

SERVING: WHAT COULD WE DO?

Serving - what could we do ?

Locally ?

Offer a chaplaincy service to the local High Street

Set up odd job teams – to do jobs within the church, within the community

Prayer walk

Be a listening ear to those who need it

Encourage others – write, phone, visit – especially the lonely

Take your activities, such as worship, to local care homes

Discover local needs and pray and maybe provide a labour force

Volunteer in local schemes

Invite someone to speak about their community service e.g. work with Dementia, local police, District Nurse, to find out their need and offer to pray for them.

Is your local Primary School struggling ? Could you help with resources such as the library ? Have you time to volunteer to hear children read [Safeguarding certificate needed here], offer to pray for staff and children as and when appropriate. Become a Governor, offer your church premises for school activities

A 'Skills day' when you, church members, neighbours, others offer to share/use skills e.g. from card making to advice on legal/financial matters to DIY advice, bike maintenance, gardening tips photography skills etc etc or sharing ideas for activities for children [especially holidays!]

Lunches, teas, simple meals for church and non-church alike

Church budget for specific outreach activities

Wider issues ?

We may not have the resources to tackle big issues, but we can support those who do , e.g. Campaigns – e.g. Tear Fund, human trafficking, refugees, support Child line, Mental health [YoungMinds.org.uk], charities helping the homeless, Samaritans etc.

Those abroad – support charities in numerous ways [mercy ships, MAF, etc]

Support URC 'World Church and Mission'

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URC's "Commitment for Life" which works through Christian Aid and Global Justice Now

The Methodist Church have an App with a list of campaigns too

Personally?

Keep a diary of help received and help given.

Images to help

Art, newspapers, Google images, magazines, photos you take to act as stimuli for thought and prayer.

Videos

The Gospel in a broken world. Video by "Go Chatter"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUo-rmWscfQ>

A social experiment to see public reaction to a man [an actor] lying in the street (a) as a homeless man and (b) as a business man

<https://youtu.be/iPehw67L91w>

Support material for children

Google PINTEREST + the topic for craft ideas

Just Google your topic e.g. "Good Samaritan puzzles"

*David Howell
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