## ive:kind

## Kindness in the community

- 1. Pray for your community and any special needs it is facing, such as unemployment, refugees, etc.
- 2. Collect your unwanted goods and clothes and donate them to a charity shop.
- 3. Help prepare vegetables/soup for a homeless shelter or soup run.
- 4. Clean up a small patch of ground by removing litter. Plant some flowers if that's appropriate.
- 5. Take a box of chocolates to thank the assistants in your favourite shops.
- 6. Take treats to police stations, ambulance stations, or the fire station to thank them for their care.
- 7. Take some of your good unwanted toys and games to doctors' waiting rooms, women's refuges or other places where children might need toys.
- 8. Write cards with cheerful messages and Bible verses and hide them in free commuter newspapers, or library books.
- 9. Make a homeless kit and give it to homeless person (Take a pair of warm socks and in one of the socks put soap, toothpaste & brush, snack bar, a pack of tissues, etc. and the other sock and tie it with a ribbon).
- 10. Save some money all year to buy Christmas presents for refugees/homeless people/children in need. They often like Lego kits because the play value is versatile.
- 11. Ask your local volunteer agency what you can do to help they may know people or organisations in your community that need some extra help.
- 12. Give a rose to each elderly person in a care home. Check first that flowers are allowed into the home.
- 13. Tape coins onto the back of toys, food, biscuits, etc. in pound/euro shops.
- 14. Care for a community garden along with other volunteers.
- 15. Buy cafe vouchers and give them to people like street cleaners and traffic wardens.
- 16. Pick up litter and take it home leave every place tidier than you found it.
- 17. Leave kind and encouraging notes in the books at a library.

- 18. Take a box of chocolates with you when you will have to wait in a waiting room. Offer them to other people to scatter some joy.
- 19. If a visitor to your town asks you for directions, and you have enough time, walk with them to show them the way. Get to know them and offer other useful local information as you walk together.
- 20. Talk to people sitting alone on a bench or at the bus stop.
- 21. Pray for businesses, shop owners, and hospital staff as you walk past their buildings.
- 22. Buy antibacterial hand gel, or bottles of water, to give away on a hot day.
- 23. Place food in food bank collection points in supermarkets.
- 24. Buy gifts from local hand-made or independent shops to help local craftspeople to flourish.
- 25. Purchase some 'buy-one-get-one-free' items and give the free one away.
- 26. Organise a free or charity car wash at your church.
- 27. Support cafes and businesses run by charitable organisations rather than branded chains.
- 28. Smile at each person you meet during the day.
- 29. Say something kind and encouraging to a harassed parent.
- 30. Let someone go before you in the queue.
- 31. Thank your servers at shops/restaurants/transport drivers and wish them a good day. Talk to them and leave them happier than you found them. Leave a generous tip in a café or restaurant.

live:kind is an initiative of the Trans-European Division to mark 100 years of family ministries in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The project includes many ideas from family ministries teams across Europe, and it has been coordinated by Karen Holford (TED family ministries).