**Ideas for serving others**

Part of setting up a faith-based youth group

This is an opportunity for the young people to put their energy and faith into action through different social action projects. These sessions are facilitated by adults, but it is important that you allow the young people to choose what they do.

**20 Social action ideas**

* Raise money for a local charity
* Organise a Christmas Tree Festival in your community to bring the community together
* Donate soft toys to children in hospitals
* Volunteer at a summer holiday club for children
* Clear up the churchyard and help encourage biodiversity (find out more from the Wilder Churches initiative and Somerset Wildlife Trust)
* Sponsor a child living in another country or Twin a Toilet (the charities Compassion and Toilet Twinning will help with this)
* Collect and donate good quality used children’s books to distribute via a telephone box library or other community library
* Teach computer skills to the elderly
* Host a holiday meal for senior citizens
* Help neighbours in need tidy up their gardens
* Litter pick in your local community or clean up a local park
* Place bird feeders around your community
* Plant flowers in your community or organise a community vegetable garden
* Volunteer at a soup kitchen
* Collect old eyeglasses and donate them to an organisation that distributes them to people in need
* Donate non-perishable food to a food bank
* Make “care kits” to donate to homeless shelters or Christmas shoe boxes for a shoebox project/appeal
* Paint park benches
* Produce a community newspaper or contribute to a community website telling good news about young people
* Bake cakes for newcomers in your community to help say welcome

Or come up with your own ideas.

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