

Reformation 500: Congregational Projects

In commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation

Community :

Begin a Food Pantry, or a Soup Kitchen.

Donate money or time to a Crisis Center or Urban Ministries.

Muffin Ministry – who could use muffins? 500?

Plant a tree, shrubs, or flowers for an ecumenical neighbor – with their permission. It is said that Martin Luther once commented that if he knew the world would end tomorrow, he would plant a tree.

“Stop Hunger” programs – involve as many persons as possible; develop community.

Schools:

Teacher Appreciation: a ream of paper (500 sheets) to each teacher.

Snack bags for kids – 500? – for weekend nourishment.

Hygiene closet – band aids, tampons, TT, paper towels, deodorant, shampoo, OTC medicines for colds or Flu.

Collect winter coats, knit scarves, hats, gloves, sewing kits.

Build relationships with students and parents. Offer a hotdog supper, maybe at your church.

Music:

Choir opportunities. Join with a choir from a local Roman Catholic congregation, another protestant congregation, or ecumenical neighbor. Sing together during worship. Share a meal. Music builds bridges.

Suggested guidelines:

Use these lists as ideas. Let your creative ideas grow from the ideas above.

Look on your doorsteps for ideas.

Ask what is needed. Answer will depend on who you’re asking, e.g. guidance counselor, principal, nurse, pastor, director, teacher.

Look for opportunities to “Build Community.” Look for opportunities to extend project over months or maybe years. “Build relationships.”

Begin small and realistically; perhaps the project will grow over time.

Keep the number 500 in mind. 500 snack bags? 500 plants? 500 items for hygiene closet?

Build Bridges. Build Community. Build Relationships.