



From the desk of Pastor Keith Pitts...

Disaster Response Coordinator

East Central Iowa

(319) 361-4255

pastorkeithp@gmail.com



Chainsaw Training

Saturday, February 10, 2018

The East Central district of the Iowa UMC is hosting a chainsaw training event on February 10, 2018.

This event is open to all current members of a chainsaw team as well as new members. New members will receive the mandatory safety training during the morning and do practical exercises in the afternoon.

If you are a new member:

- Please bring \$20 to cover the cost of a mandatory background check
- RSVP to Keith Pitts so we know how many we can expect

The location is (accurate in google maps):

5002 Wagner Road
Central City, IA

This is a private farm south of Prairieburg IA in rural Linn county; about a 10-minute drive from Central City.

They lost nine acres of timber to a tornado this past summer. This site has extensive damage with many opportunities for training from simple to very advanced. The land owner has contacted a logger to come in and harvest the downed trees. The logger's schedule is unknown so we may or may not be in there before logging operations take place. Either way, we expect plenty of opportunities to train members.

We're grateful they've been gracious enough to allow us to conduct training here. Because we'll be guests, and because of the expected logging operations, there will be some simple guidelines to follow that will be provided on the day of training.

Please RSVP!

All attendees are encouraged to RSVP and new members requiring the morning safety training must RSVP. Contact Pastor Keith.

Miscellaneous Items

Please bring your own lunch. Unlike the church camp, we don't have the infrastructure to support feeding all of you. Plus, some people prefer not to eat a lot when working in the cold. We will provide water and a snack.

Safety gear is required. Chainsaw helmet, chaps, boots. This is a requirement of the Iowa Conference.

Weather Contingencies

The intent of the training is to practice in "cold" weather in case we're called out following an ice storm. The intent is not to see how cold we can stand to be outside. So, if there is any winter weather advisory, watch or warning (snow, ice, windchill) posted for the event day, it will be rescheduled for early March. Also, if the site is buried under deep snow, or the windchill is deemed to be too low, we'll postpone to March. A final decision will be made no later than 1pm Friday February 9th.