

# Helpful Hints

## -CWS FALL BLANKETS-



Crisp air, chilly nights, hot drinks - there's something special about fall. And if your congregation is hosting a Blanket Sunday this season, there are so many things you can do to get into the autumn spirit! Here are a few Fall Blankets ideas that will engage all ages while raising more money to keep our neighbors warm throughout the year:

**Blanket of Gratitude Tree:** Create a seasonal display in your church entryway! Download printable leaves at [cwsblankets.org/downloads](https://cwsblankets.org/downloads) and invite congregants to write something they're thankful for or a prayer for someone in need. Hang the leaves on your "tree" throughout the season to represent the warmth and love shared through your Blanket Sunday offering.



**"Warm Up the World" Hot Cocoa Bar:** The week before your CWS Blanket Sunday, host a Cocoa & Compassion table after worship. Serve hot drinks and cookies, and set up a laptop or tablet to play a short CWS Blankets video from [cwsblankets.org/videos](https://cwsblankets.org/videos). Drape the table with cozy blankets and invite early donations. It's a sweet way to start meaningful conversations about Blanketing the World in Love.

**Capture the Moment!** We love celebrating our faithful volunteers and congregations. Snap a few photos of your Blanket Sunday and send them to [blankets@cwsglobal.org](mailto:blankets@cwsglobal.org) your church might be featured in an upcoming newsletter or on social media!



Encourage the children and youth group to put on a skit for a worship service pertaining to Blankets! How do they think Blankets are used in response to people in need? Check out page 10 of the Blanket Leader's Guide for an example of a skit!





**Get the Youth Group Involved!** Encourage your church youth leaders to organize a day when your young members can rake leaves and do other outdoor chores for your congregation. This is a fantastic opportunity for your youth to stay active and have fun while serving your community. Church members will benefit from having their yards tidied up, and together you will raise vital funds to provide blankets to those in need as winter approaches.

Get your Blanket Sunday on everyone's calendar by sending them reminder emails and including notices in your bulletin. As a Blankets leader, highlight why you care about this ministry in all of your messaging!



**Blanket Blessing & Prayer Walk:** Host a simple "Walk of Warmth" around your church building or grounds. Set up a few prayer stations featuring photos and stories of how CWS Blankets bring comfort to people in need (download at [cwsblankets.org/stories-and-reports](https://cwsblankets.org/stories-and-reports)). Conclude the walk at the altar with a CWS Blanket and a special moment of blessing over your congregation's gifts. It's a powerful way to connect faith, prayer, and action.



**Share the Good News!** Celebrate reaching your goal by thanking your congregation for their support and announcing the amount received from the offering during your worship service, in your church newsletter and on social media. Remind the members of your church that they can give to CWS Blankets all year.

