

Sharing Your Faith Ideas for 2025

January

- **Stuff warm socks** with snacks and fruit to pass out to people who are homeless.
- **Public Servant Appreciation Day.** Police Department, Fire Department, Paramedics, 911 Workers, City Hall, Health Care workers, Teachers, Secretaries, etc. Contact the Director and arrange a date for your club to visit. Take cookies and drinks, along with card or banner, expressing appreciation for what they do to make your community a safer place.
- **House Cleaning Services.** Offer your club to shut-ins or those that need assistance with cleaning their houses. Doing the dishes, dusting, doing laundry, cleaning bathrooms, cleaning windows, taking out garbage, and mowing lawns, etc.

February

- **Birthday Boxes:** We have done what we call 'Birthday Boxes.' We put cake mix, frosting, candles, as well as a few toys, in a box. Put in a tablecloth, plates, napkins, banners, and other decorations too. Then, we donate them to a local food pantry for those families in need of a birthday cake. We use plain white boxes (ask a bakery [if] they could donate some). We let the kids decorate them with coloring, stickers, or even the fronts of old cards. It makes them feel good to give back for a child's birthday.
- **Care Packages for Service Men and Women:** Check with your pastor or the recruiting offices for the armed services for men or women that would have need of a care package from a friend. Then make your package accordingly, adding some literature or bible studies, etc.
- **Children's Hospital Visitation:** Personal visitation is always a meaningful activity. Consider putting on a short program with music and drama/story time. Young people in the hospital appreciate visitors to help break up the monotony of being hospitalized.

March

- **Make Cards for Shut-ins and Nursing Home Residents:** Check with your church pastor and secretary for names of nursing home residents. Make cards or write letters and deliver them to that person. You may take flowers, sing a few songs, and/or take a gift.
- **Random Acts of Kindness:** Explain what it means to your club members. Maybe someone is having a crisis in their life or family. Talk about keeping it a secret from the other kids and the other adults. You can get the parents involved too. You can take bags of pencils, kisses, suckers, crayons, etc. Adapt the surprise according to the age group and their interest. Acts of kindness can be used for groups of children and adults or just an individual person. You may just make someone happy.
- **Church Clean Up:** Contact your pastor or head deacon for a list of needs at the church. It may be that the janitor may need assistance to get everything done each week. The lawn may need extra attention too. Be sure to write Thank You notes to those who do these jobs regularly. Tell them how much they are needed and appreciated.

April

- **Adopt a Grandparent:** Enrich your young people by having them adopt a grandparent. The concept is for them to have a relationship with a senior citizen. This requires commitment, time, and energy. Leaders must work with the young person to help find someone that will be a good fit. They could introduce them to their friends, take them on a field trip, help them do their shopping or just be ready to help them, which would benefit them both.
- **Clean Windshields:** Provide a windshield cleaning project in a parking lot. Use a cleaner that is designed to clean windows. Wipe with a soft cloth or paper towel. Make sure you do the mirrors too. If you do this as a surprise for the car owner, make sure you do a quality job....one that you are proud of. Don't forget to leave a note that tells them you are ? club doing an act of kindness.
- **Water Bottles to Walkers, Hikers, & Bikers:** Purchase water bottles and prepare a label for the bottle that tells them who you are and what you stand for. Then, find a park or location where people walk, hike, or bike.

Introduce yourself and give them a bottle of water and/or a granola bar. You decide how you want to do this activity.

May

- **Adopt an Animal Shelter:** Contact your local Humane Society or Animal Shelter. Tell them who you are and that your club would like to come and help give the dogs a walk. They will help you know which dogs are friendly and need a walk and some love. You may donate treats or food too. You can do this activity as often as you can.
- **Rainy Day Curb Service:** Not everyone carries an umbrella on a rainy day. Many churches do not have an overhang where people can get close enough to get in the church without getting wet. You can supply this service and provide an umbrella. Plan to walk them into the church under your umbrella. Another idea is to collect umbrellas and give it to a person, letting them take the umbrella and use it, leaving it in a designated area when they are finished with it.
- **Visitation Program for missing Church Youth:** Generally speaking, when parents stop attending church, so do their youth. It is also true that as parents empower their children to make decisions, some youth choose not to go to church. However, why a youth has stopped coming to church is very important. However, getting them back should not be your main goal. Your goal should be to re-establish a meaningful relationship with other youth of your church. Check with the pastor or other youth/children leaders to help with forming a list and a plan to visit the missing youth.

June

- **Big Brother, Big Sister:** Frequently, children, especially 10–12-year-olds, are in need of a friend with whom they can do activities. The key element is to be a friend. Plan activities that you can do together and talk during the activity, like ball games, swimming parties, playing games or just hanging out. Plan activities they like.
- **Vacation Bible School Volunteer:** Every summer, churches plan a Vacation Bible School program for the children of the church. Maybe you feel that you are too old to go and participate. Why not let the leaders know that

you would like to be a volunteer helper. It's only a week, and chances are, you will have a great time.

- **Birthday Parties:** Shelters for families and single parents have plenty of needs. One meaningful activity for everyone is to plan a monthly birthday party for the children in the shelters. Some grocery stores will donate a cake and ice cream. You can ask your church to help donate toys and balloon/party items to help with the cost. Contact the director of the shelter and arrange the time and place. Sometimes they will also share other needs for the residence at the shelter that you can help provide.

July

- **Free Car Wash:** Obtain permission from a store that will let you use their parking lot to hold a free car wash and give the store the credit! Have volunteers from your group stand by the road with FREE CAR WASH signs. Remember to do a good job. You will need hoses, buckets, soap, sponges, or washcloths, and lots of towels. Don't forget trash bags for garbage and a shop vac to touch up the inside of the car.
- **Rake & Run:** Here's a seasonal activity that can be done as a group. You can look for yards that need raking and RAKE and RUN without letting them know who did it. You may check with them before you rake the leaves to make sure they need it done. This is a fun activity that the whole group can enjoy.
- **Make "I Care" kits** with combs, toothbrushes, shampoo, etc. for the homeless that stand at the roadside asking for help.

August

- **Backpacks for kids in need:** When school supplies are on sale, purchase them or ask for donations, and put them in a backpack to be shared with those who may need them.
- **Welcome Wagon:** When people are new in a community, there are lots of basic items of information and services they need to discover. You can gather a packet of this information and give it to them. Make a welcome basket for them, including information about your church and Pathfinder Club. You may include coupons for local merchants and businesses. Flowers and food are a nice touch too.

- **Neighborhood Bible Club:** Plan a Vacation Bible School or a Sabbath School program in a park and invite the neighborhood children. Perhaps you could do it Sabbath Afternoon or maybe after school. You would have to survey the people in the area and make it a good time for them. After you have done this type of program for a few weeks, you can invite the children and parents to an event at the church, and eventually to have them involved in club ministry. Then you can find another location and do the same thing.

September

- **Office Flower Blitz:** Many florists have extra flowers or bouquets that were not picked up that they may be happy to give to you, or at least at a lower price. Put them in bunches and deliver them to an office or place of business. You may want to go to a place where you know the people or go to a new place. Random acts of kindness will bless your club.
- **Sports Equipment Drive:** A lot of your club children play sports. There are special needs for sports equipment. Your club could help collect slightly used equipment or new equipment. Create a list of needs. Advertise in your church bulletin and call a local radio station asking to help with this project. You would collect the equipment and distribute among the teams.
- **Youth Auction:** Come spring and fall, many older members have yard work or odd jobs they are unable to do themselves. Why not help them and add money to your club budget? Invite people to an event where they can bid on an individual club member to “buy” them for one day or a specific project. Encourage the people to bid on each club member. All proceeds go for a designated cause such as a mission trip, or other projects the club has.

October

- **Birthday Letters or Cards for Church Members:**
Many of the church members do not have anyone that remembers their birthday or helps celebrate with them. Your club could do an outreach where you write letters or make cards to deliver to the members who have

a birthday. You may take balloons or a cake for them to enjoy. Contact the church secretary or church clerk for the information you would need.

- **Pick up Litter in Local Park:**

Your club can make a difference in your community by picking a local park or public area to clean the ground. Be sure to wear your club t-shirt to let people know who is responsible for your act of kindness.

- **Sponsor a Yard Sale:** Contact all the families in your church to bring unwanted, but sellable, items to the yard sale location the night before the sale. Don't wait for the day of the sale to have items dropped off (you will have buyers there at least an hour before you open, making it impossible to receive new items). Location is everything in a yard sale. Don't forget to advertise your sale. All proceeds should go for club projects.

November

- **Greeters at Church:** Most churches have official greeters at all church meetings, etc. A great way to get to know the members and have them get to know you is to ask if you can help greet and help escort handicapped and elderly members. Be sure to wear your best smile and your uniform to make the best impression possible, so that when you ask for financial help or for any assistance, they know who you are and what you represent.
- **Help out at a Soup Kitchen:** One of the most popular service activities for many young people is to feed the homeless. Most soup kitchens have a somewhat limited supply of food. You can help in several ways. Collect the food to be served, serve the food, or sort and clean the food to be given out. Another thing you can do is provide programming for those being served. Don't forget to check your local community to see where you can help. Plan to wear your uniform/Club T-shirt to let them know about your club.
- **Play Games with Seniors at Home or Assisted Living:** Do you like playing games? You can play games with seniors at a local Assisted Living or a Nursing home. Many residents enjoy ways to pass the time, plus having fun too. Check with the administration and the person who organizes activities at a facility to see how you can help. Ask if you need to bring your own

games to use for this project. Again, wear your Club uniform. You will be blessed and make someone smile because you gave your time.

December

- **Free Gift Wrapping:** Here is an event that can involve everyone. Challenge every family to buy 2 rolls of wrapping paper, a bag of bows and ribbons, plus scotch tape. Ask the church members to come to a social event and have them bring their gifts to be wrapped while they enjoy the program and refreshments. Advertising is a must. Seek ways to post signs, etc. to make this a success.
- **Toy Collection and Distribution:** During the Christmas season, the need for children's gifts is at an all-time high. First, find an area in your community that could use your assistance to make sure children in need get Christmas gifts. Second, pick a date to deliver the toys. Third, determine the number of children that need assistance. Then you need to know the age groups that you will be serving. Ask the church and community to help donate gifts. Advertising is very important in order to get enough toys donated for this project.
- **Help Pack Food Boxes for Families in Need:** The need for help to feed families is growing. Most communities have several food banks and food distribution centers. Check with these centers as to how you can donate time to help pack and distribute the food boxes. Your church may have a community service program that you can help by giving your time to volunteer and give back to your community. Your club will be blessed when you help others.

Short Term Mission Trips

- Maranatha.org (volunteer opportunities)
- Habitat for Humanity
800Habitat
800-422-4828
www.habitat.org/volunteer
Sponsor a child
- Adra
adra.org
Giftcatolog.adra.org
Sponsor a Goat or Chicken
- South Pacific Division
<http://volunteers.adventistchurch.com>
- It is Written Mission Trips
www.itiswritten.com

Ready Aid

Have kids make care packages for people who are asking for help on street corners.

You'll need:

- A Bible
- Index cards
- Pens
- Large plastic, resealable bags
- Items to include: water bottles, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, small packs of gum, soft snack bars or packages of cracker sandwiches, deodorants, plastic bandages, packages of tissues, and antiseptic wipes