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# Lutheran *Church of Hope* Builds Relationships in Red Mesa

John Blomquist, a Gallup Bethany CRC member, has a cabin in Colorado, next to the cabin of Wayne Haines of the West Des Moines Iowa Lutheran Church of Hope. That is where the connection began... but it certainly has grown from there. Beginning with that personal connection, the Lutheran Church of Hope, built relationships with several Red Mesa congregations through work projects. This year was the first time the group came to work with the Ft. Wingate congregation in addition to the Tohlakai Bethlehem and Churchrock congregations. And the Ft. Wingate congregation was impressed and grateful. They liked the way the Church of Hope people insisted on working alongside their local congregation, building Christian friendships as well as building projects. They were grateful for the assistance. In June, a group of 40 people, mostly families, with a mix of ages, did some electrical work, made some banners and helped to uncover a treasure trove of educational materials the church didn't know they had. In September a smaller group of adults came out and worked with some Ft. Wingate members on home projects. They helped winterize a home, build a railing for an elderly member and repair some wiring in a home of a member who had some fire damage.



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