



Northern Texas - Northern Louisiana Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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Opportunities and Ideas for Service of Neighbor during COVID-19 Pandemic

Our mission to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ through word and deed is made manifest in our care and concern for the most vulnerable in our midst

Tangible ways you can serve your neighbor in this time without risking your health or the health of your neighbor...

Advocate: Our local, state, and national leaders need to hear from you. Encourage them to support our vulnerable populations through bi-partisan legislation. ELCA Advocacy provides alerts: <https://elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Advocacy>

Make Phone Calls: Call your neighbors and colleagues. Particularly those who live alone. Use the church directory and write notes of support to parents, children, and college students who face educational uncertainty.

Connect with Food Banks: School and work closure hit the most economically vulnerable first and particularly children. Also food banks will need volunteers in coming weeks. You can find local foodbanks at <https://www.feedingamerica.org/find-your-local-foodbank> or contact your church as they may have a food ministry or a neighboring congregation will.

Write Letters/Cards to Lutheran Sunset Home in Clifton: Encouragement can be given to residents and staff. Address to Chaplain Dave Anfenson 413 Sunset Ave. Clifton, TX 76634

Connect with Families of Servicewomen/men: For the spouses and children of the deployed this time brings additional anxiety and uncertainty as well as added burden. In you congregation you may have deployed members. Be sure their families have needed supplies for quarantine.

Donate Blood: Blood supplies are low. Contact your local blood donation center and find out if they are able to receive you. <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>

Care for Homeless Neighbors: Shelters are constantly in need of soap, personal hygiene supplies, and new undergarments for men, women, and children. Financial donations are also helpful.

Support your Local Congregation and Briarwood: Your congregation's staff and pastors are serving in a very anxious time as is the synod and Briarwood staff. Encouraging words, prayers, and financial support for these ministries will help sustain them through this time and ensure staff continue to be paid as well as retain health benefits.

And there are many more ways you can make manifest in words and deeds the gospel to others in your midst. This is an opportunity for our church to be the church, to turn outward, and live out our calling to be in service to neighbor #InMissionTogether