

40 days of Generosity, A Lenten Commitment to be More Generous.

“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21

Be more generous with prayer

- Go for a Neighborhood/Nature Walk. Pray for your neighbors, community members, and creation as you walk.
- Make a Prayer Jar. Fill a jar with 40 different people and things to pray for. Pull a slip each day and pray for that person or thing.
- 40 minutes of prayer/devotional time. Make time for devotion/prayer each day.
- 40 minutes of Bible reading. Find verses and stories about generosity.

Be more generous with kindness, positivity and encouragement

- Make a 40 days of Generosity “bucket list”. Sit down as a family and make a list together.
- Make a Gratitude Jar. Each day family members will put a slip of paper into the jar. It could be something they are grateful for, how they were generous, where they saw someone being generous, or a positive message. At the end of Lent, empty the jar and read the slips of paper.
- Sidewalk Chalk messages of kindness and love.
- Make Friendship/Kindness rocks. Leave them for people to find.
- Leave post-it notes with encouraging messages for your family or co-workers.
- Send a Thinking of you card to a shut in, nursing home resident, or neighbor.
- Be generous with compliments. Give a strange or someone you know a compliment.
- Send someone flowers, just because!
- Send Thank you notes to community members
- Take treats/snacks to a local First Responders station.
- Use Good manners. Please and Thank you are simple but always appreciated!
- Tell someone they make the world a better place and truly mean it!
- Be generous of mind. Instead of finding fault, look for the positives. Be thankful. Appreciate others.
- Let someone go in front of you
- Be Kind to Customer Service Employees
- Open a door

Be more generous with your time.

- Do an extra chore without being asked.
- Help a neighbor or family member with extra yard work or housework.
- Volunteer
- Pick up trash at a park, beach or your neighborhood.
- Be present, really listen and give someone your undivided attention when they are talking to you.
- Call someone you haven't talked to in a while just to check in with them.
- Truly support someone and be there for them in their time of need.

- Spend 40 minutes AWAY from social media, emails, your phone and technology and instead spend that time with family or in prayer/devotion. **Give the world your gift or undivided, non-digital attention!**
- Get outlandishly excited about something your child or loved one has done.
- Make cards for a nursing home.
- Make more time with your pet.
- 40 minutes of family exercise/activity
- Read 40 books about generosity with your children ****A separate list is available****

Be more generous with your resources

- Clean 40 items out of your closets to donate.
- Donate household cleaning supplies or hygiene items to the Blessing Box
- Leave money on a vending machine, gumball machine, at a laundromat, etc...
- Take a care package to someone who is ill, recovering from surgery/treatment
- Give Blood if you can
- Donate 40 food items to the Blessing Box or Food Bank.
- Sell something you don't use anymore, and give the money to a worthy charity.
- Donate your used books to a little library.
- Make someone a meal.
- Make someone a homemade treat.
- Pay for someone's morning coffee, or the bill for the person behind you at a drive-thru
- Tip generously!
- Donate food, litter, or cleaning supplies to a local Humane Society
- Spend 40 minutes a day/week learning a new skill. Learn how to crochet or knit and join the Prayer Shawl ministry. Learn to sew and help make quilts with our church women. Learn new cooking/baking skills and share a meal/homemade treat with someone. Learn to play an instrument or woodworking.
- Donate \$40 to a worthy charity. Consider Lutheran World Relief, ELCA Hunger Relief, or a local charity
- Become a mentor
- Use smile.amazon.com
- Support a friend's business. Shop local.