

# Blessing of the New School Year

**Wednesday, August 22**



**Share a Meal:** 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

(free will offering to Prairie Ridge Early Learning Center Fight Against Hunger)

**Service of Blessing:** 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Craft Time:** 7 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Fall finds many people returning to the classroom. Students, caregivers, neighbors, teachers, parents, and anyone that would like to share in the celebration of learning and growing – you are invited to gather for a service of blessing as we prepare for the school year. **Bring your backpack – new or old, empty or packed for class.** 😊



An offering of school and health supplies will be collected for Lutheran World Relief Kits and Locust Lane Elementary School.

**The following items can be brought to the Blessing or to St. John's office this month.**

- Personal Care Kits - **light-weight bath size towel, bath size bars of soap (4 or 5 oz.), adult-tooth brush, combs (no rat tail), metal nail clippers.**

When LWR distributes Personal Care Kits, it's often to people who have lost everything. In the wake of an earthquake, or having fled from violence as their homes were overtaken, they clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush...and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world.

The very simple gesture of giving a Personal Care Kit can give someone the encouragement to start anew, starting with a bath. **You can share God's grace and love by providing that simple comfort.**

- School kits – **blunt tip scissors, crayons (16 or 24 ct.), ballpoint pens (black or blue), 70 sheet spiral note books (wide or college), rulers (with cm and inches), unsharpened pencils, pencil sharpener, 2 ½ inch eraser.**



Why school supplies? To the children who receive School Kits, these supplies mean the difference between getting an education or not. Public school is usually free, but in the places where LWR works, even a few required supplies, like pens and paper, may be more than many families can afford.

And when parents can only afford to send one of their children to school, girls rarely get priority...yet the education level of mothers has the biggest impact on development.