

Mount Cross
Lutheran Church

Celebrating 50 Years of
God's Faithfulness

*Yesterday
Today
Forever*

50,000 Acts of Service


CATALOG

Between October 25, 2015 and October 23, 2016, one of the ways Mount Cross Lutheran Church will celebrate its 50th Anniversary is by doing fifty thousand acts of service for the church and community.

This catalog is filled with a variety of service ideas. They are intended to inspire you to your own acts of service.

When you complete an act of service, please fill out one of the cards (shown at right), and leave it in the box in the Narthex, mail it to the church, or send it via the church's website. We will use them to keep a running tally of our progress. Note: The act of service will be multiplied by the number of people involved and that will be the number added to the grand total.

After being tallied, the cards will be available in an album for all to see. And who knows? Someone else's service idea may inspire a new one for you.

	ACT OF SERVICE		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Date: _____	_____	
<i>Yesterday Today Forever</i>	Name(s): _____	_____	
	Number of people serving: _____	_____	
	Place: _____	_____	
	Act of Service (describe briefly - say more on the back): _____	_____	
<i>Our goal for our 50th year - 50,000 Acts of Service</i>			

Rooted in God's grace to joyfully witness and **serve**.

- Count the acts of service you give to the community through groups to which you already belong: Kiwanis, Rotary, AAUW, Hospital Auxiliary, Citizen's Patrol.
- Volunteer... Many Meals, Food Share, Casa Pacifica, RAIN Project, Project Understanding, LSS, Habitat for Humanity,
- Donate blood.
- Donate clothing or household goods to Goodwill, Union Rescue Mission, ARC, etc.
- Make a donation to the St. Columba's food pantry.

- Donate a toy for Toys for Tots
- Give a gift at Christmas time for Hickory House, Many Meals
- Gifts of Hope
- Donate books to Friends of the Library
- Write a letter to your congressperson or senator about an issue you are passionate about/
- Offer to help an elderly neighbor with chores in or outside the house.
- Coach or referee
- Got a big vocabulary and a little time to kill? Test your skill on freerice.com. They'll donate 10 grains of rice through the World Food Program for every answer you get right.
- Use social media. Spread the word about a worthy-cause through posts on your own account, or volunteer to set-up a social media account for a local non-profit
- Take part in the Race for a cure, Relay for Life, Avon Walk, etc.
- Offer your help taking registrations, handing out water bottles, cleaning up after, or other administrative tasks for an event. It might not feel as glamorous, but this volunteer work is actually really helpful to non-profits!
- Participate in a clean up of a beach, riverbed or local park.
- Trick-or-treat for UNICEF. Think you're too old to collect candy, but still want to dress up? Collect money for a charitable organization like UNICEF, and no one will judge you.
- Join the day of service: Martin Luther King Jr. day. There are tons of volunteer opportunities on the National Day of Service that don't occur any other time of the year.
- Plant trees for Arbor Day.
- Volunteer at the animal shelter
- Tie A Quilt - Contact The Quilters. They meet twice a month to make the quilts we send each year to Lutheran World Relief. They could arrange to help your group make one or more quilts.
- Park Clean-Up - Meet in your local park and spend an hour picking up trash. Then share a pot-luck picnic together.
- Work Day At Church - Contact the Property Committee and set up a special work day for your neighborhood. There are indoor and outdoor projects, large and small projects.

- Card Party #1 - Your group might meet in someone's home and spend an evening writing cards to some of our many missionaries serving on behalf of our church around the world.
- Card Party #2 - Contact the pastors for help creating a list of those in need and write cards to send to those who are home bound, in the hospital or in time of need.
- Card Party #3 - For an arts and crafts oriented event, the group can create blank get well cards, we're thinking of you cards, etc. for the pastors, Stephen Ministers, or others to send or give to those who are home bound, in the hospital or in time of need.
- Prayer Vigil - Contact the pastor for help creating a list of prayer concerns. Have people sign up for a certain time (one hour block, for example). Your neighborhood group could arrange to hold their vigil at the church, at the labyrinth at St. Columba's, or in individual homes.
- Takin' It To The Streets - In June 2008 a group went to the mobile home park on Ventura Blvd. And spent the day painting and cleaning for a variety of home owners. This kind of service event could be duplicated.
- Education/Counseling:
 - Help younger readers
 - Tutor an English learner
 - Peer counseling
 - Donate books to local library
 - Donate old computer to school
- Community Cleanliness:
 - Paint mural over graffiti
 - Clean vacant lot or park
 - Fund-raise for playground equipment
 - Plant garden or tree for neighborhood
 - Clean trash along river, beach or park
- Homelessness:
 - Cook/serve meals at shelter
 - Collect clothes to donate to shelter
 - Donate care kits (combs, toothbrushes, etc) to shelter
 - Organize canned food drive
 - Build homes with Habitat for Humanity
- Elderly Neighbors/Nursing Homes:
 - Visit and send letters
 - Rake leaves or shovel snow
 - Take a senior for a walk
 - Pick up groceries or medicine
 - Teach how to use the Internet

- Citizenship
- Contact local representative about key issues
- Register voters
- Pass out election materials
- Send letter to veterans or overseas soldiers
- Bake cookies and bring them to your local fire or police station.

- Going green:
 - Organize car pool
 - Campaign for more walking/biking
 - Recycle
 - Don't litter.

- Special Needs:
 - Volunteer at Special Olympics Event
 - Organize buddy system for local special needs kids
 - Fund-raise for Braille books for visually impaired
 - Read books/newspapers on tape for visually impaired

- Medical:
 - Bring toys to hospital cancer ward
 - Deliver meals to home-bound patients
 - Volunteer as candy striper at local hospital

- Animals
 - Volunteer at local animal shelter
 - Walk a vacationing neighbor's dog or pet
 - Adopt a pet from Humane Society

- Nature
 - Adopt an acre of rain forest
 - Create wild life habitat

- Fall: Back to School Supply Drive/Backpack Packing

- Spring: International Gator Day

- Summer: Beach Clean-up/Community Project

- Winter: Holiday Project

- Help the Environment
 - Clean up trash from a highway, park, sidewalk, beach or other public area.
 - Start a community garden.

- Resource for Helping the Environment:

- The Adopt -a- Highway Program enables organizations and businesses to adopt a portion of a highway to keep clean. www.adoptahighway.com
- Homeless
- Clothing/Food drive.
- Habitat for Humanity.
- Gift drive for needy children during the Holidays.
- Volunteer at a soup kitchen.
- Host a child's birthday party with a sheet cake and presents for the children.
- Organize a "Beauty Day" at a shelter with free haircuts and manicures.
- Collect food for your local soup kitchen or food pantry.
- Collect new sneakers, pajamas, underwear and socks.
- Cleaning and paper items or whatever is needed most on your shelter's wish list.
- Decorate the dining hall or common area for the Holidays.
- Make centerpieces; bring fresh flowers and fresh fruit and vegetables.
- Set up a Saturday Reading Hour where you visit a homeless shelter once a month, bringing books to share and leave behind.
- Resources for helping the homeless:
 - Habitat for Humanity builds houses for people in need with the help of volunteers.
 - Elderly
 - Meals on Wheels night.
 - Game night at retirement home.
 - Christmas party/Caroling at retirement home.
 - Visit one alumnus' residence, offer to interview them about their lives, take pictures and post on a bulletin board in a common area.
- Resources for Helping the Elderly:
 - "Meals on Wheels" delivers meals to elderly people in their homes.
- Children
 - Help newly-arrived immigrant children and their families celebrate their "First Thanksgiving" by collecting food, kitchen supplies, toiletries, clothing, school supplies and toys.
 - Make backpacks of school supplies or toiletries for children and teens in foster care.
 - Start a Holiday collection of NEW toys for organizations that distribute gifts to children of incarcerated parents.
 - Organize a collection of prom dresses and accessories for homecomings and proms.
 - Spiff up children's rooms at a group home with new pillows and comforters and a coat of paint.
 - Collect books for low-income schools or after-school tutoring programs.
 - Organize a sporting event for underprivileged children.
 - Ideas for Community Service Projects and Activities.
 - Help fix a run-down playground.
 - Community clean-up project: Build a dog park or playground on a vacant piece of town land.
 - Make meals or buy groceries for a local Ronald McDonald House.
 - Volunteer with your local Special Olympics committee or at a Special Olympics event.
 - Recreate the "34th Street Wall."

- Organize a “Celebrity Game” in your town (i.e. a local radio station squares off with teachers to raise funds for local needs or to improve sporting facilities in your town.)
- Sponsor a blood drive or attend one as a group.

- Resources for Helping Children:
- Big Brothers Big Sisters matches children with adults of the same gender to provide kids with positive role model and mentorship. www.bbbs.org
- Special Olympics- www.specialolympics.org
- Ronald Macdonald House- rmhc.org