

Faith in Action 9 Weekend Ministry Opportunities Descriptions

THURSDAY, MAY 18

1. Mission of Our Lady of Angels
3808 W. Iowa St., Chicago
4:00 - 8:00pm
Leader: Karen Katamay

Come help bring Joy to the City and serve a meal to residents of the West Humboldt Park neighborhood at the Mission of Our Lady of the Angels in Chicago. The Mission usually gets 100 + neighbors at their meals, so we will help the Mission staff and other volunteers with this. Tasks include setting tables, preparing food, serving food and beverages, and clean-up, as well as meeting and greeting the fine people of this neighborhood in the city and our brothers and sisters in Christ.

FRIDAY, MAY 19

2. Ronald McDonald House
Tripp Ave at Airmail Road (1 Airmail Road on GPS), Hines, IL
3:30 - 7:30pm
Leader: Linda Ciello

After spending many hours at the bedside of their sick child, it's a nice treat for the families to come "home" to the Ronald McDonald House and have a meal waiting for them. We'll prepare a meal on-site (located on the Hines VA Hospital complex), share a meal with the families, and clean up afterwards.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

**3. Habitat for Humanity
TBD (Elgin, most likely)
8:30am - 4:00pm
Leader: Rob Panknin**

Habitat for Humanity works in partnership with God and people of all faiths and races to develop communities for people in need by building and renovating houses to create home ownership opportunities. No construction experience is required. If you are willing to get your hands dirty you'll have lots of fun and experience the joy of working together to make a difference in people's lives.

**4. Wildwood Nature Center
2701 W. Sibley, Park Ridge
9:00am - 12:00pm
Leader: Pete Szafranec**

We will be clearing away dead leaves and other overgrowth at the Wildwood Nature Center in Park Ridge. It'll be a lot of fun and a great volunteer opportunity for younger kids. No experience is needed. We do need to provide our own rakes.

**5. Monarch Thrift Shop
2866 N. Milwaukee Ave, Chicago
10:00am - 12:30pm
Leader: Peter Schwich**

Monarch's mission is to create employment opportunities for people with obstacles to employment. Our team will help with projects including cleaning, organizing, sorting, and possibly some steaming and merchandise layouts.

**6. Shriner's Hospital for Children
2211 N Oak Park Ave., Chicago
1:00 - 4:00pm
Leader: Jeanne Murtagh**

Shriner's Hospital's mission is to provide the highest quality care to children with neuromusculoskeletal conditions, burn injuries, and other special healthcare needs within a compassionate, family-centered and collaborative care environment. We'll help by working on landscaping and cleaning projects.

**7. Ronald McDonald House
Tripp Ave at Airmail Road (1 Airmail Road on GPS), Hines, IL
3:30 - 7:30pm
Leader: Jose Gonzales**

After spending many hours at the bedside of their sick child, it's a nice treat for the families to come "home" to the Ronald McDonald House and have a meal waiting for them. We'll prepare a meal on-site (located on the Hines VA Hospital complex), share a meal with the families, and clean up afterwards.

**8. Feed My Starving Children
1072 National Parkway, Schaumburg
7:00 -9:00pm
Leader: Rachel Quest**

Pack nutritious and cost-effective meals to feed starving children around the world. Everyone aged 5 and up can participate. We work hard in our assigned shift, but it's lots of fun. You can check out the program at www.fmsc.org.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

9. Sweet Cases by TogetherWeRise.org

Redeemer Park Ridge

9:00am - 1:00pm

Leader: Alysen Terretta

When children enter foster care, they are usually given a trash bag to move their few belongings in. TogetherWeRise.org provides NEW duffel bags filled with essentials like a teddy bear, blanket, hygiene kit, and much more. Volunteers will get a chance to help decorate and fill these bags together. This is a kid-friendly project.

10. Quilts for Lutheran World Relief

Redeemer Park Ridge

9:00am - 3:00pm

Leader: Karen Palandri

An LWR quilt is special! It brings warmth on a cold night and shelter from the sun on a hot day. It becomes a bed, a room divider, a backpack to carry belongings, and at times even a home. **YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW HOW TO SEW TO HELP.** We'll meet in the Redeemer Park Ridge gym to assemble quilts. These LWR quilts are easy to make – we'll need people to cut fabric, sew squares, layer the fabric, and knot the layers. Each quilt will be one of a kind, with a beauty all its own. Join us and help give the gift of hope to disaster victims around the world.

11. Kloempken Prairie Project

Oakton Community College, Lot C, College Dr., Des Plaines

9:00am - 12:00pm

Leader: Amy Kusta

The Des Plaines River Valley Restoration Project protects the environment by preserving natural habitat. We remove invasive plant species – non-native plants like buckthorn and garlic mustard – to make room for native plants, including threatened and endangered species. It's called ecological restoration, and the goal is to increase biodiversity. No experience is needed; they provide the tools and the know-how. This project is a fun outdoor activity that is great for families with children.

12. Stateville Prison

16830 South Broadway, Crest Hill

9:00am - 3:00pm

Leader: Ben Blobaum

We'll gather at Redeemer Park Ridge at 9:00am for a brief orientation and prayer before heading to Stateville Prison in Joliet. After clearing security, we'll go cell-to-cell, working in two-person teams to distribute the *Spiritual Survival Guide* and pray with inmates. We usually spend between two and three hours in the facility. Afterwards we plan to debrief and celebrate together at a nearby Cracker Barrel Restaurant.

*****PLEASE NOTE...** *Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and must receive clearance from the Illinois Department of Corrections. To apply for clearance, please send your full legal name, date of birth, and social security number to Ben Blobaum so that he can process your paperwork. This usually takes a minimum of four weeks, so you need to act fast!*

**13. Gratitude in the Park
Portage Park (the park)
10:00am - 12:00pm
Leader: Peter Schwich**

We'll spend a couple hours in the park writing—and inviting others to write—thank you notes to some people who don't hear thank you often enough (paramedics, teachers, firefighters, streets and sanitation workers, park district employees, police). Then we'll send/deliver the notes the following week. For the event, meet in the corner of the park at Long and Berteau (kiddy corner from Portage Park Elementary School).

**14. Sunday Supper Meal Preparation
Redeemer Park Ridge
12:30 - 4:30pm
Leaders: Irma Wevang & Susan Parenti**

We'll gather in the kitchen at Redeemer Park Ridge to prepare food for homeless and hungry men, women and children right here in our area. The meal will be served that evening at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Park Ridge, the site of the weekly PR Sunday Supper meal. Tasks include chopping, slicing, cooking, etc. No experience is necessary. Just show up and we'll put you to work!

**15. Free Car Wash
Redeemer Chicago
1:00 - 4:00pm
Leader: Sohe Reyes**

The name pretty much says it all. We'll need folks to help flag down motorists, meet and greet them with a friendly smile, and wash, rinse, and dry off their cars. This is a great kid-friendly event. It is lots of fun and a great team atmosphere, and a chance to be outside in the (hopefully) beautiful weather. We will be holding this in the Redeemer Chicago parking lot. This is a great event to bring your kids to – we just need plenty of adults around for supervision with cars driving in and out.

**16. Serve Meal at the Park Ridge Sunday Supper
205 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge
4:30 - 7:00pm
Leader: Carla Aukett**

We'll gather at Redeemer Park Ridge at 4:30pm to load the already-prepared food and supplies for the Sunday Night Supper at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in uptown Park Ridge. We'll unpack and make the final preparations for the meal. We then serve and help clean up after the meal. This is a great opportunity to serve the hungry and homeless right here in our own neighborhood.

17. South Loop Campus Ministry
637 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago
5:00 - 9:30pm
Leader: Dan Tornil

We will meet at Redeemer Chicago at 5:00pm and carpool (as parking is limited to 3 cars). There we will help make sack lunches with a group of Chicago south loop college students and their homeless neighbors. We'll then go out as teams and distribute the sandwiches and other snacks to homeless people on Wacker Drive and various other areas of the city. A short debriefing and reflection time will follow.