



Sixty Ways to Serve the First Coast

Mission Project Ideas

LOVE First Coast - Love and Serve the First Coast

Love First Coast is designed to unite our FCC churches in an effort to *show* and *share* the love of Christ during September 2023. Although the primary target for mission involvement is the local church, we are encouraging families and individuals to discover additional opportunities they can do outside of church initiatives. Consider the potential for missional impact through the following:

- **Churches** – Churches are encouraged to discover missional opportunities in their community, recruit, equip, and release teams to meet those needs through intentional mission initiatives. A special emphasis is placed upon **Serve Day**, which is **Saturday, September 30, 2023**.
- **Families** – Missional churches are comprised of families and individuals who live on mission. When missional DNA resides in the church membership, there is a heightened sensitivity to ministry opportunities. A missional family creates a nourishing environment for the birthing the next generation of missional disciples.
- **Individuals** – Individual acts of kindness enables believers to demonstrate kingdom *life* and *love*. These acts of service can also provide an opportunity to launch gospel conversations.

Discovery

- **L**ift your eyes and look at the field around you. Jesus encouraged His disciples to simply look around them because they were surrounded by mission opportunities: *Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.* (John 4: 35)
 - The fields are white with opportunity

- Wherever there is a *need*, there is an *opportunity* to display God's love
- **O**pportunities and options – “Picture This”
 - The search: Involve the church body (using Smart Phones) to provide digital evidence of mission opportunities
 - The picture initiative optimizes the involvement of the church body and serves to raise the MQ (Missional Quotient) of the church. Involving church members in the discovery process also results in the development of a more comprehensive and diverse list of opportunities.
- **V**et the options prayerfully
 - Consider the many opportunities available around you
 - Where do you sense the Holy Spirit is leading you to serve?
- **E**ngage the mission field – GO!

Mission Possibilities

The following list of possible mission opportunities is provided as a resource for project consideration. Each project on the list is followed by a recommended source for mission mobilization consideration in parenthesis.

C – Church
F – Family
I - Individual

1. Provide meal(s) for First Responders: Police ◦ Firemen ◦ Medical Personnel (Nurses, etc.)(C,F, I)
2. Provide cleanup services for public places (Parks, etc.)(C, F)
3. Build wheelchair ramp or make housing adjustments for persons with special needs (C)
4. Provide house repairs for a family or senior adult(s) with needs (C)
5. Yard work or cleanup for a family or senior adult(s) (C, F)
6. Connect with and serve a business in your community (C, F, I)
7. Provide medical and/or dental services to lower income individuals and families (C)
8. Provide assistance to patients in hospitals or families in your neighborhood that are involved in a health crisis (Covid, cancer, etc.)
9. Pray for individuals and families who are at the emergency room of your local hospital (C, F, I)
10. Provide a free flea market or yard sale for families in need. (C)

11. Establish a Relief Team to address emergency needs or provide crisis response assistance. (C)
12. Provide meal(s) to a widow, homebound residents, single moms, or a recent divorcee in your community. (C, F, I)
13. Children – Meeting basic physical needs (Recreation, etc.)(C)
14. Teens – Specific ministries for this age group (arts and/or recreation)(C)
15. Families – Sponsor events that meet specific family needs that are obvious in your area (C)
16. Assemble and distribute basic need bags for the homeless. These bags could contain the following: Socks, gloves, water bottle, bandages, wet wipes, toothbrush and toothpaste, sunscreen, tuna & cracker packs, peanut butter/crackers snacks. (C, F, I)
17. Provide blankets, coats, or other clothing to homeless persons
18. Pay for someone's (or a family's) meal in a restaurant or drive-through. (F, I)
19. Mow a neighbor's lawn (F, I)
20. Invite a family into your home for a meal (F, I)
21. Provide groceries for an individual or family (C, F, I)
22. Provide a meal(s) for families at your local Ronald McDonald House. (C, F, I)
23. Provide lodging and/or food for an out-of-town family in Jacksonville for medical treatment C, F)
24. Organize a free car care clinic for single moms, widows, and/or senior adults in your community. (C)
25. Clean the roadside – consider adopting a highway near your church. (C)
26. Work a shift at the local soup kitchen. (C, F, I)
27. Volunteer at a Special Olympics or special needs sporting event (C, F, I)
28. Pack backpacks with soap, toothpaste, and other items to create homeless "survival kits" to be distributed to homeless people in your community.(C, F, I)
29. Donate household items and clothing (closet cleaning) to a service organization for distribution to others. (C, F, I)
30. Adopt a missionary family on stateside assignment in your city and provide lodging, food, personal items, and prayer support. (C, F)
31. Conduct a community field day (games and food) or neighborhood block party to serve your community. (C, F)

32. Provide meals and/or gifts to first responders and medical workers (Police, firemen, nurses, etc.) (C, F)
33. Volunteer to grocery shop for senior adults or shut-ins who are not able to go to the store themselves. (F, I)
34. Creatively serve service workers (bus drivers, sanitation workers, and mail carriers) by providing something that meets a need. (C, F, I)
35. Provide babysitting for married couples or single parents so they can enjoy a night out. (C, F, I)
36. Adopt a refugee family moving to the city and assist them with personal needs and guidance in adapting to American life. (C, F, I)
37. Partner with another church to pool mission resources to impact your communities (C)

Serving Schools

38. Provide backpacks for school on Backpack Day on September 18-19 through Send Relief – To learn more about this project, go [HERE](#). To download the Send Relief Backpack Guide, go [HERE](#) (C)
39. Cleanup and beautification projects on school campuses (C)
40. Serve staff and teachers (meals and/or gifts) (C)
41. Provide school supplies for students (C, F, I)
42. Serve sports or arts organizations and teams within the school system (C)
43. Paint and decorate the teacher's lounge at a struggling school.(C, F, I)
44. Conduct a book drive for a local elementary school in need.(C)
45. Provide winter coats for a school (C)
46. Invite church members to join the local school's PTA so that registration funds provide funding for school initiatives. (C, F, I)
47. Provide staffing for school athletic, artistic, or seasonal events. (C, F, I)

Serving Ministry Partners

48. Kim's Open Door - <https://www.kimsopendoor.com/> (C, F, I)
49. City Rescue Mission – www.crmjax.org (C, I)
50. Her Song - <https://www.hersong.org/> (C)
51. Hadassah's Hope - <https://www.hadassahshopejax.com/#/> (C, I)
52. Cup of Love Ministry - <https://www.cupofloveministry.com/contact-us> (C, F, I)
53. Better Together: Host a job fair <https://bettertogetherus.org/> (C)
54. Florida Baptist Children's Home (One More Child) - <https://onemorechild.org/> (C)

55. Kidz Xtreme – Contact Liza Akley (lizaakley@gmail.com)
56. Trinity Rescue Mission - <https://trinityrescue.org/> (C,I)
57. Hope Multiplies - <https://www.hopemultiplies.com/>
58. Feeding Northeast Florida - <https://www.feedingnefl.org/> (C)
59. Donate food to a local food shelter. (C, F, I)
60. Serve one of the numerous Senior Adult centers in the greater Jacksonville area.