

GI^{HEART}NG TUESDAY

December 1, 2020

It goes without saying that 2020 has been a year like no other in modern history and yet the work of Jesus has stayed the same, to love God and to love our neighbors. So we invite you on this [#GivingTuesday](#) to "give from your bounty" and make a difference in the lives of your neighbors.

First and foremost, ***we invite you to give to your congregation and its ministries.*** If your congregation provides a way to give online, do that. If not, drop an extra check in the mail this #GivingTuesday to support the many ways your congregation loves your neighbors.

Then, if you are able, we invite you to consider [giving to the Upstate New York Synod](#) to support these three ministries:

Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center (LCLC) - this beloved outdoor ministry of our synod needs your help to continue providing families and young people a safe place for *"spiritual growth, renewal, and Christ-centered community in the wonder of God's creation."* Since summer camp and other programs, the major source of income for LCLC, was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 they are in particular need of your financial support this year.



You can also plan a winter getaway and stay at one of the three winterized lodgings this winter. Head to [LCLC's website](#) to learn more.



The Great Commission Fund - in 2020 we began planting one new church and at the Synod Council meeting on November 21st they approved exploring two more new communities of faith. This brings the number of current new church plants in our synod to six! Five of these new communities are specifically planted to reach out to traditionally marginalized communities - those living in poverty and our African Descent and LGBTQIA+ siblings. This fund also supports existing congregations as they seek to reach out to their neighborhoods in new and innovative ways. We need your help to keep these and all of our communities of faith growing.



Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) - This year we have seen unprecedented natural disasters - wild fires in the Western part of the United States and 29 named tropical storms/hurricanes with 12 making landfall in the US to name just a few. Our neighbors around the country and globe continue to need our collective help to recover, rebuild and start over.



You can give to any or all of these ministries today or on #GivingTuesday (December 1) by visiting this link and selecting "#GivingTuesday" in the drop down menu. If you want to designate your gift to a particular ministry simply indicate it in the Note/Memo box.