

Upcoming LERT trainings – Basic and Chainsaw (Lutheran Early Response Teams)

Basic LERT training -limit 30

WHEN: Saturday, **August 23**, 2025, 8:30am to 3:00pm.

WHERE: Trinity Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls is the host congregation.

WHO: Register as individuals. Congregations are encouraged to send a group of people to this training so that you can continue as LERT trained volunteers when you get back home.

COST: \$35 per person and payable at the event. This includes all materials, refreshments and lunch. Checks payable: “MN North District-LERT training”.

REGISTRATION: All registrations are made online at: www.lcms-lert.org Please register by August 15. Walk-ins are permitted but materials cannot be guaranteed.

Instructions for online registration:

1. Every person must use their own email address to register for an LCMS LERT account (two people cannot use the same email address). If you already have LERT account do not create a new account. You will be guided through a series of screens to complete.
2. After completing your account sign up, go to the left sidebar for DISTRICTS and then select MN NORTH DISTRICT for more details about the training.
3. Select the training event to attend: [Fergus Falls] and complete preregistration.

LERT Chainsaw Training – limit 10

PREREQUISITE: Basic LERT certification required. No exceptions. Minimum age:18

WHEN: Saturday, **September 6**, 2025, 7:30am to 4:00pm. 7:30am-Check in. 8am-Class begins.

WHERE: Faith Community Lutheran Church in Zimmerman is the host congregation.

WHAT: Morning session is classroom training. Afternoon is hands-on field chainsaw operation and skills training. Both must be completed to be an authorized LCMS LERT Chainsaw Operator and use a chainsaw on LERT disaster response sites.

COST: \$55 per person and payable at the event. This includes all materials, refreshments and lunch. Checks payable: “MN North District-LERT training”.

BRING: Chainsaw and oil/fuel, all required PPE (Personal Protection Equipment). Participants must wear steel-toed boots.

REGISTRATION: All registrations are online at: www.lcms-lert.org Use your LERT account to complete registration for “Zimmerman” event. Note: register for both the morning and afternoon events.

Any questions, contact: the site coordinator, Rev. Gary Rehborg, by email (drwho270@yahoo.co.uk) or phone (763-370-3441).

What is LCMS Disaster Response? It is a ministry of presence, a presence rich with God's mercy and Word of life. It serves thousands of individuals and families all over the world who are suffering from loss in the wake of disasters like hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, fires and tornadoes. It also provides an opportunity for the church to be visibly active in reaching out in mercy to serve the hurting and the homeless with physical and spiritual care. The church is able to provide Gospel-centered care for both body and soul in times of tragedy.

Disaster preparedness is a priority of LCMS Disaster Response. Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) training, is a program designed to help train congregations to respond when tragedy strikes. In times of disaster the church responds in mercy and love for neighbors in need. Why? Because the love of Christ moves and empowers us to demonstrate his mercy and love in our words and actions. In times of tragedy and disaster, we point people to the Rock of our salvation, Jesus Christ.

Does your congregation want to get involved? We are looking for congregations to host a LERT training event in this coming year. For information on the responsibilities of hosting and scheduling an event, contact Rev. John Beck at john6beck@gmail.com or (320) 249-4012.