

Gift of the Christ Child Offering Booklet

For the Gift of the Christ Child Advent season, the St. John's leadership has chosen two partners to highlight with deep, historic roots to the St. John's community. Throughout these four Sundays of Advent, we invite you to give a special offering to one of these two mission partners listed below, or to an organization calling to you, also listed below.



Saint John's Program for Real Change
Saint John's Program for Real Change, located in Sacramento, California, supports women in crisis and their children through a comprehensive 12-18 month residential program developed to help them build a successful new life for themselves and their families. Saint John's Program was born on the front steps of this church back in the 1980s, when members of this congregation saw unhoused women and children in need and decided to take action. What began as an emergency shelter for women and children has evolved into a 24/7 sober, supportive community providing housing, behavioral health services, workforce development, case management, and family resources - together in one place.



Central Downtown Food Basket
The Central Downtown Food Basket came to life through a partnership of local churches back in the 1980s - including St. John's. For 20 years, CDFB ran a food pantry just across the street from this church, serving neighbors in need. Today, the Central Downtown Food Basket reliably provides healthy and fresh groceries with dignity and respect. They do this by being hands on with their distribution and bringing food directly to communities in need - mostly at local churches and Sacramento State University.



Other St. John's Mission Partners



California Lutheran University

Founded in 1959 and formally recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution since 2016, California Lutheran University is home to 2,377 undergraduate and 1,033 graduate students. Our students come from 59 countries and represent a wide spectrum of faith and spirituality.



Global Refuge

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Global Refuge is a nonprofit serving newcomers seeking safety, support, and a share in the American dream. For 85 years, they have welcomed those seeking refuge, upholding a legacy of compassion and grace for people in crisis.



ELCA World Hunger

Working with and through our congregations, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.



Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, LDR stays to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. In the last couple of years, LDR has been active internationally in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, and nationally responding to wildfires in the west and hurricanes in the south.



Lutheran Social Services of Northern California

For more than 50 years, LSS of Northern California has been serving the most vulnerable in our region. Today, their focus is to end the homelessness crisis in our region by providing supportive housing and essential services to the unhoused.



The Lutheran World Federation

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is a global communion of churches in the Lutheran tradition, living and working together for a just, peaceful, and reconciled world. LWF strives to put our Christian faith into action through humanitarian and development work, advocacy, shared witness, and dialogue.



Midtown HART

Founded in 2019, Midtown HART's mission is to work with the network of service providers and resources offered in Midtown to supplement service and increase access to assist folks in the community who are experiencing homelessness.





Mt. Cross Ministries

Located in the Santa Cruz mountains, Mt. Cross Ministries is a summer camp and retreat facility that provides profound experiences in God's creation. Mt. Cross Ministries is the only Lutheran Outdoors Ministry (LOM) site in the Sierra Pacific Synod and recently celebrated 75 Years of faith formation for youth and families in the redwoods!



My Sister's House

My Sister's House serves Asian and Pacific Islander and other underserved women and children impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking by providing a culturally appropriate and responsive safe haven, job training, and community services.



Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS)

Located in Berkeley, PLTS develops leaders in the Lutheran tradition for a complex and changing world. PLTS equips people to put their faith into action as the church and culture face dramatic change; because people who follow their purpose can transform a community — and the world.



Reconciling Works

Since 1974, ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation has advocated for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual/aromantic (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregations, and community.



The Rwanda School Project

Following the Rwandan Genocide, the Rwanda School Project launched in response to the country's need for secondary education. The Rwamagana Leaders' School opened in 2010 to offer a secure and nurturing school environment that transforms vulnerable youth into future leaders and problem solvers who champion environmental sustainability and social change.



Sacramento Area Congregations Together (ACT)

Sacramento ACT is a powerful multi-racial, multi-faith organization advocating a transformation of our community rooted in our shared faith values. We equip ordinary people to effectively identify and change conditions to create justice and equity.



Gift of the Christ Child Offering Choices

Please select the organizations and write in the amount you would like to donate to in this Advent season. Please attach one check or cash.

Central Downtown Food Basket.....\$_____

Saint John's Program for Real Change.....\$_____

California Lutheran University.....\$_____

Global Refuge.....\$_____

ELCA World Hunger.....\$_____

Lutheran Disaster Response.....\$_____

Lutheran Social Services of Northern California.....\$_____

Lutheran World Federation.....\$_____

Midtown HART.....\$_____

Mt. Cross Ministries.....\$_____

My Sister's House.....\$_____

Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary.....\$_____

Reconciling Works.....\$_____

The Rwanda School Project.....\$_____

Sacramento Area Congregations Together (ACT).....\$_____

Total Offering Amount \$_____

