



CREATIVE WAYS TO SERVE...

#hillsideinaction

- **LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO OUR FIRST RESPONDERS**

Take a few moments and write some letters of encouragement to our first responders. They put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe. Reach out to our fire fighters, police officers, EMT, etc.

- **MASKS**

Face masks are going to be a part of our lives for a while. If you like to sew, consider making masks. You can donate them to church, hospitals, doctors offices, your favorite non-profit organization or offer them to your neighbors and friends.

- **GIVE A KID A CHANCE**

Purchase a new backpack and fill it full of school supplies as requested by Give A Kid A Chance. For details and more information on how to correctly fill a backpack, go to www.giveakidachance.org. All backpacks will be collected in late June and early July. Watch for details on collection dates.

- **MISSION TRIP**

Are you being called to go on a mission trip? Pray over whether God is leading you to join our team heading to Orphanage Emmanuel in Honduras, September 19-26, 2020. For more information and details, contact the team leader: David McFarlin at DTMCFARLIN@msn.com.

- **RUN/WALK BENEFIT**

Plan a walk/run to benefit your favorite outreach organization. For example: Commit to walk 10 laps at a park. Ask your family and friends to sponsor each

lap for a certain \$\$ amount, do the walk, then donate to the organization.

- **FOOD PANTRY**

Organize a food drive on your street, your neighborhood, your small group, your sports teams. Let them know you are collecting food for the local food pantry. They all need canned pasta, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned meat, rice, beans, pasta, peanut butter, jelly. Collect and take it to a pantry. Our pantries are giving out record numbers of food to meet the needs in the community.

or

If you are able, volunteer. The pantries need dependable people to volunteer consistently weekly. Consider giving up 2 hours each week to serve. You must be over 18 to serve and be in good health.

- **PRISON MINISTRY**

Donate cards: birthday, anniversary, get well, sympathy or blank cards with the envelope. Those incarcerated want to connect with their families during special events. For an extra benefit, donate postage stamps. Start saving these. When the church is open, bring them to the church copy room across from the church office.

or

Make cards and notes. Take the time to make a card with encouraging words to send to prisoners. Hillside participates in KAIROS prison ministry. During a KAIROS weekend, those incarcerated who are participating receive encouraging cards and letters letting them know how much God loves them, how much they are cared for, that they are important and are being prayed for. These notes can also be placed in the copy room at church.

- **MAKE PHONE CALLS**

Call your family, church family, neighbors, friends. Don't text, CALL. Ask how they are doing, let them know that you are thinking of them, that they are important and loved. Do they need anything? Can you pray for them?

- **PRAYER MINISTRY**

Tired of being at home? Make a poster that says: "Don't mind me, I'm praying for you and this organization" or whatever you want your poster to say. Take the poster, get in your car and drive to different organizations that are serving the community (Next Step Ministries, Alpha Equestrian, MUST, Never Alone, Forever Fed, Encompass Ministries, SERV International, Bethesda Clinic, ...). Park in the parking lot, put the poster in your windshield and pray over the people serving, the building, those being served, or however you are led to pray. When you are done, drive to the next location and repeat.

or

Don't have a car, or can't drive yet? Walk around your neighborhood and pray over each home and those inside.

- **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

If you are able, support the local merchants. Be sure to tip and tip well, even if you are picking up an order.

These are only a few ideas, maybe you have some of your own. Let us know how you are serving, whether it is one of these or something you have thought of.

Take pictures you and/or your family serving and post to Facebook.

Be sure to use [#hillsideinaction](#) and tag Hillside UMC.

We would love to know how you are serving.