

Ideas for Transforming the World

Action to Serve the Poor and Vulnerable

- Prepare and serve a meal at a soup kitchen or homeless shelter.
- Donate goods such as food for the local food bank, clothing, school kits for children, personal essentials for those at a homeless shelter, a toy collection at Christmas, packages for prisoners.
- Care for the elderly by visiting them at a convalescent home or senior citizen facility or doing chores and shopping.
- Tutor children or become a Big Brother or Sister.
- Build or repair homes.
- Support efforts to provide vaccines and medical care to the world's poor, such as mosquito nets for malaria prevention, immunizations against childhood disease, and HIV/AIDS treatment.
- Work with people who have disabling conditions.
- Give generously to those in need at home and abroad by making a financial donation to support the efforts of groups who work with the poor.
- Adopt a community in another country by supporting them financially and learning about their culture and community life.
- Sponsor a child or family through a international sponsorship program such as World Vision.
- Support organizations that are building schools and libraries for children in the poorest countries of the world; provide books and/or our money to purchase books for children.

Action for Justice

- Be an advocate for just policies and priorities that protect human life, promote human dignity, preserve God's creation, and build peace; become familiar with pending legislation or proposals that affect people's basic needs; write advocacy letters or emails.
- Work with groups to change legislation or budget priorities that ensure the human rights of people.
- Support organizations working for justice—locally, nationally, and internationally by promoting the purpose and activities of organizations, providing financial support, and volunteering time to work with the organization.
- Develop a program or campaign to educate people in your church or community about a particular justice issue.

- Loan money, through organizations involved in microlending, to an individual entrepreneur in the developing world so they can start a business and help to alleviate poverty in their community.
- Use your purchasing power to buy fair trade products, such as coffee, chocolate, and crafts, that benefit local producers in the developing world. Look for the Fair Trade label.

Work for Peace

- Work to end the violence against women and children; work with programs.
- Work to end the violence of human trafficking of children by working with organizations seek to shut down trafficking rings and providing support for the victims.
- Address violence in the media through nonsupport of products by not purchasing and/or abstaining or limiting exposure to violent TV shows, movies, video games, and toys.
- Work with organizations that seek to build bridges of understanding among people who have been hostile toward each other.
- Be an advocate for government policies that promote peace and diplomacy; engage in letter/email writing around peace issues.

Caring for Creation

- Take basic, doable actions, personally and with your household, to reduce your "environmental footprint" and save our habitat (water, trees) and prevent climate-warming emissions.
- Adopt a piece of the planet through the Nature Conservancy's "Adopt an Acre" and "Rescue the Reef" programs, and the Rainforest Alliance's "Adopt-a-Rainforest" program.
- Protect endangered species and their habitats through the World Wildlife Fund's projects.
- Care for the environment by planting trees in your community or organizing a clean-up the community day.
- Recycle all your paper, glass, aluminum, and plastic, as well electronics.
- Be an advocate for government policies and programs that support the environment and encourage alternative energy.

