



Currents

Thanks to everyone who has expressed concern, are helping and wish to help after Hurricane Irene.

Updates on needs specific to each of the three communities deeply affected by the flood are below.



Flood Disaster Updates/Requests

Middleburgh

-Cleanup has gone well, same with the village. The professional cleaning service should finish in the church by the end of the week.

Volunteers are not needed at this time

Middleburgh Future Needs:

The Church housed the **food pantry** and it has to be totally restocked. We will publicize the need for collection sites and pantry items when they are ready.



Prattsville

Parsonage: The first main floor has been cleared out, plaster off the walls. The carpet and pews in the sanctuary are out. Work on the walls has begun.

Volunteers are needed for demolition and more mud removal in the parsonage and church. If it's a big team, some members may go to individual houses.

If you have asthma or an immune disorder, the mold will be an issue. Please wait to volunteer until later.

Plan to arrive after 9:00 am, team members no one younger than 15 years. When you get to the parking area, National Guard will advise you to either go to the church or take a shuttle. Say you are working with the Dutch Church.

Please Bring: Square shovels, buckets, disposable gloves, work gloves, boots, and face mask. **No cleaning supplies are needed.**

You do not need to bring a lunch and water is optional.

Directions: From highway take Rte. 23 through Windham. At West Settlement Rd. in Ashland, take a right to Rte. 10, which will eventually lead you to the parking area. *Call Greg or Becky to verify road conditions prior to going. (518) 947-4340

Contact Nancy McNiven to set up a work group visit. Albany Synod office (518) 374-4573, cell phone, (518) 867-2700 or nmcniven@albanysynod.org

Prattsville is still looking for plastic bins and totes to store things



Schoharie Reformed Church

Work continues in the church and in the community.

Volunteers Needed: Assignments start at 9am and continue through the day. Workers will be asked to sign a document indicating you are in the community for work relief.

Bring: 5-gallon pail (if you have it), tools to “tear things apart”- hammers, crowbars, etc., square shovels, rags, mops, work gloves, dust/face masks, boots (rubber and work), trash bags, lunch and water. Please carpool when possible.

****No collection for clothes, household goods, linens or furniture at any of these sites. There is no place to store*****

Your contact is the Schoharie Church Volunteers:
-(518) 370-8529, (518) 370-8826, (518) 370-2811

Schoharie urgently needs clear plastic bins and totes. If not clear plastic bins, include markers and tape to label. First Schenectady will be a drop-off site. Drop bins between 9am-3pm.

Especially requested: hand sanitizers, handy wipes and work gloves.

Information on flood waters, September 8, 2011

Work volunteers are needed in Rotterdam Junction. Rev. Kent McHeard reports that five families from **Woestina Reformed** lost their homes and 15-20 had damage. The community experienced heavy damage.

To Volunteer Contact: Michelle at 772-9913. Call her in the morning so she can tell you what they will need that day, or to set up a time in advance. A second contact for questions is **The Rotterdam Junction Volunteer Fire Department.** Hang on the line. You may think you are disconnected, but you are not.
Phone: 887-5111

FEMA: The quicker you register with FEMA the better, 1-800-621-FEMA or www.disasterassistance.gov Check their web for local locations you can visit for help in filling out forms and for more information.

Debris and Mud Removal: 2-1-1: United Way provides the 2-1-1 service for debris and mud removal. Simply dial 2-1-1 & register. This is the most efficient way to get help fast & find out if you qualify. If you can't get through, register at www.nyvoad.org/debris. It's a simple online form. If power is an issue, have a friend with power help.

Water Damaged Church Documents: This helpful information comes to us from Rev. Dr. Scott DeBlock. A member of his church has museum/curator experience.

“As we were talking about all of the flooding and the churches affected by Irene, it occurred to me that they may have some documents that were water-damaged and not know what to do. If that is the case anywhere, the State Archives provides some information and has a hotline for folks to call to get help and guidance in how to care for damaged records.”

<http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/news/disaster>