



Jake Lyell for LWR



SUNDAY KIT

WATER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Quick Start Guide	4
Suggested Readings & Sundays	5
Sample Sunday Schedule	6

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Bulletin Insert	7
Coloring Sheet	9
Prayers	10
Prayer of the Day	
Prayers of the Church	
Offertory Prayer	
Suggested Hymns	11
Children’s Sermons	12
LWR Stories for Sermons	14
Offering Suggestions.....	15
Quilt & Kit Blessings.....	16

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESOURCES

Activities for Youth Sunday School	18
Script for Adult Sunday School Power Point.....	22
Questions for Further Discussion.....	28

FELLOWSHIP

Coffee Hour.....	29
Congregational Meal	30

THANK YOU

How to Stay Involved	33
Additional Resources	34

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for inviting LWR to your worship

In the Gospel of John, Jesus says to the Samaritan woman, “The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The water was so important that Jesus connected it to his greatest gift, life with him.

Since 1945 Lutherans have responded to that grace by working with Lutheran World Relief to assure that this gift of water is accessible to all — and that gift inspires amazing changes in the lives of people living in poverty. In communities in the mountainous regions of Peru, the gift of water means children are better nourished and able to attend school and learn. In India, water fills dry, cracked earth, helping to grow vegetables to eat and sell for income. In the Philippines, clean water keeps families healthy as they work to recover from disasters like typhoons. These are just a few of the places U.S. Lutherans are helping to deliver God’s gift of water around the world.

In this kit you will find the tools to organize an LWR Sunday focused on the theme of Water. In addition to celebrating the faithful work you have done with LWR throughout the years, this kit is also designed to motivate, educate, inspire and affirm your congregation’s work alongside communities lacking access to water.

Worshiping God is central to this world-changing work. God creates a central place for us to be claimed, formed and sent out into the world for the sake of those we are called to serve. And you proclaim the Gospel in your community for the sake of all those in need around the world. Thank you for inviting LWR to be a part of the worship, mission and ministry of your congregation.

QUICK START GUIDE



① RECRUIT A PLANNING TEAM

Make sure to involve the worship leaders of your congregation in your preparations. The more people you involve in putting your LWR Sunday together, the more enthusiasm it will generate.



② PICK A SUNDAY

If your congregation follows the Revised Common Lectionary we have included Sundays that have scripture readings perfect for a focus on water. Or you may organize your LWR Sunday for a day that works best in the life of your congregation.



③ ORGANIZE YOUR LWR SUNDAY

In your team, plan the worship, education and fellowship elements your congregation would like to use.

Don't forget to sign up at lwr.org/sunday and let us know when you are holding your LWR Sunday. When you sign up, you'll receive a video greeting from LWR's President, and a Power Point slideshow for your Adult Sunday school.



④ WORSHIP!

And celebrate your congregation's call to work for water for all God's children. Included in this resource are options to fit with all shapes and sizes of congregations. Find what fits your congregation best and enjoy your day of worship and service.



⑤ STAY CONNECTED

Follow up on your congregation's commitment to the work of water and poverty alleviation. Be sure to discuss next steps on how to take what you learned on your LWR Sunday and apply it to your ministry.

SUGGESTED READINGS & SUNDAYS

Readings with connections to water are in *italics*.

YEAR A

February 4 – 10

(Fifth Sunday after Epiphany):

Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 112:1-9,
1 Corinthians 2:1-16,
Matthew 5:13-20

February 25 – March 1

(Eighth Sunday after Epiphany):

Isaiah 49:8-16a, Psalm 131,
1 Corinthians 4:1-5,
Matthew 6:24-34

May 24 – 28 (Time after

Pentecost – Lectionary 8):

Isaiah 49:8-16a, Psalm 131,
1 Corinthians 4:1-5,
Matthew 6:24-34

June 26 – July 2 (Time after

Pentecost – Lectionary 13):

Jeremiah 28:5-9, Psalm 89:1-4,
15-18, Romans 6:12-23,
Matthew 10:40-42

August 7 – 13 (Time after

Pentecost – Lectionary 19):

1 Kings 19:9-18, Psalm 85:8-13,
Romans 10:5-15,
Matthew 14:22-33

YEAR B

February 18 – 24 (Seventh

Sunday after Epiphany):

Isaiah 43:18-25, Psalm 41,
2 Corinthians 1:18-22, Mark 2:1-12

September 4 – 10 (Time after

Pentecost – Lectionary 23):

Isaiah 35:4-7a, Psalm 146, James
2:1-17, Mark 7:24-37

YEAR C

January 14 – 20

(Second Sunday after Epiphany):

Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10,
1 Corinthians 12:1-11, *John 2:1-11*

February 11 – 17

(Sixth Sunday after Epiphany):

Jeremiah 17:5-10, Psalm 1,
1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26

Third Sunday in Lent:

Isaiah 55:1-9, Psalm 63:1-8,
1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

August 21 – 27 (Time after

Pentecost – Lectionary 21):

Isaiah 58:9b-14, Psalm 103:1-8,
Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17

READINGS FOR ANY SUNDAY

Isaiah 35:4-7a, Psalm 65,
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21,
Matthew 10:40-42

SAMPLE SUNDAY SCHEDULE

An example of how one congregation might organize their LWR Sunday to help you envision yours!

8:00 am – 9:30 am

Worship

Join in song to worship God and lift up the hungry with the Suggested Hymns.

9:45 am – 10:30 am

Sunday School

Engage your Sunday school in LWR's work for sustainable development with special activities for children and youth and discussion questions for adults.

10:30 am – 10:45 am

Coffee Break

Serve LWR Fair Trade Coffee and support farmers who are making a difference in their communities.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm

Worship

Bless your congregation's offering of Mission Quilts. Incorporate stories of LWR's work overseas into the proclamation of the Gospel.

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

Congregational Meal

Celebrate your community and the abundance we are called by God to share with the world.

1:15 pm – 2:00 pm

Congregational Activity

Gather around a School Kit and Personal Care Kit assembly or kick off your congregation's Growing Project.



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WATER IS LIFE'S ESSENTIAL ELEMENT. WITHOUT IT, FOOD CANNOT GROW AND LIFE CANNOT THRIVE.

Around the world approximately 780 million people lack access to safe drinking water and 2.5 billion people lack access to water for sanitation.

Today we'll learn how to share God's gift of water and fight poverty by lifting up and joining in the work of Lutheran World Relief. As we worship and gather, let us open our hearts to God's call to help our neighbors in need.

"... but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

—John 4:14 (NRSV)

3 Ways to Share God's Gift of Water Together with Lutheran World Relief



1. Pray for those who lack water: Our God is an active God who hears our prayers for our brothers and sisters around the world in need of water. Prayer is an important part of participating in God's work.



2. Support Fair Trade. In addition to helping small-scale farmers support their families, Fair Trade pays farming cooperatives social premiums to improve their communities, including things like wells and latrines.



3. Give a water-themed LWR gift. For your next special occasion, give an LWR Gift and help a person in need unwrap God's gift of water. Visit lwrgifts.org/water to browse the selection of water-themed gifts.

Thank you for your partnership with Lutheran World Relief!

Prayer

God who brought the waters into being, through your son Jesus Christ you have delivered us from sin to be your people for the sake of the world. Be with those who go without water as they thirst and as they yearn to grow food. Through the waters of baptism, call us to bring lasting relief to those who have only known drought, so that through your grace all may find hope. In Jesus name we pray...**AMEN.**

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

“And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

Matthew 10:42



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

lwr.org
800.597.5972

PRAYERS

PRAYERS OF THE DAY

God who gathered together the waters at creation, as you gather your people together to worship, we know that many of your children around the world continue to lack access to the water they need. Claim us through your Living Water and fill us through your Body and Blood so that we may be your hands to all who thirst and whose lands are dry. Through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, Triune God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

Gracious God our Heavenly Father, you have claimed and redeemed us through Jesus Christ. Claim us through your life-giving word and your sacrament to be a people who bring water to those who thirst and care for your creation. Through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

God who claims us in the waters of baptism and moves us into mission we pray for your children who thirst around the world, your church that you call into service, and the people of God you have gifted for the work of greater access to water ...

For your good creation through which you nourish to feed your children and strengthen communities. Guide us to be good stewards of this gift you have given. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For brothers and sisters on the continent of Africa who experience recurring drought, especially in the Sahel region of West Africa. We pray for efforts there to introduce new farming practices and to connect farmers and communities with the resources they need to provide a sustainable future for their children. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For brothers and sisters in Latin America, where seasons of rain and dryness create loss for farmers who can least afford it. We pray for efforts to create sustainable water sources for communities and work that prepares communities for emergencies and disasters. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For brothers and sisters in Asia and the Middle East, where lack of water creates hunger and too much water comes with disaster. Bless the work of those who bring water to dry fields and those who help to rebuild after the destructive impact of typhoons and tsunamis. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For our churches and the people of God around the world who work together for sustainable development and to live into your lasting promise. Lord in your mercy,



hear our prayer.

For the gifts and abilities that you have given us in this congregation, that they be used to fill all those who thirst and hunger and make your promise known to all the world. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the gift of your son Jesus Christ through whom all of creation is redeemed; creation through which you provide life-giving water, food for the hungry and relief for the poor, we pray in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **AMEN.**

OFFERTORY PRAYERS

Gracious Father,

we offer these, our gifts, given first by you, for the work of your kingdom that all may be brought to new life. Use these gifts and our talents to fill the world with the knowledge that you are a God of goodness and abundance. Through the lasting promise of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Good and gracious God,

gather together our gifts in the abundance of your goodness and mercy. Through all we have brought together here, work in us to announce to the world the good news that all thirst will be quenched and all hunger will be fed, and continue to work in us for the sake of the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ.

SUGGESTED HYMNS



Evangelical Lutheran Worship

- 447 - O Blessed Spring
- 455 - Crashing Waters at Creation
- 521 - O Day of Rest and Gladness
- 554 - Lord, Your Hands Have Formed
- 641 - All Are Welcome
- 684 - Creating God, Your Fingers Trace
- 717 - Let Justice Flow Like Streams
- 719 - Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Lutheran Book of Worship

- 251 - O Day of Rest and Gladness
- 362 - We Plow the Fields and Scatter
- 429 - Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life
- 561 - For the Beauty of the Earth
- 563 - For the Fruit of All Creation

Lutheran Service Book

- 595 - O Blessed Spring
- 845 - Where Charity and Love Prevail
- 892 - Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
- 893 - Sing to the Lord of Harvest
- 894 - For the Fruits of His Creation
- 895 - Now Thank We All Our God
- 895 - O Day of Rest and Gladness

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

Use either of these two children's sermons to lift up a story from scripture that highlights the importance of water. Children will walk away knowing that one important way we respond to Jesus' awesome gift on the Cross is working to make sure that other people have access to water around the world.



CHILDREN'S SERMON #1

SCRIPTURE STORY:

Jesus and the Samaritans (Woman at the Well) John 4:1-42 (7-15)

PREPARATION: Bring a container of water to serve as your well. You also need small paper cups, or similar, for each of the children. If you would like to involve the adults, you will also need to recruit a few volunteers who will come up to the front later in the sermon and ask for a drink of water.

SERMON:

- Introduce the story of the Woman at the Well by retelling or asking children what they remember about the story.
- Jesus had been traveling very far with his friends and he was very thirsty. Ask the children what they do during their day that makes them very thirsty.
- Jesus was so very thirsty that he asks the woman to give him a drink of water, and this was a woman that Jesus' friends didn't think he should be talking to! Even she was surprised that he

would talk to her. Jesus wants us to talk to those people who are left out and lonely in the world. Can you think of times you've done that?

- Jesus goes beyond just talking to the woman and he offers her a gift. Living Water. What do you think he means by "Living Water?"
- It's that same living water that you and I are washed in when we are baptized. Because of the Living Water we get to follow Jesus and do a lot of the same things he does, like give people water.
- Today at church we are going to talk about people around the world who don't have enough water. Not just water to drink, but water for lots of other things too. What are other ways we use water?
- One of the many ways we follow Jesus is by working to make sure people around the world have enough water to do all of these things. So let's practice giving each other water. Everyone has a cup, and you can come up to the

water I have here and fill up your cup and offer it to someone else.

- After the group has done this with each other, invite them to take cups of water out to members in the congregation.
- It's good for us as a church family to practice here doing what Jesus wants us to do around the world — sharing water with people who need it.

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for the gift of water. Water to drink. Water to clean with. Water to grow the food we eat. And thank you for Jesus who gives us Living Water and invites us to share water with our friends around the world who don't have enough. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, **AMEN!**

CHILDREN'S SERMONS



CHILDREN'S SERMON #2

SCRIPTURE:

Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13: 1-9

PREPARATION:

Bring a blooming potted plant and a seed of the same plant.

SERMON:

- How many of you like to hear stories? Jesus tells his friends lots of stories, and one of them is about a person who plants lots of seeds and some of them grow and some of them don't. (Retell the Parable of the Sower).
- Jesus' story talks about seeds just like this one (show your seed) and some of them grow into beautiful plants like this one (show the potted plant). What does it take for a plant to grow big and strong like this?
- Children will name many things including sunlight, soil (what Jesus focuses on in the story) and water. As soon as water is mentioned highlight that answer.
- Water isn't just something plants need to grow, what else needs water to grow? WE DO! What other ways do we need water in our lives? We need water to drink, water to clean and water to grow the food that we eat.
- Jesus gives us an awesome gift in the waters of Baptism by claiming us and making us his own. This gift helps us grow big and strong as a follower of Jesus. And how do we say THANK YOU to Jesus for this gift? One way is by making sure that all God's children around the world have the water they need to grow big and strong like this plant.
- Today in church you are going to hear a lot about how people around the world don't have enough water to drink, stay healthy and grow the food they need to eat. As followers of Jesus we can do something about this by working together,

sharing what we have and praying for all those who might not have enough water. Can we do that together right now?

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for the gift of water and good soil that turns this seed into a beautiful plant. Thank you for the gift of water that cools us on a hot day, cleans us when we are dirty and helps to grow the food we eat. Help us to share this gift with anyone around the world who doesn't have enough water. Help us to follow Jesus in all we do as we grow from the gift of water that he gives! And all God's children say ...
AMEN!

LWR STORIES FOR SERMONS

Philippines

After Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippines in November of 2013, many people were left without access to clean water. After any natural disaster, lack of water and other factors make it very easy for diseases to spread, so having clean water to drink is essential.

Our support of Lutheran World Relief helped provide clean water to children in the Philippines through the distribution of water filtration units. These units look like water coolers, and have the ability to hold 45 gallons



of water at a time and can filter 12 liters per hour, making it safe to drink. With our help, LWR distributed water filtration units to schools and childcare centers to help children in typhoon-affected areas stay healthy.

Burkina Faso

Burkina Faso is a region in West Africa that experiences cycles of drought and food crisis. For many farmers in this region, there simply isn't enough water to grow as many crops as they are capable of growing. Moreover, many families have to consume all of their crops instead of letting some go to seed so that they can replant the next season. With our help, Lutheran World Relief is reaching out to farmers like Dymi Moon. With local partners, Dymi has been trained to dig what are called half-moon trenches, a



hole that resembles a half-moon that collects water he can use for his crops. With this new skill, Dymi is hopeful he'll grow more crops and others in his community are also interested in learning to dig their own trenches.

Nicaragua



In Yucul, Nicaragua, village water committee members demonstrate the processing of chlorine with salt, water and a battery powered charger for their water sanitation methods

Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, with 78 percent of the population living on less than \$2 per day. In this region many people lack access to safe water and sanitation facilities. That creates an economic burden for families in terms of increased health care costs (from going to the doctor after becoming sick from unsafe drinking water) as well as lost productivity — sick time that could have been spent working or going to school. Our support helps Lutheran World Relief reach people in Nicaragua, with things like latrines, water storage facilities and trainings on good sanitation and hygiene practices. Together, we are not only extending God's gift of water to people who need it, but empowering communities with information they can use to stay healthy for a long time to come.

OFFERING SUGGESTIONS

Hold a special offering during your LWR Sunday worship service in support of our brothers and sisters around the world in need of water. With your gifts to LWR you'll help small-scale farmers grow food, communities prevent disease and, together, provide more sustainable futures for their children.

Help make sure the people who feed the world have what they need to water and sustain their fields. Thank you for your support!



NOISY OFFERING

Choose a water-related container to collect the special offering. For example, you might use empty water jugs or watering cans from the garden. If space allows, add notes to the container with facts about water needs around the world. This is a great activity for young people to be involved in during the children's sermon, and don't forget that adults like to make a little noise too!

FAMILY WATER BANKS

See the craft instructions in the Activities for Youth Sunday School section. Ask families to take their Water Bank home for a week and encourage them to place money in it every time the family uses water. Let families know that they should bring their Water Bank back next week and share what they learned about how much water they use and how it impacts their lives.

GIVE GLOBALLY

Take your offering collection global by cutting a slot in the top of a globe and using it to collect your LWR offering. Use markers or pins to highlight the areas of the world where your support of LWR will make a difference.

Individual checks made out to "Lutheran World Relief" can be bundled and submitted. Please deposit any currency offered and write one check payable to "Lutheran World Relief." Please note "LWR Sunday: Water" on your check or bundle. Thank you for not mailing loose currency.

*Checks should be mailed to:
Lutheran World Relief
PO Box 17061
Baltimore, MD 21297-1061*



OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you'd like to use free LWR offering envelopes for your special offering, don't forget to order them in advance at lwr.org/resources or by calling **800.597.5972**.

QUILT & KIT BLESSINGS

Your congregation's Mission Quilts and Kits make a major impact in communities living in poverty all around the world. Offer blessings for these gifts of grace and mercy during your worship service.



QUILT BLESSINGS

Isaiah 40:1 – “Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.”

LEADER: God of grace...

PEOPLE: ...we dedicate to you the gift of these Mission Quilts. May your Spirit go with these Quilts to communities where poverty and lack of access to clean water persists.

LEADER: God of mercy...

PEOPLE: ...we praise you for the hands that crafted these Quilts. Through the abilities you have given this community, we offer these Quilts to bring comfort and hope in lives marked by drought and need.

LEADER: God of abundance...

PEOPLE: ...we give you thanks for all that you have given us to care for as stewards of your creation. In each stitch of these Quilts we see your promise. May your ever present love comfort the poor and their thirst for comfort.

LEADER: We send around the world with Godspeed these gifts of grace, mercy and abundance in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: AMEN!



SCHOOL KIT BLESSINGS

SCHOOL KITS

Hebrews 10:23

God of Promise...

we ask for your blessing upon these School Kits. Living in the joy of your resurrection, you give us the opportunity to deliver promise to those in need around the world. Bless those who use these Kits to study and give guidance to those who teach so that your lasting promise may be a reality for all.

All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

CRAYONS & PENCIL

SHARPENERS

Genesis 9:16

God of Abundance...

we ask for your blessing upon these crayons and pencil sharpeners. As the colors of the rainbow remind us of your promises, may the colors of these crayons inspire lasting promise in the lives of the students who use them.

NOTEBOOKS

Proverbs 7:1-3

God of Grace...

we ask for your blessing upon these notebooks. May the words that fill these pages inspire stronger futures for communities stricken with drought, and hope in the lives of children around the world.

SCHOOL KIT BLESSINGS - continued

BACKPACKS

Matthew 11:28-30

God of Peace...

we ask for your blessing upon these backpacks. You know the heavy burdens that many of your children bear when crops do not grow. May these backpacks help to lighten the load for those who study for a brighter future.

PENS & PENCILS

Revelation 21:5-6

God of Mercy...

we ask for your blessing upon these pens and pencils. Your word is the source of living water. May words of peace flow forth from them as students grow into leaders for their communities.

RULERS

Proverbs 3:5-6

God of Justice...

we ask for your blessing upon these rulers. May they be a tool to make straight the paths for students around the world who work to break free from poverty and thirsty lands.

SCISSORS

Isaiah 1:17

God of Goodness...

we ask for your blessing upon these scissors. In the midst of emptiness around the world may these gifts help to bring shape to a future of hope and sustainability.

PERSONAL CARE KIT BLESSINGS

PERSONAL CARE KITS

Hebrews 10:23

God of Promise...

we ask for your blessing upon these Personal Care Kits. You have given us the opportunity to deliver your promise to others around the world. Bless those who use these as they strive for dignity. Give strength to those who work to bring water and new life to your children so that they can realize your lasting promise. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

BARS OF SOAP

Isaiah 57:19

God of Peace...

we ask for your blessing upon these bars of soap. As we reach out to our sisters and brothers around the world, may these gifts paired with water be a witness to your abundance.

BATH TOWELS

Psalms 18:30

God of Grace...

we ask for your blessing upon these bath towels. May these gifts offer refuge for those living through drought and poverty.

TOOTHBRUSHES

2 Corinthians 1:20

God of Mercy...

we ask for your blessing upon these toothbrushes. May your grace travel with them as those affected by drought, hunger and poverty work to build a better life.

COMBS

Psalms 12:6

God of Justice...

we ask for your blessing upon these combs. May your promises travel with these combs to bring hope to those around the world affected by a lack of clean and abundant water.

NAIL CLIPPERS

Joshua 21:45

God of Abundance...

we ask for your blessing upon these nail clippers. May these clippers play their role in the lives of those who work for hope and dignity throughout the world.



ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Younger Elementary: K- grade 3

Waterfall Wall

Prep Time: 15-20 minutes

Activity Duration: 30 minutes

OBJECTIVES

Students will learn about all the ways that they use water in their daily lives, as well as the ways that young people around the world use water and need access to clean water

SUPPLIES

- Butcher paper
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Crayons, markers or colored pencils

ACTIVITY

Hang a long sheet of butcher paper on the wall. Consider decorating the paper like a waterfall in advance.

Use construction paper to cut out raindrop shapes. The shapes should be a half page or larger. Each student should get two blue raindrops, and three raindrops of any other color(s).

Students will begin with three raindrops, other than blue. On each raindrop, ask students to write or draw one way that their family uses water during a normal week. This may include washing the dishes, brushing teeth, taking a bath, drinking, etc. When students are finished, ask them to tape their raindrops to the butcher paper on the wall. Spend time talking with the students about what they enjoy doing with water. Talk about the differences between ways that water is important to daily life (cleaning, cooking, drinking) and ways that we have fun (running through a sprinkler, swimming, going to the beach). All of these are awesome gifts from God!

Then, explain to the students how your church supports sharing this gift of water with families around the world. For examples, refer to the LWR Stories for Sermons section of this LWR Sunday Kit. This section includes stories about the importance of having access to clean water after an emergency, having water that can be used to

stay clean and having water to grow crops so boys and girls can grow up healthy and strong. Ask students to draw pictures of these examples on their two blue raindrops. When students are finished, ask them to tape their raindrops to the butcher paper on the wall.

Remind students of another important way your church uses water ... BAPTISM! Ask the students if any of them remember the water from their baptism, or if they remember seeing another person get water poured over them for baptism. Remind them that it is because of the love that God shares with us through the waters of baptism that we can go out and serve other people and make sure they have enough water for all of these activities!

Close with prayer. Leave your waterfall up so other members of the congregation can see what you have learned.

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Older Elementary: Grades 4 – 6

Planting God's Gifts

Nourishing food is a gift from God and agriculture is one important way LWR shares God's gifts with our brothers and sisters in need around the world. Use this simple growing activity to teach young children the joy and rewards of caring for God's creation.

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Activity Duration:
15 minutes for 2-3 Sundays

OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Learn about the process of growing food, from seed to sprout to plant
- Understand the importance of water in growing food and having enough food to eat
- Understand that caring for God's creation is important, especially when it comes to having clean water and having enough to eat
- Develop their calling to reach out to people who are hungry through prayer and action

SUPPLIES

- Disposable cups
- Disposable dessert-sized plates
- Herb seeds
- Potting soil
- Water
- Note cards

ACTIVITY

When you start this project, let parents know that the class is starting a small growing project and that eventually each child will bring home a plant. You may want to begin this activity the week prior to your LWR Sunday.

Give each student a cup and help them poke holes in the bottom; then place the cups on the plates. Fill the cups with potting soil and give each child a seed to plant (follow the planting recommendations on the seed packet for soil amounts, etc.).

As students plant, talk to the children about how God provides for all of our needs. Explain that the wonder of God can be seen in the fact that one teeny, tiny seed can turn into enough food to feed a family. Talk about the importance of having access to enough water to grow the food we need.

Keep your planters in a sunny spot in the Sunday school classroom or ask for a designated spot in the

church. Make sure each student labels their plant with their name.

Over the next three classes, make sure the students water their plants and record the changes they observe. Provide the students with note cards to use as observation journals.

When the plants begin to sprout, they can go home with students. If you are using the same kind of seed for each student, conduct a lesson on how the mature plant can be used (pesto sauce for basil, mint in lemonade, etc.). Also talk to the students about how having access to clean water for growing food is important to our brothers and sisters around the world. The fruits and vegetables they grow help them feed their families. And, when families grow enough food, they can sell fruits and vegetables at market to pay for school, medicine and more.

Write a prayer on the notecards for students to take home with them and say with their family. Send the students home with basic instructions on how to care for their plant.

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Middle School & High School

LWR Personal Care Kit Assembly

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Activity Duration:
30 -90 minutes

OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Learn how natural disasters and other emergencies can heighten the need for clean water around the world
- Develop an understanding of the many ways to help those in need of water, including fighting the root causes of poverty
- Learn that God has given us each unique gifts to share with the world and that those gifts can help work toward a world where “all will be filled”

SUPPLIES

See the LWR Personal Care Kit supply list at lwr.org/personalcarekits.

You can also call **800.597.5972** to request a free copy of LWR’s Personal Care Kit Leader Guide, which provides games, activities, a Bible study and more.

ACTIVITY

Gather youth during your congregation’s post-worship activities, during Sunday school hour or at another time convenient to you and your students.

Organize supplies according to the suggestions in the LWR Personal Care Kit Leader Guide and lead them in assembling LWR Personal Care Kits to send around the world to people in need. Feel free to invite the wider congregation to participate!



ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Ages 5 and up

Water Banks

In this activity, the group will create banks to collect donations for our brothers and sisters around the world in need of access to clean and sustainable water sources.

Prep Time: 10-15 minutes

Activity Duration:
20-30 minutes

SUPPLIES

- Shoeboxes, one for each student or family
- Magazines in which students can find water-themed pictures
- Scissors (safety scissors for younger students)
- Blue and green construction paper
- Glue
- Markers
- Tape

ACTIVITY

This activity can be adjusted to fit nearly any age and is perfect for involving parents and other adults.

Introduce the activity by explaining to students that your group will be collecting money for those in need of access to clean and sustainable sources of water. Students and families can decide how they would like to contribute to the bank. For example, they could add coins to their water bank every time they use water around the house.

This will help families learn how important water is to daily life. You can also encourage families to write prayers for those in need of water, and deposit them into the bank. Ask students to take their water banks home to collect money. They should return with their banks the following week and be prepared to share what they learned about their own use of water. Collect the money to put towards your congregation's support of those who lack clean water around the world.

Create the water banks by cutting a small opening in the lid of your boxes. Assist younger students as necessary. Then ask students to decorate the boxes with water images and drawings that represent the many ways water is used in their home and around the world (drinking, cooking, cleaning, watering crops, etc). Use the construction paper and markers for drawings, and magazines for images.

As the students decorate, remind them not to seal the lid on the box. They'll need to be able to open the bank after they are finished collecting money.

SCRIPT FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL POWER POINT

Go to lwr.org/sunday and click “Let us know about your LWR Sunday plans” to download the LWR Sunday Power Point for your adult Sunday school. The presentation includes images of LWR’s work around the world and the people we serve.

SLIDE 1

Display as your class gathers and you introduce them



to your time together. At the end of this presentation you and your Sunday school class will be able to:

1. Express Lutheran World Relief’s approach to water and how it connects to LWR’s values and our shared faith.
2. Describe specific examples of LWR’s work in the world.
3. Express ways that they believe themselves to be called to live out their faith in the work to ensure that people living in poverty around the world have access to safe water and begin to define some actions that they can take.

Lutheran World Relief works to address global poverty in many ways, including helping farmers grow and sell more food, helping communities cope with changing weather patterns and responding to needs after disasters.

Today, though, we are going to focus on the work LWR does to

ensure that people living in poverty around the world have access to safe water. God calls us to help our brothers and sisters around the world to access the life-sustaining gift of water. Today we’ll learn how LWR helps communities around the world access water for drinking, sanitation and irrigation

SLIDE 2

I’d like to start off by sharing LWR’s mission and vision statements.



(Read statements out loud).

SLIDE 3

It’s also important to understand how LWR works to address poverty in countries around the world. In order to help communities improve their access to water, several groups of people have to work together to identify the cause of the problem and to figure out a long-term and sustainable solution.



The groups that do this are LWR staff, local partners, people living in the communities experiencing problems, and us – Lutherans living in the United States. Each

group has an important role in this work. Let’s discuss those roles.

LWR employs local staff in each of the regions where it works; these staff members know their regions well and communicate directly with local partners and the communities they seek to serve.

LWR’s local partners are organizations based in the communities served. LWR partners with them in service because they, too, know the areas well and have access to the people LWR seeks to reach.

Local communities also play a large and active part in the process. The people we serve are not simply recipients of aid, but are active participants in the improvement of their lives and communities.

The final group in this map, the piece that ties it all together, is U.S. Lutherans. It is the work and contributions of U.S. Lutherans, flowing through LWR staff and local partners, that makes it possible for LWR to serve communities in need. We will discuss how the hands of U.S. Lutherans fuel LWR’s service at the end of the presentation.

SCRIPT FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL POWER POINT - continued

SLIDE 4

LWR’s work is guided by five core values. We’ll discuss these values a little more later on, but for now, will five of you take turns reading them aloud?



toilets and water for hand-washing.

Also, the risk of water scarcity in regions where LWR works is increasing due to changing climate conditions, which can cause erratic rainy seasons, droughts and flooding in areas where the ground is too parched to absorb water. It is more vital than ever that we help improve people’s access to quality water around the world.

it’s very far away and getting it takes up time people can use to do other productive work. In other communities, water sources are shared with animals and have risks of contamination that make people sick and malnourished. By ensuring access to clean water, we create a foundation for a better life in good health.

SLIDE 5

According to the United Nations World Water Development Report, poverty is fundamentally connected to water issues – problems of availability, proximity, quantity and quality. Access to safe water affects individual health and is a significant factor in controlling the spread of infectious disease. Water access is also vital to the livelihoods of millions of people who rely on a consistent water source for agricultural use.



When most of us think of water consumption and access to water, we probably think of individual water use and whether people have enough access to clean drinking water. This is, of course, a grave concern and an important part of LWR’s water projects. But there are many other needs worldwide when it comes to water. This is why LWR works with four main types of water projects. Let’s discuss them.

SLIDE 8

LWR also carries out programs that create or improve irrigation systems for agriculture. LWR focuses its work in rural communities where families depend on their crops to eat and sell for income. By improving water for agriculture, we help families better support themselves.



SLIDE 6

A person needs 20 to 50 liters of safe water each day to meet his or her basic needs, but more than one billion people lack access to this essential amount. In addition, half of the people in the developing world still lack access to improved sanitation – things like



SLIDE 7

First, LWR carries out projects intended to improve the quality and availability of water for consumption. In many communities where LWR works, water is hard to access for many reasons. In some communities



SLIDE 9

Thirdly, LWR supports water projects that promote improved sanitation and hygiene. With partners, we work to help communities install latrines and hand-washing facilities, keep water supplies clean and safe, and provide training on how to ensure personal hygiene.



SCRIPT FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL POWER POINT - continued

SLIDE 10

The fourth type of project that LWR works with is the protection of watersheds and the management of natural water resources. By supporting this work we help to ensure that communities have water to use long into the future.



of living in poverty. To solve this problem, we must address the root causes and seek permanent solutions. Sometimes, it is important and necessary to provide clean water shipped from other countries to areas that have been hurt by natural disasters. But in other situations that are not emergencies, LWR seeks out solutions that can sustain a community over the long-term.

SLIDE 11

Central to each of these types of projects is an emphasis on community ownership. To make sure that these water projects continue to improve lives in years to come, LWR works with communities to ensure good management and organization of their own resources. Through the organization of water and sanitation committees, the creation of fair irrigation schedules, and the training of local community members in repairing and maintaining equipment, LWR and their partners have assurance that these projects will be sustainable in the long term.



SLIDE 13

In many communities, there is simply very little water to be found. In other places, there is plenty of water, but none of it is fit to be consumed by humans; it makes them sick and more susceptible to serious illnesses.



A Bolivian woman named Rosa knows what it is like to live this nightmare daily. Her mountainous community lacked good access to food and water, and people there were often malnourished and sick. LWR worked with a local partner to improve this water issue. Together with community members they worked on constructing water treatment facilities and protecting water sources and storage tanks from contamination.

Families also received training on water purification, hygiene and environmental cleanliness. Now Rosa's family has plenty of clean water to drink, and they enjoy the blessing of improved health. Rosa says, "Now our family does not have stomach aches because we are drinking clean water and eating well."

SLIDE 14

In other parts of the world, farmers who rely on water to help their plants grow do not have access to sufficient water. Their crops suffer for it, meaning their income and their families suffer for it as well. Fortunately, there is work that can be done to improve this situation. Irrigation projects can aid communities that lack water for their agricultural needs. Often, it turns out, water can be accessed just below the earth's surface.



SLIDE 15

Bacharou is a farmer in Niger who knows what it is like to not have enough water to grow the crops he needs to support his family of seven children. For many years, the drought and food crisis in Niger kept many farmers from being able to sufficiently grow crops. In 2010, LWR, local partners, and farmers worked in Bacharou's village to



SLIDE 12

Lack of water access is a very common part



SCRIPT FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL POWER POINT - continued

build subsurface dams that would improve access to underground water. A subsurface dam is an underground, waterproof barrier made from dry sand and rock that collects and holds water from underground streams. As the dam collects water, it raises the water level so that farmers can access it more easily. Now Bacharou has access to enough water to expand his field and improve his crops. Now, he says, “I’m able to share water with my neighbors. I’m happy for what I received.”

SLIDE 16

In some places, there is plenty of water, but a lack of education on hygiene and sanitation. This was the case for Maribel’s family in San Pablo, Peru. Despite having a canal nearby, it was difficult for her community to obtain clean water because of a lack of knowledge. LWR worked with local partners in the area to bring more education on these topics to the area. The project provided training for families on how to manage their water supply, and how to keep water clean by boiling and properly storing it.



SLIDE 17

Also, in the schools, LWR and partners installed composting toilets that help preserve water and improve sanitation, and help teach children about personal hygiene and the importance of hand-washing.



SLIDE 18

Healthy watersheds are essential for nearly every human activity. In some areas where LWR works, however, watersheds are threatened by soil erosion, overuse and deforestation, to name a few causes. When a watershed is not healthy, it may not produce enough water for the communities that depend on it. What water it does provide may not be good quality. In addition, watersheds are important parts of the ecosystem, providing water to all sorts of life that helps make agricultural livelihoods possible.



Improving and managing a watershed requires many people to come together. In Peru, LWR worked with communities and the local government to make a plan to protect and manage the San Juan watershed. To do this, communities

agreed to be careful of how they used the water for agriculture and other purposes and worked with local authorities to make sure lots of people were involved in overseeing the watershed management plan.

These changes in resource management have positively affected the way these communities care for their water resources. LWR’s work with watersheds around the world goes a long way in keeping citizens healthy and supplied with clean water.

SLIDE 19

In each of these stories you just heard, you will see several recurring themes, hallmarks of the work LWR does with communities to provide and protect water.



First, LWR works with those they serve, walking alongside farmers and community members. LWR empowers citizens to carry out solutions and actions, helping to provide the tools and knowledge they need to do so. Project participants are involved in every step of the process.

SCRIPT FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL POWER POINT - continued

Second, all of these projects were designed to have lasting impact. The effects will be sustained by community members, and last long after LWR programs have left the area.

In Bolivia, the knowledge gained about water safety will get passed down through generations, and the water treatment facilities that have been created will continue to provide clean water for the community.

In Niger, though drought may continue to plague the area, the sub-surface dams that are in place will continue to make underground water more accessible for farmers, and the knowledge of how to build these dams will sustain farmers in the future.

In Peru, the community's new knowledge on hygiene and sanitation will help keep them healthy and safe in years to come, and the local government's involvement will ensure that the project continues to reap benefits for San Pablo.

In areas where watershed management projects are at work, long term solutions like using new

farming techniques and planting new vegetation to stop erosion will continue to protect water resources in the long term, ensuring cleaner and safer water for the communities that draw from it.

SLIDE 20

All of these projects integrate LWR's core values into meaningful service and relationship building that lifts up God's people across the globe. Let's discuss how each of LWR's values come into play in these projects.



Each of these projects embodies LWR's value of **gratitude**. Where do you see gratitude in the four projects we discussed, or in your experience with LWR as U.S. Lutherans?

Each of these projects embodies LWR's value of **calling**. Where do you see calling in the four projects we discussed, or in your experience with LWR as U.S. Lutherans?

Each of these projects embodies LWR's value of **accompaniment**. Where do you see accompaniment in the four projects we discussed, or in your experience with LWR as U.S. Lutherans?

Each of these projects embodies LWR's value of **stewardship**. Where do you see stewardship in the four projects we discussed, or in your experience with LWR as U.S. Lutherans?

Each of these projects embodies LWR's value of **innovation**. Where do you see innovation in the four projects we discussed, or in your experience with LWR as U.S. Lutherans?

SLIDE 21

As promised, I will now finish up this presentation by telling how the hands of U.S. Lutherans are the tools that propel LWR's work, and how you can respond to God's call to aid our global sisters and brothers in their quest for the gift of safe water. Let me leave you with three important ways that LWR encourages us to be involved in this work with communities in poverty overseas.



First, give. With the gifts we give to LWR, we show a great deal of trust in their work, which is why gratitude and stewardship are central to how LWR works. One way LWR works in the spirit of gratitude and stewardship

SCRIPT FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL POWER POINT - continued

is by working to fight poverty using sustainable development principles. By supporting this work, we support an end to poverty and fulfill God's call to love and serve our neighbor in need.

Second, through the work of your hands.

(If your congregation participates in the LWR Quilt & Kit Ministry)

Our congregation is already involved in LWR's Quilt & Kit Ministry. If you would like to learn more or get involved please speak to [name of the person in charge of your Quilt & Kit Ministry]. These valuable gifts of faith and love are treasured by many of LWR's partners around the world and by all who receive them.

(If your congregation is not involved in the LWR Quilt & Kit Ministry)

LWR's Quilt & Kit Ministry brings together the work of U.S. Lutherans to provide warmth, comfort, education and skill training for sisters and brothers around the world. We have more information available on how to get involved here this Sunday, or visit lwr.org for instructions on how you can get started.

And third, pray. The work of LWR is grounded in the grace that God has shown us and the entire world through Jesus Christ. Along with the hands-on and financial support of Lutherans, the faith that we share strengthens the work of LWR. By lifting up those who thirst and those who work to end poverty in your daily prayers and the prayers of our congregation, a real impact is made in the world.

SLIDE 22

I would like to close by joining together in this prayer for water.



God of overflowing promise, you call for justice and mercy to run over like living streams, and made water a sign of your ultimate righteousness.

Reborn through the waters of your grace, we hear with new ears the cries of our neighbors; parched hearts and arid earth plead for reprieve.

Move us in our response to all who thirst, that we and they might receive your water, poured out for all, that none would be forsaken.

Amen.

SLIDE 23

Thank you for taking time this morning to learn more about how we can work alongside Lutheran World Relief to reach out to those in poverty, and those who do not have the same privilege of accessible and safe water that we do.



SLIDE 24

Closing slide



QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Following the LWR Sunday Power Point, use these questions to discuss what your congregation has learned.



1 What did you hear in this presentation about LWR’s work that made you feel a sense of **gratitude**? How does a sense of gratitude — like that found in Psalm 136 — help form us and our congregation into disciples who can do something about access to clean and abundant water in the world?

2 We heard in this presentation that LWR’s work is driven by the fact that all people have a **calling** from God. Because we believe that all people are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26), God calls us to work for dignity for all. The work of providing clean and abundant water calls upon all of us to live out our God-given vocations. How do you see your God-given **calling** contributing to this work? What skills, gifts and abilities has God placed in your life that are important to the work of providing clean and abundant water around the world? How might you put these into action with our congregation?

3 Have someone in your class read aloud the Walk to Emmaus (Luke 24: 13-35). How does this story of Jesus after his resurrection connect with the stories of **accompaniment** that we heard in the presentation? How can we as a congregation most faithfully and effectively *walk with* communities overseas working to gain access to clean and abundant water?

4 What did you learn from the projects we discussed about the importance of good **stewardship** of God’s creation in our work? How can we practice good **stewardship** with the resources God has given us as a congregation to work with those who lack access to clean and abundant water? Psalm 24 begins, “The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it.” How does this shape our calling as a congregation and as followers of Jesus to work for those who lack clean and abundant water?

5 Being **innovative** and wise, and making the most of our time (Ephesians 5:15-16) is important when we work to address problems like access to water. Did anything surprise you about how LWR, partners and communities work together? Along with our desire to reach out to our brothers and sisters overseas who struggle with access to clean and abundant water, how can our congregation best address these issues locally? What are we already doing and how can our faith lead us to be **innovative** in our community when it comes to issues of water and hunger? What organizations are being **innovative** in our community and how can we as a congregation best support them along with our support of LWR?

COFFEE HOUR

For more than 17 years Lutheran World Relief has promoted the use of Fair Trade coffee amongst Lutherans in the United States. And all around the world farmers and communities have benefited from Lutherans gathered around a coffee pot on Sunday morning.

Whether you have been serving Fair Trade coffee for years at your congregation or have just started, be sure to highlight the use of Fair Trade coffee during your LWR Sunday.



Here are some ways drinking Fair Trade coffee from LWR Fair Trade benefits those striving for access to clean water:

- **Fair Trade = Fair Prices.** That means the farmers who grew your coffee have a real opportunity to earn income to feed and support their families.
- **Fair Trade fights poverty.** Coffee growing cooperatives receive a guaranteed minimum price for their coffee, ensuring income. They also receive a Fair Trade premium, which is money communities can use to dig wells, build schools and roads, and make other vital improvements.
- **Fair Trade celebrates dignity,** a gift God gives all people. Through Fair Trade, you give farmers the opportunity to live healthy and productive lives and build more promising futures.

Fair Trade works to fight poverty around the world. As a part of your LWR Sunday, promote Fair Trade by:

- Displaying LWR Fair Trade posters and brochures alongside your Fair Trade coffee. These pieces will show your members the faces behind the products. You can get these materials by visiting lwr.org/resources or calling **800.597.5972**.
- Making an LWR Fair Trade gift basket and auction it off. You can make it fun by asking members to enter by guessing a water trivia fact (for instance, ask how many people in the world face absolute water scarcity by 2025. Answer: 1.8 billion, according to the United Nations). You can order Fair Trade coffee from LWR's partner Equal Exchange by calling **774.776.7366** or by visiting lwr.org/coffee.
- Giving members the opportunity to take Fair Trade home by displaying the LWR Fair Trade catalog and organizing a bulk order to be delivered to the church.



CONGREGATIONAL MEAL

Fellowship around God's abundance was an important part of Jesus' ministry and can be a vital part of your LWR Sunday. On this day, when your congregation has learned about and prayed for people around the world in need of life-giving water, what better way to end the day than to give thanks to God and share a meal together?

Whether you engage members of various ages to cook a meal or hold a potluck, your congregational meal following your LWR Sunday can be a time for fun, fellowship, reflection and even service. Use the time to highlight and celebrate all the ways that God's gift of water have made this time together possible. Here are some ideas to get you started.



Blessings for the Meal

Good and gracious God, we thank you for the blessings of this meal you have gathered us around today.

Through your life-giving waters of baptism you have called us together as followers of you. Through the sustaining waters of your creation you have brought this bounty before us. Bless our time together and send us out from this place as your people with the mission to bring clean and accessible water to those who go without. All of this we ask in the name of your son, Jesus Christ. **AMEN.**

Holy and merciful Father, the blessings of food you place before us in this meal are a reminder of the abundance that you provide through your creation. Where there is lack of water to raise good food, send us. Where there is lack of access to clean water for sanitation, send us. Where there is lack of water for those who thirst, send us. Fill us with your Spirit to go out from this time together as a community to share in your abundance. We ask all of this in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **AMEN.**

LWR Trivia

LWR works in Africa, Latin America and Asia & the Middle East to fight poverty, injustice and human suffering. But how much does your congregation know about the countries where LWR works? Pull together some trivia facts to test your knowledge and have some fun. Here's how:

- Visit lwr.org and click the "Our Work" tab. Click each region to access pages where you will find facts about each country that you can use to create trivia questions.
- Organize players into teams and place trivia questions at each table and see which group can come up with the correct answer.
- Or fashion your game like the popular NPR show "Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!," Jeopardy or even Family Feud.
- Ask each table a trivia question before they take their turn to go through the line for food.

CONGREGATIONAL MEAL

LWR Gifts Silent Auction

Another way to support LWR's work to fight global poverty is through LWR Gifts. The LWR Gifts catalog highlights several gifts that help deliver clean water to communities in need. By hosting an LWR Gifts silent auction you can accomplish two things: supporting the work of LWR and letting others know about this great way to give gifts! Here's how to do it.

- Visit **lwrgifts.org** to browse the selections and choose Gifts at various levels to auction.
- Display stuffed animals or framed pictures of LWR Gifts available for bidding and set up a silent auction around the room for the items.
- Don't list a cost, simply give people the ability to bid on them.
- The highest bidder at the end of the meal gets the prize — an LWR Gift, which serves as a donation in their name.
- If the final bid for an item is lower than the cost of the LWR Gift, let the winner know and give the opportunity for a bid adjustment OR you can tell the winner that their donation will be used to buy a gift with a price matching their bid.



LWR Kit Assembly

Designate an area near the site of your congregational meal to hold an LWR Kit assembly. Encourage people who have finished their meals to visit the assembly area to help. By the time the meal ends, all attendees will be working together in service to their global neighbors!



LWR Kits often go to areas of the world affected by disaster. They are often matched with resources that help affected communities access clean water, a crucial resource for recovery. Kits contain items vital to staying healthy, attending school and rebuilding flourishing lives.

Here are some tips to set up an LWR Kit assembly at your congregational meal:

- Visit **lwr.org/kits** or call **800.597.5972** to request a copy of the LWR Quilt & Kit Ministry Guide. It has all the guidelines for LWR Kits. It's important that Kits are assembled according to LWR's guidelines to ensure they truly help people in need.
- Order and use copies of LWR's School Kit or Personal Care Kit Leader Guides for ways to educate your congregation on the importance and impact of what they are assembling.
- Assign a person or team to help guide attendees through the process of assembling an LWR Kit.
- Don't forget to celebrate when you're finished! One great way is to schedule the LWR Kit assembly after the meal and before dessert. Once all Kits have been assembled, celebrate with a sweet treat.

CONGREGATIONAL MEAL

Celebrate a Fair Trade Sweet Treat

Share some Fair Trade chocolate after your lunch and Kit assembly. Chocolate from Equal Exchange through LWR Fair Trade can connect you directly with communities living in poverty around the world. It is in these communities where lack of water access is most prevalent.

Fair Trade farmers use **farming techniques that practice good stewardship of God's creation** and lessen the negative impacts on water supplies and oppose child labor. They receive a fair price on their cocoa beans and **invest in their communities** by receiving Fair Trade premiums from buyers. By doing so, they set a good example — and are a source of knowledge — for other farmers.

Fair Trade Premiums go towards projects like:

- Medical and dental services for an entire community
- Funding schools
- Wells and watershed management for communities

All of these activities promote sustainable development that leads to a fuller vision of God's lasting promise.

To order Fair Trade Chocolate for your congregation to taste during your LWR Sunday go to lwr.org/chocolate or call **774.776.7366**.

Kick Off an LWR Growing Project

An LWR Growing Project is a great, hands-on way to get your congregation active in the fight against global poverty.

Whether your congregation is urban, suburban or rural, you can run a successful LWR Growing Project by starting a garden, raising crops, selling them and donating to support the fight against hunger. Visit lwr.org/frb to learn more about LWR Growing Projects or call **800.597.5972**.

If your congregation decides to take on a growing project, hold your kick-off at your LWR Sunday congregational meal by doing a ground-breaking blessing on your garden site, seeds and other supplies.



THANK YOU!

Thank you for leading an LWR Sunday at your congregation! We hope it was an educational, engaging and, most importantly, worshipful experience for your congregation. We would love to hear stories, see pictures, and get feedback from you and your congregation.

To share feedback email lwr@lwr.org
or call **800.597.5972**.

Share stories and pictures on our Facebook page, facebook.com/LuthWorldRelief, our Twitter feed, [@LuthWorldRelief](https://twitter.com/LuthWorldRelief), or by emailing lwr@lwr.org.



STAY INVOLVED

After celebrating God's lasting promise on your LWR Sunday, keep your congregation involved in Lutheran World Relief's work of sustainable development.



Quilts & Kits

LWR Mission Quilts and LWR Kits send gifts of Christ's love to people in need around the world.
lwr.org/getinvolved



Fair Trade

Fair Trade products help farmers and producers around the world support their families.
lwr.org/fairtrade



Eco-Palms

Protect the forest, local jobs and sustainable livelihoods for palm harvesting communities in Guatemala and Mexico.
lwr.org/palms



LWR Gifts

Your loved one gets a unique gift, and a person in need gets the chance to change their life.
[lwrgifts.org](https://lwr.org/lwrgifts.org)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Go to lwr.org/resources or call **800.597.5972** to order any of these free resources in preparation for your congregation's LWR Sunday. Please allow 1 – 2 weeks for your order to arrive (resources are subject to availability).



LWR PEW ENVELOPES

Make it easy for your congregation to put their financial gifts to work on your LWR Sunday.



LWR BULLETIN INSERTS AND BROCHURES

An easy way to provide information about LWR that worshipers can take home with them.



QUILT & KIT MINISTRY GUIDE

A must-have for all those involved in putting faith into action through LWR's Quilt & Kit Ministry. Includes detailed assembly instructions for all Quilts & Kits.



QUILT & KIT POSTER

This poster-sized map shows where LWR distributed Quilts and Kits in the past year. Perfect for a bulletin board and a great visual tool to show the global impact of LWR's Quilt & Kit Ministry! (approx. size 25" tall X 31" wide)



QUILT & KIT SHIPPING FUND BROCHURE

Tri-fold brochure that explains how the Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund ensures that much-needed funds are available for handling and shipping LWR Quilts and Kits around the world.



QUILT, PERSONAL CARE KIT AND SCHOOL KIT LEADER GUIDES

90 minutes of activities, games and Bible studies that go with the assembly of LWR's Quilt and Kit ministry. Great for youth and intergenerational events!



LWR VIDEOS

Go to lwr.org/video to find videos you can download for use in your worship and educational programs.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

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