

#3 2023 Pentecost Projects

Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) has been active in areas affected by earthquakes, tornados, flooding, and other natural disasters, as well as areas suffering from civil conflict and war. LDR continues to work with their partners in response to current disasters across the globe.

LDR worked with a village, Dudhpokhari, of 400 people in the Himalayan Mountains of Nepal after a 7.8 earthquake struck Nepal. The village was almost completely destroyed. The villagers were too afraid of aftershocks to sleep in their houses and slept in the road on plastic sheets even when it was raining.

Because Dudhpokhari is so remote, initial aid from the government did not begin to arrive for a week. Lutheran World Relief (LWR), a partner of LDR, was already engaged with the village in an electricity project. After the earthquake LDR collaborated with LWR to rebuild the damaged homes in the village. Using construction techniques for greater earthquake resistance such as concrete pillars and horizontal bands, they ensured that the villagers' homes were stronger than before.

The rebuilding helped the villagers build up their confidence that their homes were sturdy and safe. They now have the satisfaction that they have been able to rebuild their lives.

Completely rebuilding a village after an earthquake takes years, but LDR accompanies survivors for the long run. Not only are the houses in Dudhpokhari more resilient, but the people are too.

Make checks to St. Luke with LDR in memo line.