

Spreading Care and Compassion During Challenging Times As a Family



Teaching kids care and compassion starts from a young age. They see and follow the example set by their Families, teachers, and others with which they come in contact. Care can also be modeled for them in the activities they are able to participate in. In a time like this where contact is a little more difficult, we still have a golden opportunity to teach our children, especially if we are creative. You have probably already seen several impressive and creative examples of care on the web or television during this time, but showing care together as a family can also be relatively simple...

- Your family can collect and take food to a food bank together
- Children can be given money to put in a donation box at a store, the offering plate at church, or through other means, and then told how that money is going to help other people.
- Your family can participate in a “support a child program” or an organization that lets you buy clean water, a goat, or other supplies for those in need in other countries. The neat thing here is that your child will be able to see the progress your family is making toward a giving goal especially if you keep track. (We encourage you to try to work through a highly rated charity like Lutheran World Relief, so you know your money is being used effectively. Sites like <https://www.charitynavigator.org> can help you evaluate this.)
- You can encourage your children to say something like “thank you for you work/service” to medical professionals, first responders, soldiers, teachers, or others when they see them at work or in uniform.

These are just few ideas and options, search the web, come up with your own, or ask us for more. We would love to hear about some of the things your family is doing and to be given permission to share them!

How is the VCA partnering with Faith Lutheran Church to Care and Share Jesus?

- The children of the VCA and the church are coloring coloring sheets to share with hospital workers, first responders and others who may need cheering up during this challenging time and to let them know we are praying for them (which we are also doing)
- We also hope to put some videos up on the web of teachers and members of the church reading stories to the children. These videos will be meant not just for our VCA kids (many of whom we still miss at home), but to help out other families as well. When the videos are ready, a Link will be provided on our Facebook page and at FaithValpo.org

If you and your children are still staying at home and would like to participate in sharing coloring sheets you can print some sheets out, color them, and drop them off during school or Sunday Worship hours. The sheets will be available through a Link on our Facebook page and at FaithValpo.org

God Bless your families,
The Faith Lutheran and VCA Staff