

North/West Lower Michigan Synod ELCA

2900 N. Waverly Rd., Lansing, MI 48906

517-321-5066

The Rev. David E. Sprang - Assistant to the Bishop/Director for Evangelical Mission

revdsprang@gmail.com davidsprang@mitemsynod.org 517-331-8497



Lutheran Volunteer Rebuilding Teams Request

I AM PLANNING A MISSION TRIP May 22-30, 2020

I have led or participated in 11 mission trips with Habitat for Humanity, Thrivent, and Lutheran Disaster Response. I am happy to announce our next trip! Costs including airfare and room and board will be about \$1000.

Request: Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), a program of Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands is seeking Lutheran construction teams of 10 to 20 members to assist with rebuilding hurricane damaged homes on the island of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. This will greatly assist with our queue of almost 80 homes to repair.

Who We Help: Mostly low income senior citizen homeowners without property insurance who do not have enough funds to repair their home.

What We Do: We are mostly repairing and replacing roofs. We build to a standard of "safe and dry and sanitary and functional". We have replaced doors and windows, built wheelchair ramps, done mold remediation, tarped roofs and made other repairs.

LDR Experience with Volunteer Rebuilding Programs: We have been hosting volunteer construction groups on St Croix since June 2018. In the last year and a half, we have hosted over 800 volunteers in 50 groups and have repaired over 60 homes.

What LDR Provides:

- Hands-on construction coordination and supervision
- Transportation on island for volunteers
- Tools, building supplies and equipment
- Ability to hire specialists (plumbers & electricians) as needed
- Volunteer housing and food, on-site Volunteer Coordinator
- Homes to work on, prepared with permits and construction supplies
- Disaster Case Managers to work with homeowners
- Grants to homeowners to buy construction supplies as needed
-

What We Need: Volunteers to provide construction labor. It is best if teams have a mix of a few people with good construction skills; several people who are comfortable with using tools and being on roofs, and volunteers without much construction experience to be helping hands.

What Length of Commitment is Needed: Two weeks is best; one week is fine.

Volunteer Expenses: Round trip airfare to St Croix. In addition we request \$30/day per volunteer to cover food and lodging expenses.

For More Information, applications and a copy of our detailed FAQ please contact:

Pastor David Sprang, revdsprang@gmail.com, 517-331-8497