

Lake Oswego United Methodist Church

Gifts of Hope 2023

Jesus tells us that in order to give to him we must find him in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the imprisoned. He asks us to reach out to the less fortunate. What better way to honor those we love this Christmas season, than to make donations that will help the needy.

Here is an updated ***Gifts of Hope 2023*** catalog to explain the charitable organizations that LOUMC and its members actively support throughout the year and to request your donations to the organizations of your choice as part of your Christmas giving. 100% of your donation goes directly to the charity. If you can make a donation this year, please follow the directions below. Thank you for supporting these worthy organizations during this holy season.

Online donations: Go to LOUMC donations and record your donation amounts.

Mail-in donations: Use the donation sheet included with the catalog, note your donation(s). Include this sheet and a check for the total amount.

New QR codes: If you wish, you can scan the QR code under an entry to give to an organization via your mobile phone.

Recognition letters: If you choose, there is a generic recognition letter you can print for each of the people you are honoring.

Beacon Village/Metanoia Peace Community



Pat Schwiebert has provided extensive service to the homeless and needy in the Portland area for many decades. LOUMC members actively supported her Sunnyside 'Hard Times Suppers' for years, where she served a weekly hot meal and provided other food and supplies to people in need in SE Portland. After losing the Sunnyside space, she and others raised funds for what became Beacon Village, a 10-unit tiny house village on the site of the Bridgeport UCC that receives regular LOUMC outreach funds. She continues to make and deliver lunches to the needy in Portland area parks - with assistance from LOUMC members - and uses these contacts to help people find housing and other necessary services. LOUMC continues to support Pat and her many services to the local community.



Community Transitional School



Now in its 34th year as a private nonprofit, CTS is a free school for children through 8th grade who live with their families in cars, tents, or transitional housing. Bus routes change daily so a child can be picked up and dropped off at different locations as required. Because the bus routes are flexible, historically CTS achieves about a 95% attendance rate for these kids. Children receive individualized instruction and access to food, clothing and hygiene products. LOUMC members have volunteered at the school, and our congregation has done regular collections for school supplies and hygiene products. CTS provides a community where children in need can survive and thrive: a refuge from the trauma and hardships of poverty and uncertainty.



Family Promise



The mission of Family Promise of Tualatin Valley (FPTV) is to equip vulnerable families and individuals to end the cycle of homelessness. This year FPTV was able to purchase the Quality Inn in Tigard. All program guests are able to stay in this facility. In 2022, 862 individuals were served – 250 families- 28,369 safe shelter bed nights – and 78% of households exited shelter to stable housing. LOUMC provides outreach funds, as well as quarterly groceries for their food pantry, an occasional hot meal, and volunteer support.



The Father's Heart



The Father's Heart is a street ministry located in Oregon City. They have merged with Love One to provide a broader range of services and more counseling. In 2023, they housed a total of 80 households with regional housing fund support. In October alone, 102 people were served meals, clothing, and shelter; 268 took showers; 19 visited the doctor and 98 were checked in, updated or enrolled in the Clackamas Housing Authority program. When the temperature drops to 32 degrees, they will be an emergency shelter. LOUMC volunteers at TFH, and we provide outreach funds.



LOUMC Youth Outreach Projects



The junior and senior high Sunday school classes at LOUMC continue to support a variety of different non-profits on a monthly basis. By supporting this project, you will help provide lunches to local children, prepare meals for families residing in the Ronald McDonald House, prepare meals for LOUMC seniors, among other projects. **To donate, please fill out the included form and mail a check to LOUMC.**

LOTSM



The Lake Oswego Transitional Shelter Ministry is a coalition of six LO congregations - including LOUMC - that works in partnership with Clackamas County Social Services. LOTSM provides two self-contained apartments - one at LOUMC and one at LO UCC - for homeless families for six months (sometimes longer on a case by case basis). This gives time for families to qualify for housing vouchers, save money, and work with a professional social worker. LOUMC volunteers provide support for the guest families. Monetary donations are used for apartment maintenance, utilities and matching funds that encourage families to save.



Boys & Girls Aid: The Nest



Can you imagine being 6 years old and being bounced from one strange home to another? Can you imagine being 13 years old and headed to your 6th foster home placement? Do you know a child who needs emergency shelter or a pregnant teenager who needs supportive guidance? 1000 children and families are served each year. You have the power to make a difference in the life of these precious children. Positive outcomes are possible with your support. '



Phoenix Rising Transitions



PHOENIX Rising Transitions is an OR nonprofit of former prisoners, prisoners, and community members working toward the success of people coming home from prison. PRT works on leadership training, personal transformation, public speaking, mentoring, and community organizing efforts. They do peer mentoring work in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. This year they have returned to work and mentoring inside the prison.



Road 2 Hope



Road 2 Hope Maternity Home provides housing & support to pregnant mothers and their unborn babies. They offer prenatal care, childbirth preparation, parenting skill training, and counseling and emotional support. Post birth, they provide help with education, jobs, budgeting, and life skills training. Women & babies may stay for up to a year after the birth. In 2023, R2H added 2 additional houses and doubled its clientele. LOUMC provides outreach funds and volunteers. R2H demonstrates the love of Jesus Christ while serving young women regardless of faith background.



UMCOR



When a disaster overwhelms a community, the United Methodist Committee on Relief provides training, relief supplies, case management, and long term support. They have been providing water, food and medicine in Ukraine since February 2022, in addition to immediate and long term disaster response to Alabama, Florida, and Mexico for the hurricanes and flooding.

Now they are working with partners in Israel to provide humanitarian relief in Israel/ Gaza. Your donations to UMCOR make it possible to be present with supplies wherever they are needed.

