

# Sharing Calendar

Joy and urgency propel the work of Week of Compassion. The purpose of this calendar is to help us remember and articulate our abundant blessings as well as to highlight some of the challenging situations in the world. Each day suggests a donation of coins or bills. Your household can decide what unit is best for your situation each day.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CHILDREN	Dehydration caused by diarrhea kills 2 million children a year. Oral rehydration therapy for 11 children costs \$10. Give one unit for each child precious to your heart.	400,000 Chicago residents live in "food deserts" (areas with no or very distant grocery stores), predisposing children to obesity and type 2 diabetes. Give one unit if you have access to a grocery store.	Child labor is a fact of life for 1/2 the children in Cambodia and Ethiopia; 1/3 in Afghanistan and Ghana; 1/6 in Mexico. Give one unit for every five unemployed people you know.	I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good. (Ps. 122:1, 9) Give two units in honor of your congregation.	The leading cause of preventable childhood blindness, Vitamin A deficiency, affects 190 million preschool-age children. Give one unit if you had your eyesight through age five.	About 17.5 million children under the age of 18 have lost one or both parents to AIDS. Give one unit for each of your parents who is alive now or was alive when you turned 18.	1.3 million babies die every year because they are not properly breastfed. Give one unit for each time you have eaten today.
DISASTER RELIEF	The 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti left more than 1 million people in need of shelter. Give one unit for each home you've lived in throughout your life.	The Haitian earthquake killed at least 230,000 people. Give one unit for each blessing that provides you a strong foundation in times of trouble.	For the cost of a 55" HDTV, Church World Service can train a disaster survivor in a construction trade, helping rebuild their community while earning a livelihood. Give one unit for each T.V. in your home.	God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Cor. 9:7b) Give one unit for each three times you smiled today.	Communities are less prone to typhoon and flooding disasters through emergency preparedness training and shelter upgrades. Give one unit for each time you have been awed by creation this week.	Damage to infra-structure and local food stocks meant Chilean families affected by the 2010 earthquake lost access to adequate food for ≈ 3 months. Give one unit for each snack you ate today.	For the cost of a CD, three disaster survivors can each receive a blanket providing shelter, privacy, and a way to carry belongings. Give one unit for each 10 CDs you own.
BASIC EDUCATION	1.1 billion people in the world still rely on unsafe sources of drinking water. Give one unit for each glass of water you drank today.	About 2.5 billion people lack adequate sanitation facilities. About 1 in 4 people in developing countries practice open defecation. Give one unit for each bathroom in your home.	About 14 million adolescent girls become mothers every year. More than 90% of these very young mothers live in developing countries. Give two units in sorrow for lost childhoods.	O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. (Ps. 63:1) Give one unit as an "Amen."	Educating girls positively affects not only their but their children's survivability, health, and productivity. Gender gaps in primary school attendance have closed in East Asia, the Pacific, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Give one unit in thanksgiving.	Education can break the cycle of poverty. Yet, 46 million primary-school-age children are out of school in sub-Saharan Africa. Give one unit if you have an elementary school education.	Every school day, about 7,000 U.S. students drop out of school. Only 70% of entering high school freshmen graduate each year. Give one unit to honor a teacher important in your life.
HUNGER	Worldwide, 1 billion people, i.e., about 1 in 7, are chronically hungry. Give four units to help.	Without the right nutrition in the first two years of life, a child's physical and mental development is compromised irreversibly. Give one unit for joy for your favorite fresh food item.	Children who experience severe hunger have higher levels of chronic illness, anxiety, depression, and behavior problems than children with no hunger. Give two units if being hungry made you irritable last week.	Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. (Phil. 4:4) Give one unit for each person, experience, thought, or blessing today that brought you joy.	One child dies every 5 seconds from hunger-related causes—16,000 children each day. That is the equivalent of 23+ elementary schools being wiped out each day. Give one unit if you are still alive.	Nearly one in four children in the U.S. is at risk for hunger. Give two units if you remember feeling hungry as a child or teenager.	Poor nutrition and calorie deficiencies cause nearly one in three people to die prematurely or have disabilities. Give two units if you ate out this week.

## Daily Giving Devotion

- At a time appropriate for your household, read one of the theme scriptures for Week of Compassion, 2011: *Isaiah 58:6-12* or *2 Corinthians 9:6-15*.
- Invite each member of the household to describe one instance of how they have shared with someone else since the last daily giving devotion.
- Read the day's entry in the sharing calendar. Discuss the situation described and its relationship to your household.
- Consider your household's contribution for the day, and add it to your coin box.
- Offer a prayer for the people and situations high-

lighted in the sharing calendar, and for the people your household will meet in the coming hours: *Thank you, O God, for the joy of being loved by you. Thank you for the blessings our lives sparkle with. (Each member of the household names at least two.) May our gifts to Week of Compassion bring joy to each person the offering will help. We pray especially today for (the day's highlighted group). May the sharing of our abundant blessings bless their lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

- Remember to take your coin box to church on the day when the Week of Compassion offering is given.