THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

Disaster Response

Survival Kit Project

The LCMS Disaster Response 'survival kit' project engages LCMS congregations and districts in an outreach ministry to provide at-risk members with a 'survival kit' as part of a disaster preparedness plan. The project calls for 'survival kits' to be assembled and distributed locally to members and/or nationally to communities with a special focus on those who may be shut in or otherwise unable to provide for themselves.

To implement the project, LCMS Disaster Response will provide the empty survival kits along with devotionals entitled "Where is God Now?" Survival kits and devotionals may be ordered from LCMS Disaster Response by going to *http://www.lcms.org/disaster* or calling 888-THE LCMS.

For more information on the comprehensive LCMS disaster response initiative please call us directly at 314-996-1711 or visit our website at *http://www.lcms.org/disaster*.

As part of the project, each congregation or affiliate organization fills the empty survival kits with items from a suggested list provided by LCMS Disaster Response (see page 3). The items are purchased and donated by the members of the congregation or affiliate organization. Additional survival kits assembled over and above local needs are returned to LCMS Disaster Response for distribution following major disasters.

The "Survival Kit" project is part of the LCMS Disaster Response disaster initiative. LCMS districts and congregations participating in the project are offered the survival kits and devotional material with a suggestion donation of $2 per bag. The actual cost of the kit and devotional exceeds $4. As a ministry service, these items are offered at a reduced rate by LCMS Disaster Response.

The cost of items to fill the bags ranges from $10 upward depending on the quality and quantity of items purchased. The cost will increase substantially if the optional items are added.

Stores that specialize in survival gear or high-end sporting goods stores tend to be more expensive and generally don't carry bulk pack items. Items purchased at discount stores

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(Target, Wal-Mart, Walgreens, CVS, K-Mart, etc.) tend to reduce the overall cost of assembling each kit. Buying multi-pack items, like six waters, six tissues, six food bars, etc., will reduce the cost as well.

Here are recent examples of per item costs:

a. 1 Emergency Space® blanket: $0.99
b. 1 rain/wind poncho: $0.79
c. ¼-inch candle, 4-pack: $1.29 (1 = $0.32)
d. 1 box waterproof matches, 8-pack: $1.19 (1 = $0.14)
e. 2 12-hr snap lights, 6-pack: $2.99 (2 = $0.98)
f. 3 purified drinking water, 3-pack: $1.29
g. 3 high-energy food bars, 12-pack: $3.99 (3 = $0.99)
h. 2 tissue packs, 8-pack: $1.99 (2 = $0.48)
i. 9 alcohol wipes, 24-pack: $1.49 (9 = $0.54)
j. 1 sanitation refuge bag, 18-pack: $2.19 (1 = $0.12)
k. 1 trash bag, 15-pack: $2.89 (1 = $0.19)
l. 1 survival whistle: $0.69
m. 1 individual first aid kit: $0.99
n. The optional AM/FM Weather/News Radio: $4.99
o. The other items were free as promotional items
    i. Survival Bag (LCMS Disaster Response)
    ii. devotional material (LCMS Disaster Response)
    iii. pocket pen light
    iv. small mirror
    v. note pad and pen
    vi. 6 hard candies

Without the optional radio, it is possible to assemble each survival kit for under $10.

Basic Disaster Survival Kit

The LCMS Disaster Response survival kit is assembled in a heavy duty Cordura® nylon bag made to endure years of abuse. This kit contains practical and useful survival products needed when a disaster strikes.

Basic survival kit content includes:

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Warmth & Shelter:

- 1 Emergency Space® blanket
- 1 Emergency rain/wind poncho

Heating & Light:

- 1 four-inch wax candle
- 1 box of waterproof matches
- 2 instant 12-hour snap lights

Food & Water Items:

- 12 purified drinking water pouches
- 1 sealed packet of high energy foods (3 people for 3 days)

Personal Hygiene Items:

- 2 tissue packs
- 9 wet wipe towelettes
- 1 sanitation refuse bag (red)
- 1 trash bag (white)

Spiritual Care Items:

- 1 pocket-sized Bible
- 1 “Where is God Now?” devotional booklet
- assorted spiritual care materials

Miscellaneous:

- 1 Cordura® nylon tote bag (provided by LCMS Disaster Response)
- 1 survival whistle
- 1 first aid kit
- 1 deluxe AM/FM radio flashlight w/batteries

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