

CWS TOOLS | Leader's Guide



"For God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with **good things.**"

— PSALMS 107:9

You're reading this guide because your congregation has decided to share compassion and pollinate the world with good. When neighbors have access to life-changing tools, un-BEE-lievable things can happen. CWS Tools is all about sharing love through simple and practical acts of kindness. We are so grateful for your kindness and desire to share love and compassion with others.

As the Tools Leader of your church, you're inspiring members of your congregation to express their love and provide tools of hope to our neighbors when they need it most.

With the contents enclosed in this Leader's Guide, you will have everything you need to continue sharing your vision and inspiring others to take action.

Thank you for doing your part to help our neighbors around the world build a sweeter home!

Your Congregation is Making a Difference

How does your congregation's support change lives? Contributions to CWS Tools means Church World Service will be ready to help families around the world have the tools they need to build a better life for their families. Like the miracle of the loaves and fish, your gifts to CWS Tools multiply as they are joined by the contributions of other caring congregations, yielding a harvest of caring for those in need. **Scan this QR code** to see videos and read stories of how your support plays out in real life.



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"When people have the tools and supplies they need for a garden, they can grow their own food for their family. **That's why our church supports CWS Tools.** We are the type of people who care for our neighbors. With this mission offering, we know we are making a positive difference in many communities."

— REV. SAMANTHA
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH





\$5

Gloves

Beekeeping gloves are necessary not only to protect against stings but also to protect against the stickiness of honey and propolis.

\$8

Hive Tool

One of the top three most important tools in beekeeping is a hive tool. Beekeepers use a hive tool to maintain and inspect beehives.



\$12

Bee Smoker

Because bees' primary form of communication is smell, a beekeeper will use a bee smoker to calm bees while they inspect the hive.



\$20

Hat/Veil Combo

Aside from the obvious protection from facial stings, a beekeeping hat with veil also prevents bees from getting trapped in the beekeeper's hair.



\$25

Protective Suit

A beekeeping suit protects beekeepers from painful stings and allows them to safely and confidently complete their tasks.



\$69

Beehive with Bees

A starter hive filled with bees is an invaluable gift that helps beekeepers get started.



PROMOTING YOUR TOOLS SUNDAY

SET A DATE FOR YOUR CWS TOOLS OFFERING

Many churches host their special offering around a holiday, like Father's Day, Labor Day, All Saints Sunday or Thanksgiving, but a CWS Tools offering can be held any Sunday of the year. Remember to tell your church office the date of your congregational offering.



SET A GOAL

Using the CWS Tools price points, determine how many tools your congregation will provide to people in need. Ask families in your congregation to pick their favorite tool in the bulletin insert and encourage them to donate one tool for every person in their household. Share your goal to inspire your congregation to do their part to share hope and help with our neighbors.



ORGANIZE MATERIALS

Check the contents in your packet and share the materials with other ministry leaders in your church. To order additional materials, call **1-800-297-1516** or **scan the QR code** below.

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CREATE A BUZZ

Promote your event by inviting participation through a pastoral letter or newsletter announcement. Share your event on social media, and enlist others to spread the word. Use free CWS Tools resources like the promotional video and CWS Tools Report and social media graphics to share your event. Visit cws tools.org/downloads or **scan this QR code** to download resources.

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INVOLVE THE YOUTH

Share your church's legacy of a CWS Tools Sunday with the youth and children in your congregation. Ask the youth of your congregation to help plan and promote the CWS Tools Sunday. They will have creative ideas to help inspire generosity.



SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!

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



CREATIVE IDEAS THAT WORK



BEE THE CHANGE

How can the members of your congregation “Bee the change”? All of us can approach our lives as ministry because we all have special talents and gifts we can share with others. Print the “Bee the Change” activity on our resource page. Ask your congregation to share how they are helping to make the world a better place. Display these “Bee the Change” testimonies on a bulletin board or another visible location in your church.



TOOLS SALE

Many households have tools stored in the basement or garage collecting dust. Ask the members of your congregation and their friends to donate these tools. Host a “Tools Sale” on a Saturday morning or Sunday after church. The money raised from the sale can be donated to CWS Tools.



WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE CWS TOOLS?

Because of the generosity of our faithful donors, people around the world receive the tools they need to prosper and build a better life. Find the CWS Tools Report at cwstools.org/resources. Have the children draw various tools—hammers, shovels, sewing machines, beekeeping gear, etc. Hang a large world map on a bulletin board and have the children pin various tools on the countries that received CWS Tools.



VIDEO TESTIMONY

Involve members of your congregation (especially children) by asking them, “How do people use different tools to make a better life?” And “Why do you support CWS Tools?” Record short videos of their responses and share the combined video responses during a worship service.



YOUTH GROUP CAR WASH

During warmer weather, get your youth involved by having them host a car wash where all proceeds would support your CWS Tools offering.



CREATIVE TOOLS OFFERING

Instead of a traditional offering plate, arrange various tools (shovels, rakes, sewing machines, buckets, etc) on small tables around the sanctuary. Invite your congregation to stop at each table and write a blessing for that tool. Be sure to have plenty of post-it notes and markers at each table. Ask participants to place their offering next to their favorite tools. This is a fun and easy way to teach children how to be generous.

A BLESSING OF THE CWS TOOLS

Gracious God, thank you for the abundant blessings you have given us this day. Through your generosity, we can share our blessings with those who need tools to build new opportunities for their families. Today, we ask a special blessing over the shovels and plows, sewing machines and looms, hammers and nails and other tools being sent to our neighbors around the world. Gracious God, bless these tools, that they might bring hope to those who need it. Bless those who will receive these tools. Let them know your love through these gifts. Amen.

GOSPEL RESPONSIVE READING

Matthew 25:35-40 (NRSV)

LEADER: For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

PEOPLE: Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?"

WOMEN: And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?

MEN: And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?

LEADER: And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

A LITANY FOR CWS TOOLS SUNDAY

LEADER: We have come together today to offer our gifts of CWS Tools to be distributed by Church World Service to places where people need tools to build a better life for themselves. As we dedicate these gifts, let us join in prayer.

PEOPLE: God of compassion, hear our prayer.

LEADER: God of new beginnings, you are with our neighbors as they are building new opportunities for their families.

PEOPLE: May my gift of tools provide families hope for their future.

LEADER: God of promises, you remind us again and again that you are present with your people.

PEOPLE: God is good to all and has compassion for all creation.

LEADER: Jesus said, "Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)

PEOPLE: May my gift of tools give hope and promise to our neighbors building new lives.

LEADER: Gracious God, bless these tools, that they might bring hope to those who need it. Bless those who will receive these tools. Let them know your love through these gifts.

PEOPLE: May the tools we offer today contribute to this sacred work, and may those who receive these gifts sense your loving kindness and find their hope renewed.

ALL: Amen.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Scan this QR code or visit [cwstools.org/downloads](https://www.cwstools.org/downloads) to download more resources for your congregation including our Children's Ministry packet and more!

