

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Christmas Gift Catalog

2024



Why a Gift Catalog?

The Social Services Committee has put together the 18th edition of this catalog in hopes of encouraging you to take some of the materialism out of your Christmas celebration and to put the emphasis back on the real reason for celebration. As you make your annual shopping list, consider making a contribution to one of the causes/organizations that you'll find listed on the following pages. Instead of wrapping up another sweater or tie or scouring the aisles for the latest fad, give your loved one, your friend, your child's teacher, your gift exchange partner at work, your children, your parents or your spouse a card telling them that you have made a donation in their name in honor of the Christ Child. **Just follow the simple instructions on page eight of this booklet to let them know that you have honored them by helping someone whose needs are great.** We're not suggesting that you do not buy any material gifts, but wouldn't it be amazing if we all spent half of our holiday budget on helping those who are in need? As Jesus said in Matthew 25:40, "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers or sisters of Mine, even to the least of them, you did it to me."

**"TO SEND OUT THE LIGHT OF GOD'S
LOVE TO THE WORLD!"**

FEATURED CHARITY FOR 2024

ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE

In late September, Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a Category 4 hurricane and moved inland as a deadly storm, leaving devastation throughout the southeastern United States. The storm caused shocking, dangerous flooding, especially in western North Carolina and Tennessee, washing away whole towns and roads, leaving millions of people without power, and driving thousands from their homes.

Hurricane Milton hit Florida as a powerful Category 3 hurricane, bringing storm surge, heavy rains, winds and tornadoes. Milton is one of the strongest hurricanes to hit the area in decades. At least four people have died, and millions are without electricity. This storm was particularly devastating because many communities were only beginning to recover from Hurricane Helene.

Lutheran Disaster Response works with its partners to provide immediate relief, such as water, food, clothing, gift cards, tarps and other needs. Since many hurricanes also require a long-term response, Lutheran Disaster Response provides support on the long road to recovery with disaster case management, construction management, attention to unmet needs, and emotional and spiritual care. Gifts to HURRICANE RESPONSE will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete.

#1 Hurricane Response (any amount)

Feed Children at Our School in LaMontagne

As you know, Haiti has had a particularly difficult year with prices rising on everything from fuel to food.

Epiphany has partnered with CEI for twelve years. They are able to buy food locally. Lunch is usually the only meal a child will receive and currently, because of the location of the school, the students are still receiving instruction and are in a safer area. Even a gift of just \$10 will feed a child for a week.

#2 Food for CEI students (any amount) _____

Haitian Child Sponsorship

Sponsor a child's education at our school, CEI (Centre de Education Integre) by providing tuition and supplies. Sponsorship for a full year connects you with one child and information about that child, including a picture and grade cards.

#3 HTF (\$40 for one month, \$480 per year, or any amount) _____

Chemèn Lavi Miyò (CLM/Pathway to a Better Life)

Your sponsorship funds an 18 month program for one woman's entire family. Women experiencing ultra poverty are assigned a case worker and provided with basic tools to help them become self sufficient such as a water filter, supplies to build a latrine, and a more stable one-room home, seeds, and a goat or chickens. The program costs \$2000 per year.

#4 HTF (any amount) _____

Kids for Kids

Help parents in La Montagne, Haiti, to send their children to the school that Epiphany supports.

Through **Kids for Kids**, the parents are given one female goat, goat raising instruction, nutrition, breeding access to the school-owned male goat, and mentoring. In exchange, the families agree to sell the first two kids delivered by the goats and give that money to the school for their child's fee. Milk, additional kids, and goat meat belong to the family.

Provide one goat to a La Montagne family, together with mentoring and nutritional assistance. \$50.00 purchases one goat.

#5 Kids for Kids (any amount) _____

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF (LWR)

LWR works with partners in 50 countries to help people grow food, improve health, strengthen communities, end conflict, build livelihoods, and recover from disasters. People in places like Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza are particularly struggling right now.

#6 Give Where Needed Most (any amount) _____

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

The Evangelical Lutheran Church will send your donations to where they are needed most. The focus here is on the "Global Barnyard," and children, however other ideas can be found on the ornaments at the display. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at the market. With one gift, you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.

#7 School Supplies for a Child (\$10.00) _____

#8 Honeybees (\$20.00) _____

#9 Pig (\$30.00) _____

#10 School Fees and Uniform for a Girl (\$40.00) _____

#11 Gift in any amount from ELCA Good Gifts website:

Specify animal or project such as:

Chicks \$10, Rooster \$15, Feed a Refugee Family \$25,
Water Filter \$30, Vaccinations \$30, etc.)

Name of animal or project: _____

Amount: _____

WORLD VISION

Over 600 million people currently lack access to clean water, leading to more child deaths than malaria and HIV/AIDS combined, keeping children from school as they trek long distances for unsanitary water, and exacerbating COVID-19 as people are unable to practice proper hand-washing and sanitation.

World Vision is the largest non-governmental provider of clean water in the world, bringing water to over 3 million people last year alone.

Aaron Maurer will again be joining Team World Vision in 2025 to run the Hood to Coast relay in Oregon next August.

#12 Water, sanitation and hygiene access for South Sudan. Make a donation toward Aaron's goal of \$10,000.

(any amount) _____

#13 Child sponsorship – If you are interested in supporting a child toward Aaron's overall fundraising goal, your monthly \$39 brings water, food security, healthcare, educational access, and economic development to a community and you get to form a lasting relationship with a child and their family. Contact Margie Maurer at mjmaurer51@gmail.com to support Aaron in this manner.

(any amount) _____

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

Pantries work with government bodies who maintain records of the unemployed, elderly, working poor, etc., and who can verify who is eligible for aid.

#14 LSS Mobile Food Pantry (any amount) _____

#15 LSS Food Pantries (any amount) _____

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

LSS helps the needy in our area by addressing the core issues of hunger, housing, healing, and hope. Services to families and a variety of housing programs, including those for the homeless and veterans are available.

#16 LSS of Fairfield County (any amount) _____

#17 LSS of Franklin County (any amount) _____

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Epiphany partners with First English Lutheran, a Columbus church experiencing inner city hardships. Its outreach programs are vital in ministering to the community. Epiphany's involvement with this ministry includes feeding not only the homeless, but also members of the community. First English is proud to be the 2nd congregation in the Southern Ohio Synod to be accepted into the ELCA Transformational Ministry Program.

#18 First English Lutheran Church (any amount) _____

YOUR FAVORITE CHARITY

If there is a charity you would like to contribute to which is not in this catalog, please feel free to do so. Simply provide us with the name, address and/or telephone number of the charity of your choice.

Examples:

- Joseph's Coat
- Jacob's Porch
- Star House
- Lutheran Outdoor Ministries (LOMO camps)
- Cap Cupboard-food pantry for Capital students
- Other food pantries or social service agencies
- Aging Solutions - Informs and support people as they navigate the experience of aging or disability
- Kaleidoscope - Helps LGBTQ+ youth with programming, housing, and support services
- Pilot Dogs

#19 Charity of choice (any amount) _____

Ordering Instructions

1. Choose the gifts that you would like to order.
2. List each of your choices on the order form or blank paper as shown in the example.
3. Write the total amount of all your gifts in the appropriate blank on the order form, and fill in your name, address and phone number.
4. If you are writing a check for your order, make it payable to *Epiphany Lutheran Church*, and write **“Gift Catalog”** on the memo line of the check. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO WRITE A SEPARATE CHECK FOR EACH ORGANIZATION...** we will divide the money appropriately and send it on.
5. Place your check or cash, along with the order form, in an envelope.
 - A. Write **“Gift Catalog”** on the envelope and place it in the box found at the display in the Gathering Space.

Or

- B. Mail your check (Please do not mail cash.), to:

**Epiphany Lutheran Church,
268 Hill Road North,
Pickerington, OH 43147
Attention: Gift Catalog.**

6. Pick up your gift cards and/or ELCA Good Gifts ornaments (if available) at the display. Your Christmas shopping is done!!

ORDER FORM

Item #	Quantity	Description	Price per item	Total
<i>Example #8</i>	3	<i>Honeybees</i>	\$20	\$60

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE

_____ Check _____ Cash **Total** _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

A Helpful Guide

- #1 ELCADisaster Response
- #2 Food for CEI Students
- #3 Haitian Child Sponsorship
- #4 CLM/Pathway to a Better Life
- #5 Kids for Kids
- #6 Lutheran World Relief
- #7 School Supplies for a Child
- #8 Honeybees
- #9 Pig
- #10 School Fees and Uniform for a Girl
- #11 Gift from ELCA Good Gifts Website
- #12 Water, sanitation, & hygiene for South Sudan
– World Vision
- #13 Child Sponsorship–World Vision
- #14 LSS Mobile Food Pantry
- #15 LSS Food Pantries
- #16 LSS of Fairfield County
- #17 LSS of Franklin County
- #18 First English
- #19 Charity of Choice

