

Christian Care Sunday

Touching Lives



Giving Hope

“My children, let us not love with word or tongue but in deed and in truth.”

1 John 3:18

The Christian understands that love is freely given by God through the saving work of His Son, Jesus, in whom all who believe have forgiveness of sin, eternal life, plus deliverance from death and the devil (John 3:16). God’s wonderful love is powerful, moving the Christian (II Corinthians 5:14) to freely love others by serving them in all walks of life as our Father has loved and served us in His Son.

When, as Christians, we talk about caring for others, we realize that Jesus is the ultimate care giver. He understands human need and delivers on that need with the love and compassion that exceeds any



human care-giving system. A way in which God relates to the world today is through the Church serving in love and compassion to meet the needs of people. “... just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28).

Christian Care Sunday is about this capacity of the people of God to love and serve God’s creation. There are many ways of serving. Congregations regularly touch lives and give hope to people in the community through their own means and a variety of local, social, community, city, state, and govern-

mental agencies. There also are organizations in the Michigan District that serve others with care and compassion.

The purpose of Christian Care Sunday is to provide the church-at-large the opportunity, together, to celebrate, participate in, and propagate God’s love and care to those whom He has called us to serve in the Michigan District. As we lift up human care associations in the Michigan District, we do so knowing that there are many who are caring for people in a variety of ways. This Sunday has been set aside for cities and communities in the state of Michigan to hear, see, and experience the love of God through three Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs) of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod: Lutheran Child and Family Service of Michigan, Lutheran Homes of Michigan, and Project Compassion, Inc. What a great joy it is to acknowledge and celebrate with these Christian Care organizations the beauty of serving and caring for others with the love of God in Christ.

Speakers from these agencies are available to visit your congregation. Representatives will tell of the Christian Care their agencies provide during worship services, Sunday school, or meetings of congregational organizations. Your congregation also can consider lifting up these agencies in prayer and provide volunteer help, and spiritual and financial support for the ministry and mission they perform.

To assist you in planning and publicity of this effort, a speakers bureau listing, brochures, flyers, bulletin inserts, and other downloadable resources are available at www.michigandistrict.org/christiancaresunday. Congregations can contact the organization of their choice directly to have a representative share more information.

Please join the Michigan District in touching lives and giving hope by celebrating Christian Care during October, with special emphasis on Sunday, October 18, 2009.

