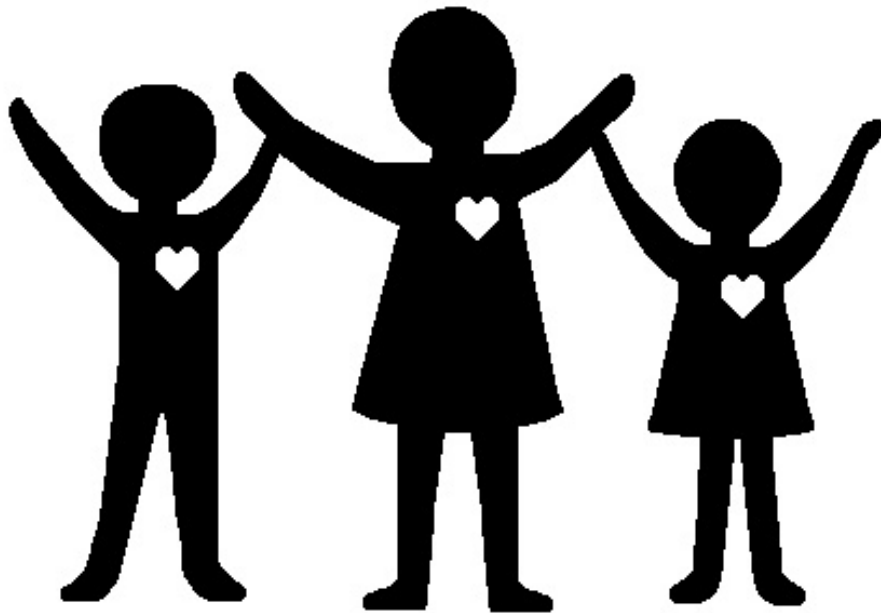


# Helping Hands Service Project

A Service Credit Program  
for students in grades 5-8

2011 – 2012



## **Why a Service Credit Program?**

Service is an integral part of a comprehensive Christian education. Service provides the opportunity to apply what has been learned in the home, in the church, and in the classroom.

Other reasons to include service credit program include:

### **1. Continued growth and development of Christian maturity**

The Lord commands us to serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13-14 states, "You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: love your neighbor as yourself." As followers of Jesus Christ, we not only learn the Word of God, but we have to have an active faith that seeks to serve Him.

### **2. Expression of Love for God**

Service is an expression of our love for God, as we love our neighbors. "Serve the Lord wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free." (Ephesians 6:6-7)

### **3. Sharing of Individual Gifts**

In I Corinthians 12, the church is compared to a body, each member having a different function or gift. These gifts are to be developed and used for the good of the body. "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various form." (I Peter 4:10)

### **4. Development of leadership skills**

Mark 10:43-44 says 'whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant: and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be a slave of all.' Christ came to serve; an effective Christian leader has the heart of a servant. Service opportunities lay a foundation for developing the servant's perspective of leadership.

### **5. Prepare students for the Future**

Students who participate in service opportunities have a greater understanding of themselves and their roles in the church, community and school.



## **GUIDELINES**

1. Annual Service Hour requirements are as following:

Semester 1: Service Hours:	Grade 5	3 hours
	Grade 6	3 hours
	Grade 7	4 hours
	Grade 8	4 hours

Semester 2: Service Hours:	Grade 5	3 hours
	Grade 6	3 hours
	Grade 7	4 hours
	Grade 8	4 hours

Please complete your Community Service Log sheet after completing your service. The adult in charge of whatever activity or service you choose to do for your credit must sign your Hours Log.

### **2. Reflection Paper for grades 5-6**

All students are required to submit one reflection paper at the end of the semester. In this paper, students should reflect on a particular service activity, which they performed, OR on the topic of service in general. Students should reflect by commenting on the positive aspects of their experience. Some questions to consider: How did the service affect those whom you served? How did the service make you and others feel? What prompted you to do that particular service?

The paper should be at least 75-100 words and must be typed double-spaced.

### **3. Reflection Paper for grades 7-8**

All students are required to submit one reflection paper at the end of the semester. In this paper, students should reflect on a particular service activity, which they performed, OR on the topic of service in general. It should be at least 150-200 words and must be typed double-spaced.

**Helping Hands Service Project Due:**

**SEMESTER 1: Due January 13, 2012**

**SEMESTER 2: Due May 18, 2012**

# PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!

## TYPES OF SERVICE

Students must accumulate service hours from at least two different service categories.

### **CHURCH RELATED ACTIVITIES**

This related service that directly benefits a church and its ministries. Church-related service includes voluntary commitments in Sunday School or children's ministry (including helpers), choir or other musical contributions, youth leadership positions, mission trips initiated through a church, outreach activities, Vacation Bible School or similar program, work done for upkeep of the church building or grounds, or work done at related organizations.

### **COMMUNITY RELATED ACTIVITIES**

This includes service directly in contact with your own community or the greater community. Opportunities include mentors, nursing home visits, food pantry volunteers, hospital volunteers, clean up, helping in sports programs.

### **SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES**

This includes opportunities that directly impact the students and community of CCS. Examples include: peer tutoring or mentoring, volunteer at different CCS events, teacher aid and/or clean up.

### **HOME-RELATED ACTIVITIES**

Helping immediate family members is something that one would expect because that is part of being in a family. Opportunities to serve at home will be accepted, but you will only be able to ACCEPT HALF OF YOUR HOURS from this category. Examples include: raking, snow shoveling, baby-sitting, home projects that need your help. Cleaning your room would *not count as service-sorry!*