Bringing joy to others

1. Carol concert watch party

Arrange to watch a carol concert together with other people. Christmas At Home with The Salvation Army will be on The Salvation Army YouTube Channel on Wednesday 2 December at 8pm with highlights from previous years' concerts, alongside new pieces and celebrity readings.

Resources needed:
A link to the online service
Mince pies to eat whilst watching/chatting with others afterwards

2. Outdoor Nativity scene

Set up a Nativity scene outside your corps building or home to help people passing by focus on the Christmas story.

Resources needed:
How this is done will all depend on the space, tools, material and skills you have on offer! A suggestion is that wooden cut-out figures could be created and propped up in the outdoor space. If outdoor space isn't available but a scene could be visible through a window or door, then that could be an alternative idea and could be made using cardboard and back lighting. Each setting will throw up very different options and limitations, so look at your space and discuss possibilities with others to help get inspired.

3. Phone call chain

Set a challenge to your corps to start a chain of phone calls by calling the first person for a chat, then encouraging them to call someone else for a chat, and so on. You could set out a framework to help direct the conversations with a festive feel including sharing favourite Christmas memories, favourite carols etc. This will be a good way of connecting with and including people that don't have online access.
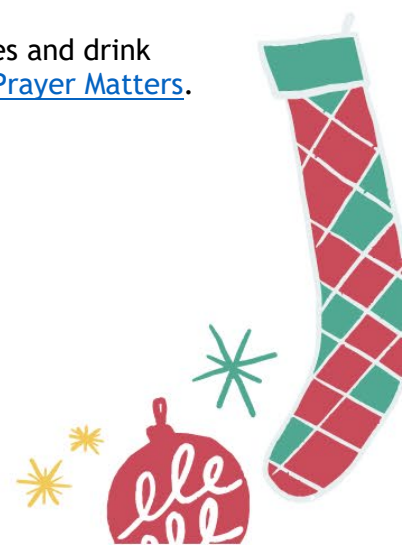
Resources needed:
A phone and a list of telephone numbers that people have given permission to be shared.

4. Mince pie drop-off

Create small packages to drop off to people. These could include mince pies and drink sachets / tea bags as well as suitable reading material such as the Advent Prayer Matters.

Resources needed:
Mince pies, hot drink sachets or tea bags, reading material

5. Create prayer stations in the hall/church building

Set up zones/stations that people can visit (according to current restrictions and guidelines) around your corps building.

Resources needed:

A guide is available from 24-7 Prayer which details five great prayer station ideas and what is required to set them up.

6. Decorate the outside of your hall/church building

Bring as much joy as possible to people passing by your building by making it a burst of bright festivity.

Resources needed:

Bunting / fairy lights etc / any other outdoor lighting or signs etc

7. Support/promote your local Christmas present appeal

You can drop off presents to any locally advertised drop-off points; or if you are co-ordinating the present appeal, access all of the available resources from The Salvation Army's website.

Resources needed:

Christmas Present Appeal material

8. Be a Star this Christmas

Sign up to receive a free fundraising pack for The Salvation Army and be a star this Christmas by helping to raise vital funds.

Resources needed:

Be a Star this Christmas material

9. Just Gifts

JUST GIFTS exists so that you can show your global neighbours you care, to bring them joy. These gifts are provided as real-life examples of what your money can do through the International Development community development projects.

Resources needed:

View the catalogue and order gifts here

10. Get OWT! Christmas session

You may already be running your own Get OWT! sessions; but if not, then read through the set-up guide and consider launching this programme with a festive-themed session.

Resources needed:

All relevant material including the special Christmas session can be found here

11. Silver Linings

Older People's Ministries post daily Silver Linings content to their Facebook page. Click on the link to access the material which will have a festive feel throughout December.

12. Cell

Download this joy themed discipleship resource for young people. To access the December Cell material to use with your group, click here.