



Mercy in Action Disaster Resources is a ministry of Joel and Kathy Mathews, as they seek to live their faith in Jesus Christ, in grateful response to God, putting it into action by helping those affected by disaster.

Joel and Kathy have been involved with church disaster response ministry since 2004 and assisted the Southeastern District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod with setting up and managing the District's response to Hurricane Matthew in North Carolina. They distributed over 770 flood buckets in Lumberton, established work sites for LCMS volunteers in Lumberton (muck-out) and the greater Fayetteville area (chainsaw), established volunteer housing, and partnered with various Lutheran churches, other denominations, and various NGO's working on cleanup efforts in the Lumberton area. Joel and Kathy are both certified LERT trainers and Joel is also a certified chainsaw trainer.

It is the goal of Mercy in Action Disaster Resources, to provide disaster response training, planning, and management resources, enabling congregations to minister to their members and community in a disaster, being the hands and face of Christ.

### Disaster Services

- † Church Disaster Planning
- † Volunteer Management
- † Disaster Management
- † Job Coordination

### LERT Training

- † Tarping & Patching
- † Disaster Volunteer
- † Flood Cleanup
- † Chainsaw

Contact us to discuss how we can help your church.

**MERCY**  
*in action*  
DISASTER RESOURCES

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**MERCY**  
*in action*  
DISASTER RESOURCES

SERVING THOSE IN NEED

*Spiritually*  
AND  
*Physically*

† Luke 10:30-37

## Training Opportunities

### † LERT Training

*Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT)* – basic disaster response training that all volunteers must receive to work in a disaster area

### † Chainsaw Safety and Use

*Chainsaw safety and use* – basic certification for those who operate a chainsaw and non-operator team members

### † Muck-Out (Flood Cleanup)

*Mucking* – how to safely and effectively clean up a house after a flood to mitigate and remediate mold and damage

### † Tarp and Patch

*Tarp and patch* – how to tarp or patch a roof to mitigate water damage until a more permanent solution is reached

### † Flood Buckets & Disaster Trailers

*Flood buckets* – how to assemble a compact disaster cleanup system for use by those impacted by disasters

*Disaster trailers* – how to select, design, and build out a trailer that fits your disaster ministry team's needs

### † NIMS/Incident Command System

*National Incident Management System (NIMS) / Incident Command System (ICS)* – the event management system used by governmental and non-governmental organizations and agencies working at disasters. Disaster volunteer managers need to have an understanding of NIMS/ICS to effectively operate in this arena.

*For questions or to schedule a training in your area, please contact us today!*

Call (813) 215-8098 or email  
[Joel@MercyDisasterResources.org](mailto:Joel@MercyDisasterResources.org)



*Through Christ, we strive to help train and serve those helping others in need during times of disasters.*



## Services Provided

### † Disaster Planning

*Congregation and school disaster plan development* – includes plans for pre- and post-disaster for your church, school, staff, and members

*Recovery plan development* – includes how your congregation can minister to the needs of your neighborhood and community

### † Equipment

*Assist congregations in designing and equipping disaster response trailers*

*Provide equipment for use by volunteer teams*

### † Disaster Management

*Volunteer coordination* – registering, training, tracking, assisting, and coordinating individual volunteers and volunteer teams

*Job coordination* – setting up jobs for volunteers, coordinating with other faith-based and NGO groups to limit overlap and maximize effectiveness of volunteers

*Logistics* – obtaining resources needed for volunteers, the church, and its members as they work the response plan

*Documentation* – maintaining documentation on response activities, jobs, finances, and volunteers for grants, reimbursements, and after-action reports; preparing reports

*Financial management* – assisting the congregation with tracking disaster contributions and expenses by providing financial accountability through clear and accessible documentation

*Liaising with governmental, non-governmental, and faith-based organizations and agencies* – being the point-of-contact to ensure good communication and coordination of the response