

OSL MISSION TRIP 7/23/2019 PACIFIC JUNCTION, IOWA

In the Spring of 2019, the Missouri River flooded in southwest Iowa worse than any time in recorded history. Many communities suffered damage, but the town of Pacific Junction was extremely hard hit, so much so that virtually every home and business in town was flooded. If you have access to the internet, google “Pacific Junction Iowa” for pictures, videos, and stories of that epic flood. Since the water receded much clean-up work has been done, but much more work remains. In order to help with some of this work, a group of workers from OSL left Newton at 5:00 a.m. on July 23 to see how they could contribute to this clean-up/restoration. Two main projects were presented, and the OSL group split up to work on both.

On one project, the sheetrock, insulation, and wiring had been removed from the City’s Emergency Services (ambulance & fire equipment offices & garage) building, however the remaining wall studs were still full of many nails and screws that would need to be removed before reconstruction could begin. One person headed that direction with all the equipment needed to work on that task.

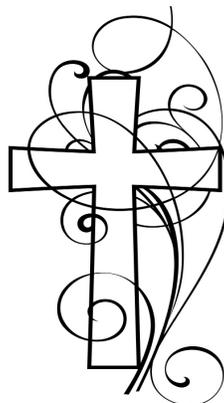
The other (and much larger) task was the removal of everything from the basement of a house, and also the removal of plaster and lath walls on the main floor of that home. The remaining 5 members of the OSL crew went to work on that project and much of the work was completed by day’s end! As you can see in the accompanying picture, several tons of material was removed from the house (including the furnace!)

It is unclear at this time how much the town will recuperate from this devastating flood, but God does not give us eyes to see the future. He just directs us to provide help where we can! The city representatives and the family that lived in the home were very appreciative of the work done by the OSL volunteers.

The entire experience provided a time of comraderie for those who made the trip and worked together. Our day started with prayer and ended with each of us praying that our efforts would be a benefit to the Kingdom of God!

Those on the trip were: Bill Rozendaal, Gary Gerdts, Bob Mesner, Jarrod Wellik, Doug DeJong, and Bob Bringolf. Also, special thanks to Randy Ervin for his willingness to participate, even though that didn’t materialize.

To GOD Be The Glory!





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