CWS BLANKETS:
Leader’s guide

You’re reading this guide because where there is need, you see opportunities for compassionate response. You envision a world in which people love and care for each other, and you know the members of your congregation are generous, and they want to help others.

And we are so very grateful for your efforts.

That’s why, in this guide, you’ll find information and congregational resources to help you do what leaders do. Share your vision. Inspire others. And motivate those in your congregation and your sphere of influence to aid and empower people struggling through times of crisis or adversity.

“They are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.”
—2 Corinthians 8:2
Without your congregation’s Blankets Sunday, Church World Service would not be able to offer these blankets to others. When disasters strike, when temperatures drop, when sidewalks become home...you make sure someone is there offering warmth.

Imagine the possibilities...

Each blanket is only $10, but the difference your congregation can make by providing blankets is inspiring.

How does your congregation’s support change lives?

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Provides lightweight blankets for five families left homeless by a tornado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Provides warm blankets for a small women’s shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$750</td>
<td>Provides 75 blankets for a homeless street ministry</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>Provides blankets for an organization doing neighborhood outreach</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>Provides blankets for the beds in a temporary shelter following a hurricane</td>
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**Use Resources**

Share your passion of serving others with your congregation. They will give generously when they hear about the need and how they can make a difference. Make your CWS Blankets Sunday special by downloading Moment for Missions, videos, prayers, Children’s Sermons and blessings at cwsblankets.org.

**Set a Goal**

Set a goal of how many blankets you would like your congregation to provide to people in need. Inform your members that each blanket costs only $10 and encourage them to provide as many blankets as they can.

**Prepare a Display**

Create a display to highlight the CWS Blankets program and show the progress towards your goal of raising funds. After your CWS Blankets Sunday, share the amount raised for CWS Blankets in your newsletter and bulletin.

**Involve the Youth**

Share the legacy of a CWS Blankets Sunday with the youth and children in your congregation. Ask a member of the youth group to help plan and promote CWS Blankets Sunday.

**Utilize Social Media**

Start publicizing your CWS Blankets Sunday 3–4 weeks in advance. Ask someone at your congregation to place announcements in your newsletter, in your Sunday bulletin and on your Facebook page. Visit cwsblankets.org/downloads for Blankets Sunday graphics to make your advertising easy.

**Hang Posters**

Hang CWS Blankets posters in prominent locations to advertise your Blankets Sunday.

**Use Prayer Cards**

Staff a table by the door to the sanctuary and place a CWS Blanket, blank prayer cards and pens. Encourage the members of your congregation to write their prayers on a prayer card and include the prayer card with their blanket offering.

**Cultivate Empathy**

If it is cold outside, consider ending your worship service outdoors. Ask your pastor to bless the blankets that your congregation donated at this service.

**Volunteer**

Arrange an opportunity for members of your congregation to volunteer at a soup kitchen or a homeless shelter to help remind them of the needs in your own community.

Check out other “Creative Ideas that Work” at resources at cwsblankets.org