the



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parade as so many families are vacationing (what about the youth?). So many questions! HELP!

Then the Holy Spirit stepped in...



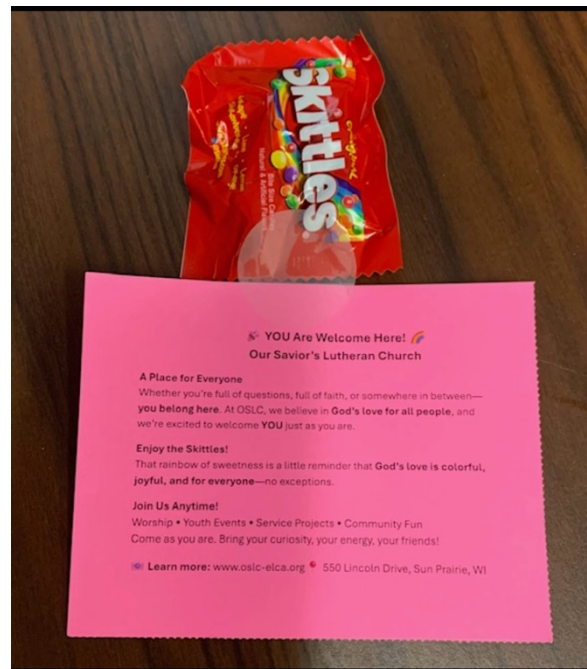
My congregation heard my small cry for help and...

One person asked her car mechanic to lend us a truck. A farming family again offered their hay wagon complete with hay bales for the musicians to sit upon (they even delivered it to the church prior to decoration). Our A/V team borrowed a generator from a member for the sound system. The music director prepared special music for the Praise Band. Fresh corn stalks came from a member's garden along with wire and ribbons to affix the stalks to the wagon. Although we always carried a banner announcing Our Savior's we wanted people on the parade route to know us well. Help! and we were offered additional vinyl banners for 3 sides of the hay wagon at a great price.

And the candy issue? One member suggested Skittles, as Skittles are many colors and we are an RIC church "Reconciling in Christ" where "All Are Welcome." Within a half hour of my question: "where are we going to get enough Skittles for a parade?" I was sent information to order 22 pounds, approximately 650 packages! To take advantage of an opportunity to make

ourselves known in the community, we had printed small pieces of paper to attach to the Skittles, giving the name and location of our congregation with an invitation to come and worship with us (next year, order 44 pounds!)

But how to attach 650 Skittles to Our Savior's info sheets? A meeting was called and 10 angels showed up to connect a sticky tab to the candy and info sheets...650 pieces done in 45 minutes!



I rarely use the word "awesome" as I reserve it for God's beautiful gift of creation. The amazing members who heard my help! provided the special wire to attach corn stalks, wagons to pull bags of candy down Sun Prairie's Main Street, right sized hooks needed to connect grommets on the new banners to the hay wagon, strong voices to sing God's message to the crowds and a joyful crowd to disassemble the hay wagon and call it a day but not before saying "We did it!"

It was a continuous event of blessings!

CONTACT LUAD AT 888-237-0433

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VISIT US AT LUAD.ORG



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LUAD TRAILER

Look for our LUAD Trailer at the various churches in our Synod. When not being used on a callout for our services, we move it around to build awareness of LUAD throughout the area. Let us know if you would like to showcase the trailer in your church's parking lot!



FLOODING IN WESTERN WISCONSIN

LUAD proactively reached out to our Synod Congregations during the August flooding rains in western Wisconsin. We are happy to report that the local communities in those regions had rallied together to help out all those in need. Remember that LUAD is there to offer our helping hands if needed in your area.



LUAD FACEBOOK ACCOUNT

LUAD has an account on Facebook and we hope you will request to follow us and our work. Just search for "LUAD Wisconsin – ELCA" and request to join our growing list of followers. We post information about our callout activity, presentations we make at LEAD or Synod Assembly, and our Council meetings – just to name a few. Con



NEXT LUAD COUNCIL MEETING



The next meeting of the LUAD council is scheduled for **Sunday, November 9 at 6:00 pm via Zoom**. All members of churches within the Synod are welcome to attend. Please contact LUAD at info@luad.org or 888-237-0433 if you have interest in joining us.

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