God's work. Our hands. Celebrates cross-generational discipleship!
By Deacon Vicki Hanrahan

Many of our congregations are participating in the ELCA day of service, "God's work. Our Hands." Some have participated on September 8, which is the day set aside by the ELCA if you wanted to participate when most other congregations were joining in. God's work. Our hands. reminds us that We are Church, We are Church Together, We are Lutheran and We are Church for the Sake of the World! And our work is for all generations! Here is a sample of what we've been up to so far...

Grace Lutheran Church – Darlington participated in "God's Work; Our Hands." After 10 a.m. worship, on Sept. 8, Grace Lutheran members delivered donated yellow Piggly Wiggly bags given to the Lafayette County Food Pantry, 1033 Main Street, with a tag inviting "On the Hill" neighbors in Darlington to join us in sharing non-perishable, non-expired groceries as food assistance to our neighbors in need

On Sunday, Sept. 15 following worship, Grace Lutheran members went to neighbors to retrieve the filled bags. Bag deliverers became filled bag retrievers. We thank our "hill" neighbors on Arthur, Clay, Driver, Eliza, Hillside, Park, and Valley View!

This bag-delivering and retrieving service by Grace Lutheran invited near outside neighbors as participants with inside congregational members in "God's Work; Our Hands" Sunday. With the Darlington Community of

Churches, Grace Lutheran congregation continues in this life-giving task of offering food assistance as a congregation and as a member of the "On the Hill" community in support of the Lafayette County Food Pantry.

Covenant Lutheran in Stoughton made a video to share their GWOH Sunday:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0702UflAkDk&feature=emb_logo

Our littleist worker from **Covenant Lutheran in Stoughton** helps take care of God's creation by planting daffodil bulbs in their resurrection garden.

Pastor Ann Walsvik and willing workers of **Redeemer Lutheran Church in Rio** painted park equipment at Rio's Fireman's Park.

Members of **Luther Memorial in Delavan** joined other congregations at Lutherdale Bible Camp to pack thousands of macaroni & cheese packs for the local food pantry.

The caring folks of **St. Mark's in Madison** assembled baby care kits for Lutheran World Relief.

This couple from **Covenant in Stoughton** has been married for 65 years! A teen looks on as they roll bandages for global ministries.

Covenant deployed 71 members for this year's God's work. Our hands. We love the re-creation of the logo for this year's theme of Building Beloved Community!

Every worthwhile event needs a mascot! **Barneveld Lutheran Church** invited Bucky to their day of service! Shown here is Pastor Jim Hearne with son, Peter

Williams Bay Lutheran Church collected seeds at Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy in Williams Bay. The seeds will now be used to further the restoration and growth of the prairie. This conservancy is really a gift to the community. Instead of developing this land in Williams Bay it is being preserved.

It all started with 6 ice-cream pails of sloppy joes and dozens of buns left over from the concession stand that **St John's Beaver Dam** sponsored at the local Relay for Life event. What to do with all that? Why not throw a "block" party for the neighborhood. St John's is right in the middle of a neighborhood designed as a circle. There's Circle Drive West, Circle Drive East, and Gomer Drive cutting through the middle. We personally delivered an invitation to the "circle party" to every household, gathered door prizes, planned activities for kids and for the adults, and designed a neighborhood bingo game to encourage meeting new folks. Members donated fruit, chips, cookies, door prizes, and enough money

to hire a band. What a wonderful afternoon it was! Over 100 people, members and neighbors, attended, there was dancing in the parking lot, and an infinite number of smiles were shared. Neighbors and members are already talking about next year.