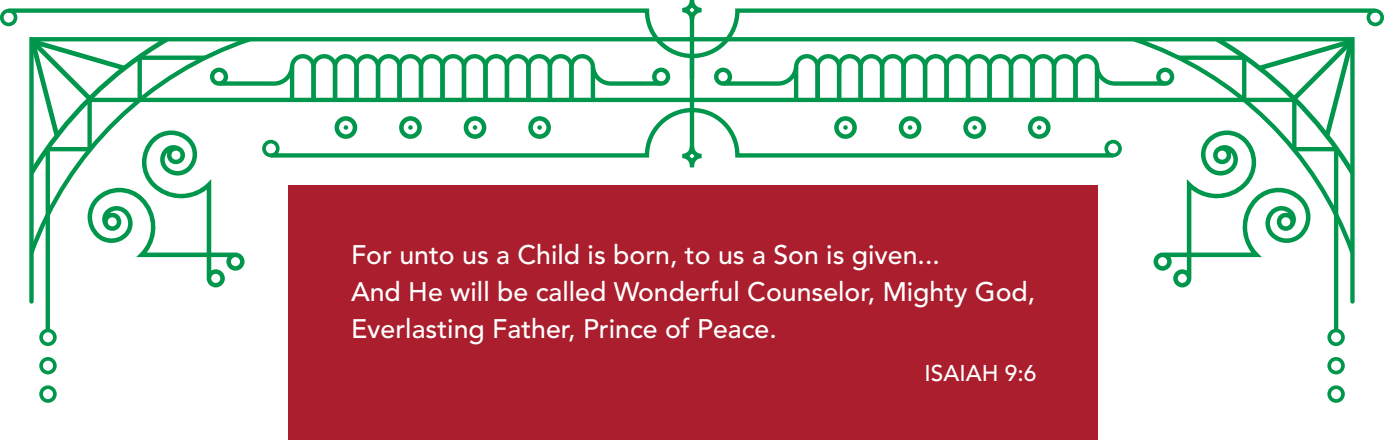




Christmas
Catalog
2022

The
GIFT
of a CHILD
CAN CHANGE
THE WORLD

CHRIST CHURCH



For unto us a Child is born, to us a Son is given...
And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

ISAIAH 9:6

As the air chills, the snow falls and twinkling lights illuminate the neighborhood, our minds and hearts take on a spirit of eager anticipation. Joy is in the air already, but the carols, stockings and gifts point to something even better: the coming of the Christ Child. We wait with bated breath to see the fullness of God's love for humanity revealed—the Light of the world, shining brightly from a humble manger.

Yonder breaks a new and glorious morn...
but not yet.

In the meantime, we embrace the spirit of the season. Advent is rife with traditions, and here at Christ Church, we've enjoyed a very special one for many years: Spirit Village. In a season when some facets of culture hone in on consumerism, this "Alternative Christmas Marketplace" flipped the script, inviting us to focus on others and give the gift of hope to those who need it—both in our own neighborhoods and around the world.

Along with a new name—the Oh What Fun! Christmas Party—seasoned veterans will notice a new flavor to this year's festivities. Gone are the Victorian buildings and attire, and some exciting new additions take their place. But fear not: our dedication to family fun, generosity and the Good News of the Gospel remain as strong as ever.

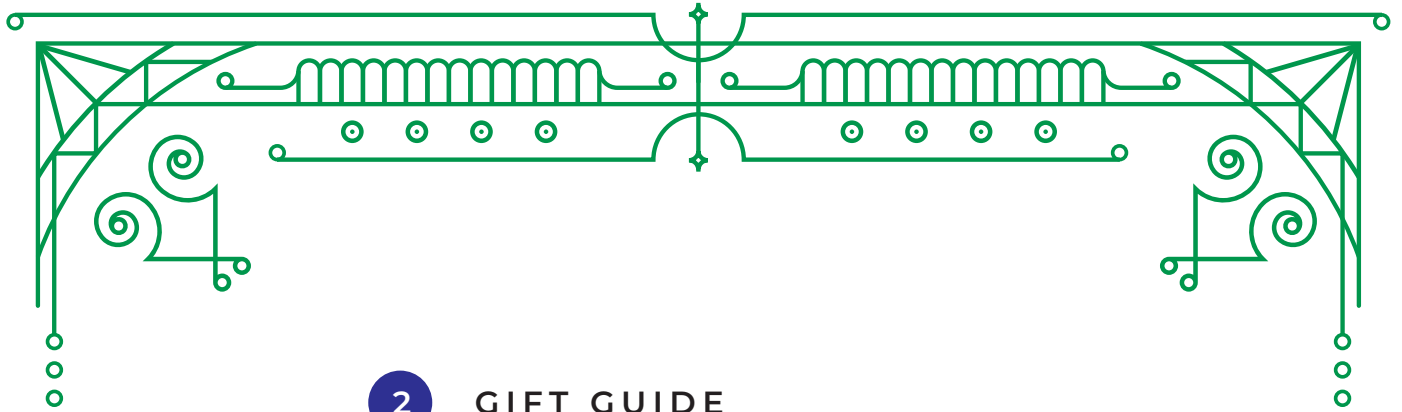
We hope you and your family will find this booklet a helpful pathway to engaging in life at Christ Church this season. Not sure where to start? Explore the family engagement guide. Follow along with the Advent calendar and come check out the events you find there. Get creative with the stickers as you decorate invitations to share with friends and family. Remember: the warmth of a personal invitation is a precious gift in itself!

We also invite you to peruse the mission projects in the following pages and consider giving to support the work of our partners and the Food Pantry. As you read about the many needs of God's children around the globe, we pray you will be inspired by the opportunity to show Christ's love and care to those in need—and follow the example set by His self-sacrificial love.

After all... **The
GIFT
of a CHILD
CAN CHANGE
THE WORLD**

Merry Christmas!

Your Christ Church Family



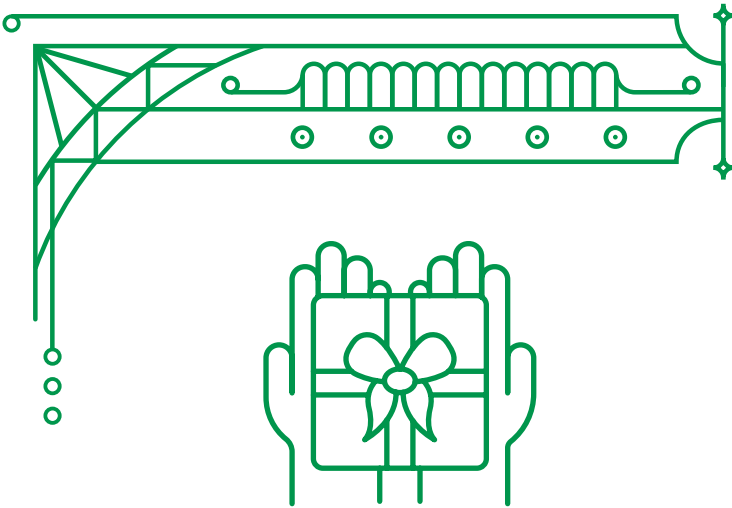
- 2 GIFT GUIDE
- 11 OUR FIVE PASSIONS
- 12 FAMILY GUIDE
- 13 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
 - ADVENT CALENDAR
 - HOLIDAY INVITATIONS
 - STICKER SHEET
- 17 FINDINGJOY2022.COM

Mission Project Donations | Support God's work around the world by giving to the mission partner projects on the following pages through December 31.

You can give online by scanning the code or visiting ChristChurch.us/party. Prefer to give in person? Visit the Welcome Desk in the Commons at our Oak Brook campus.

Don't forget the gift cards! These cards make the perfect stocking stuffers to let friends or family know that you've made a donation on their behalf. They are available at the Mission Cafe on Sunday mornings or at the Welcome Desk during the week.





**Oh what fun
it is to share
our gifts
& love others
the way
Jesus
taught us!**



SUPPLY FOOD

The Christ Church Food Pantry serves those experiencing financial hardship in the DuPage county area. Each month, in partnership with the Oakbrook Terrace Salvation Army, the pantry team provides food, clothing, hope, hospitality and prayer—often to 100 or more families in a single morning. Your gift will provide meals for a family.

**Christ Church/Salvation Army
Food Pantry**

\$10 provides food for families



CHILDREN'S BIBLE CLUB

Mission India seeks to plant a church in every village in India by empowering passionate believers. Children are introduced to Jesus at Mission India's Children's Bible Clubs through songs, games and Bible stories. **SPECIAL MATCH:** Through a matching gift, every dollar given to this project will be doubled.

Mission India | India

*\$1 provides Bible club experience
for a child*



MEALS FOR TEENAGERS

Fox Valley Christian Action (FVCA) is a non-profit ministry dedicated to discipling people in under-resourced communities of the Fox Valley in partnership with local churches. Throughout the school year, FVCA provides a weekly discipleship and personal development program for teenagers from low-income communities. As part of the program, full dinners are provided to these teens.

Fox Valley Christian Action

\$3 supports meals for a teen

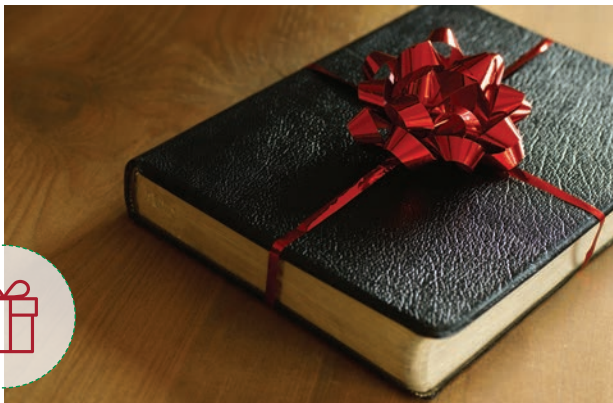


CARING FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES

Caring Network is the first step for women facing an unplanned pregnancy. Welcomed with unconditional love, counsel and resources such as formula, diapers, baby clothes and gas cards, women find help and hope.

Caring Network

\$15 provides needed resources



SHARING THE WORD WITH LOVE

Love INC works with churches to help people in their communities experiencing material, emotional or relational poverty in the hopes of transforming lives in the name of Christ. The Love INC Clearinghouse Call-in Center helps families find solutions to their immediate and long-term needs, including offering every caller a brand new Bible.

Love INC

\$10 covers a portion of the cost of distributing a new Bible to neighbors in need



MEDICAL SUPPORT FOR INFANTS, CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Heather and Jose Miguel Hernandez Farrell work in La Union, Honduras, providing for the spiritual and material needs of their community in a variety of ways. This Christmas, you can partner with them to provide a medical consultation for infants, children and youth in La Union. Your gift will also help pay for basic medication and vitamins for the families.

Heather & Jose Miguel Hernandez Farrell | Honduras

\$4 provides medical care for an individual



**MOUNTAIN BIKING/
CAMPING TRIP FOR
INCARCERATED YOUTH**

Youth for Christ strives to build Christ-sharing relationships with 500+ Chicago youth who are in jail. When they go home, Youth for Christ offers some fun recreational wilderness trips as a new experience. This gift will help provide the food and equipment necessary for a 200-mile mountain biking trip.

Youth for Christ

\$25 provides food and equipment for one camper



WEEKLY ESL AND BIBLE STUDIES FOR REFUGEES

The mission of Salam Christian Fellowship is to proclaim Jesus Christ crucified and risen from the dead, the Savior of the world, to Muslims from the Middle East and North Africa living in Chicagoland. Salam offers three English classes per week for about 30 students, and the number is growing. Students are from countries including Syria, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Ukraine, Ethiopia, Sudan, Morocco and the Central Africa region. Salam builds friendly relationships in order to share the Gospel with them.

Salam Christian Fellowship

\$25 provides materials, a meal and transportation



JOURNEY TO HEALING

Emmaus works to prevent exploitation and empower male survivors of trafficking to rebuild their lives. The love of Jesus inspires Emmaus as they seek to affirm worth, reject stigma and offer the hope of the Gospel. Journey to Healing programs help men escape commercial exploitation with faith-based support at the Survivor Support Center in the West Loop. Christian mentors and service providers engage with the men during social/educational events and volunteer opportunities. This gift helps cover the cost of Bible studies, cooking classes, laundry services and more.

Emmaus

\$25 provides a share of Journey to Healing program costs



“Thank you so much for all of your great support of our ministry program and special projects. We are so grateful for your partnership in ministry. Thank you again for being a great part of all that Jesus is doing through FVCA!”

FOX VALLEY CHRISTIAN ACTION



ANGEL TREE

Prison Fellowship works to bring hope and restoration to prisoners, families and communities impacted by crime and incarceration. Each Christmas Angel Tree provides Christmas presents to children of incarcerated moms and dads so that they can experience the joy of Christmas.

Prison Fellowship

\$25 provides one gift on behalf of a child's incarcerated parent



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

South Asian Friendship Center (SAFC) reaches South Asian immigrants living in the Chicagoland area to help introduce them to Jesus. Their after-school program has been set up for the Muslim, Sikh and Hindu children in the neighborhood. SAFC provides homework tutoring as well as sharing Jesus with them on a weekly basis.

South Asian Friendship Center

\$35 provides school supplies for one child



DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Mathare Community Outreach serves those living on less than \$2 a day in Nairobi, Kenya. Sending a Mathare student through Moriah School of Discipleship's 7-month training program helps develop their spiritual gifts and practical skills, creating well-rounded individuals better equipped to advance in their Christian call.

Dotun Modupe | Mathare Community Outreach | Kenya

\$15 provides training for a student



HOPE PACK FOR LOCAL LOW-INCOME CHILDREN, ASSEMBLED BY ADULTS

Elim supports children and adults with disabilities in leading their fullest, God-given lives. Elim's HOPE Packs program provides essential school supplies for local low-income children, equipping them for academic success. HOPE Packs are assembled by Elim's adults with disabilities, providing them a meaningful service opportunity.

Elim

\$28 provides a Hope Pack

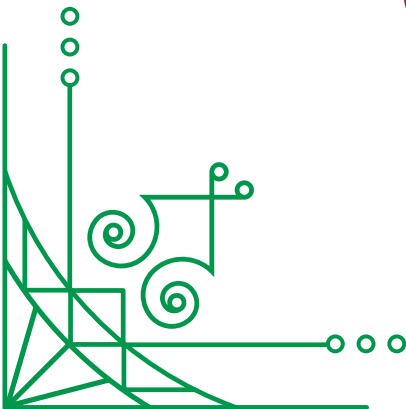


STOP ONLINE CHILD ABUSE IN ROMANIA

Missio Link International's "Children at Risk" focus addresses the spiritual and material needs of Romania's disadvantaged children. In Romania, 5 out of 10 children have been victims of online harassing, and 3 out of 10 children have been approached for video chat. This gift allows Missio Link to educate children, parents and teachers on how to protect a child from online abuse.

Emil Toader | Missio Link International Romania

\$5 educates a family to prevent online child abuse



Scan to link to the online gift giving form.



BOOKS FOR TRAINING PASTORS

Cesar and Nancy Cortez serve with Reach Beyond in Bolivia to see people reached with the Gospel and transformed in Christ. When new congregations are created, it is vital to provide new pastors with training and resources. Fledgling churches need Christian books including the Bible, Bible dictionaries and commentaries that will provide theological education for church leaders.

Cesar and Nancy Cortez | Reach Beyond | Bolivia

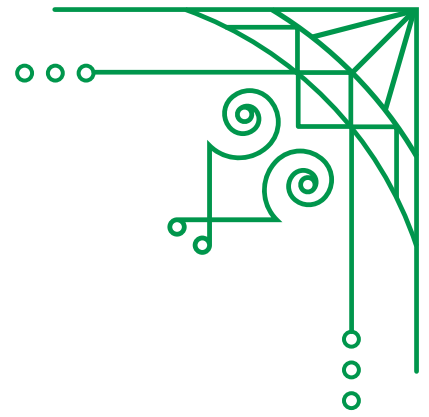
\$5 provides a training book

WORKPLACE MENTORING EXPERIMENT

Operation Mobilization works across the globe to create vibrant communities of Jesus followers among the least-reached. This two-year experiment will help facilitate discipleship and discovery Bible studies in major workplace sectors in urban Sweden. The dream: a reproducible, scalable, disciple-making program that changes the narrative from "give up your job and become a missionary" to "keep your job and become missional."

Scott and Katarina Breslin | Operation Mobilization | Sweden

\$10 supports a leader

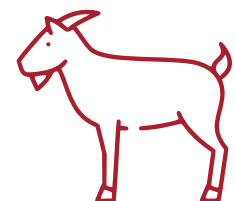


GOAT FOR A FAMILY

Villages in Partnership (VIP) works with 26 villages in rural Malawi, impacting more than 21,000 lives. Purchasing a goat for a family in Malawi transforms lives! Not only do goats supply families with food security by providing milk, protein and fertilizer for crops, but a goat also gives families economic security. Goats can be sold at market and the profits support a family financially. VIP's Goat Pass On program requires each family that receives a goat to give the first kid to another family in need. Giving one goat can change many lives; it is the gift that keeps on giving!

Villages in Partnership | Malawi

\$50 provides one goat





BIBLES FOR NEW BELIEVERS IN INDIA

Partners supports indigenous leaders in reaching their local communities with the Gospel. Give the gift of God's Word! Partners is joining with India for Christ Ministries to provide Bibles for new believers, in their native language.

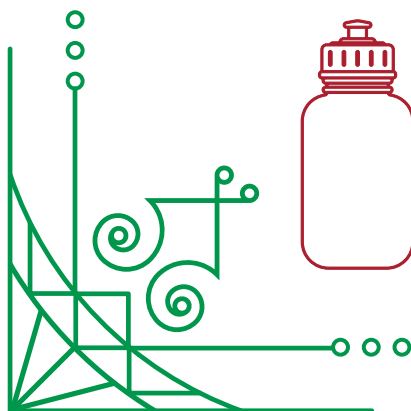
Carlos Calderon | Partners | Global
\$5 provides a Bible



ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP

Musalaha works to bring reconciliation to conflict in the Middle East through workshops, camps and desert experiences. Peacemaking starts with children. This gift helps bring Israeli and Palestinian children together in a unique summer camp. The reconciliation process begins as they break down stereotypes, sit together at meal times, play water games and engage in other activities.

Daniel Munayer | Musalaha | Israel
\$10 helps send a child to camp



WATER BOTTLES FOR STUDENTS

O'Brien School for the Maasai provides high-quality, biblical education to 400 students in an English medium school. Schoolchildren walk a long way to school in the very hot sun, and some children find old plastic water bottles and fill them up at school with clean water. The school seeks to provide all students with their own reusable water bottles, improving hygiene and reducing disease.

Kellie O'Brien | O'Brien School for the Maasai | Tanzania
\$5 provides one student with a reusable water bottle



"...my deepest appreciation to Christ Church for your prayers, ongoing partnership, and above-and-beyond gifts in support of our local ministry efforts among those displaced and arriving on our doorstep in Chicagoland from 105 nations in the past year alone. Your financial gifts continue to be just-in-time. Thank you for making possible the impact we've realized this year."

WORLD RELIEF



SAVE ORPHANS AND WIDOWS FROM MALARIA

Life Builders Ministries responds to human needs in a holistic way, empowering Nigeria's orphans and widows to rise up against the challenges of life with self-worth and dignity. Malaria is still a major killer in rural West Africa, causing more deaths than COVID-19. Children from poor homes suffer most. Life Builders' hospital is saving many lives and sharing the Gospel through health care. This gift saves an orphan or a widow and her children from dying of malaria.

Blessing & Emmanuel Oluwayemi | Life Builders Ministries | Nigeria

\$15 provides Malaria treatment for an individual or family



GIFT CARDS FOR TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS

Ten years ago, Reclaim13 began their mission to restore and redeem the lives of children impacted by sexual abuse and sex trafficking. Reclaim13 uses gift cards not only for their mentor program, but also in care bags distributed to recovered children/women during FBI stings.

Reclaim13

\$10 provides food for a girl or woman escaping trafficking and abuse

"We cannot express our gratitude enough for the support and prayers of Christ Church."

Emmaus



HYGIENE GIFT BAG

Pacific Garden Mission (PGM) serves Chicago's homeless population with the compassion of Christ and ministers with the transforming message of the Gospel. PGM engages with guests to help them secure permanent housing, employment and medical/mental health care. Living on the streets of Chicago is hard enough. Not having basic necessities such as soap, toothpaste, towels or deodorant makes this situation even tougher. The gift of a small toiletry bag helps to ease the burden and demoralization associated with not feeling clean.

Pacific Garden Mission

\$10 provides a hygiene gift bag



CHURCH LEADER CONFERENCES FOR FORMER MUSLIMS

Step Forward works in North Africa and the Middle East to multiply churches and support Christians living under oppression. Muslim-background believers often come to Christ through visions and dreams, subsequently facing harsh persecution from family and communities. Through conferences, Step Forward comes alongside new believers to disciple them and encourage them to stay solid in their faith, empowering them to go out without fear to reach their communities for Christ.

Michel Khalil | Step Forward Global Ministries

\$10 provides training for one new disciple



OVERWHELMED AND NOT SURE WHERE TO GIVE?

If you are not sure which projects to support but would like to bless all of our domestic and global mission partners (including those not featured in this booklet), simply give to the "Into All the World" undesignated fund. The missions staff will allocate these resources to ensure equitable support for all partners. For a full list of mission partners, visit ChristChurch.us/serve.

Scan to link to the online gift giving form.





The Five Passions

of Christ Church Missions

We believe that God's goodness, beauty and truth can transform lives, neighborhoods, cities and the world. That's why Christ Church gives our time, talents and resources to advance FIVE CAUSES that we are most passionate about: Lifting Women and Children, Relieving Suffering, Transforming Communities, Developing Leaders and Multiplying Churches and Disciples.

LIFTING WOMEN & CHILDREN

Jesus advocated for women and children in a time when few people did. As a result, we fund partners who work to protect kids and women from abuse; ensure that they are adequately fed, clothed, and cared for; and provide them with the spiritual and academic nurture that increases their health and hope, and draws them closer to God.

RELIEVING SUFFERING

The Gospel is about the "GOD Samaritan" who came to help people who are beaten, down in a ditch, and without the resources to help themselves. Having experienced this grace from God, we are moved to offer relief to people who have been ravaged by crises and need practical help to get back on their feet.

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

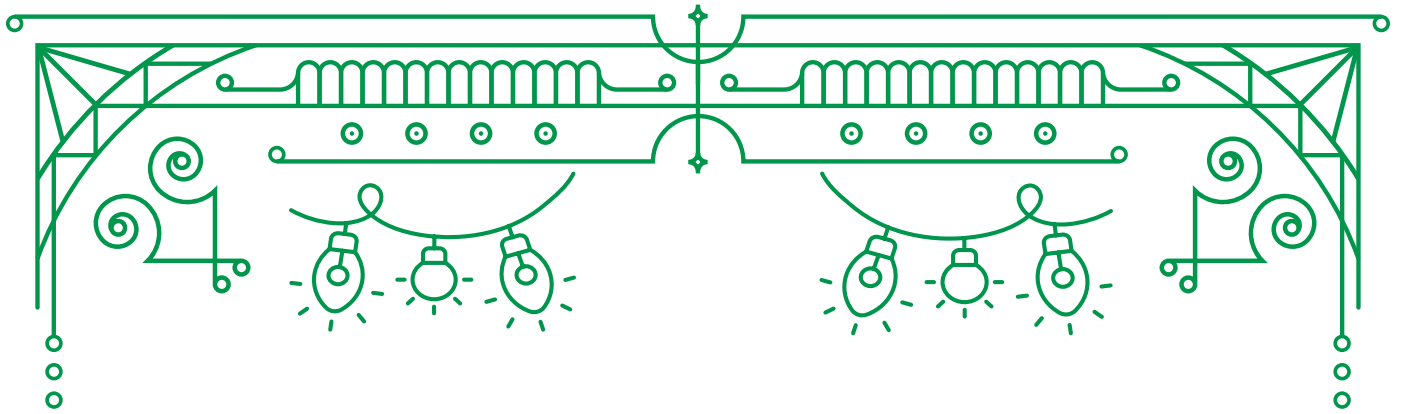
The Bible reveals God's passion not only for individuals, but for the flourishing of whole neighborhoods and cities. For this reason, we invest in Christian ministries that advance integrated community development strategies, attending to needs such as clothing, shelter and housing; nutrition and healthcare; vocational assistance and micro-finance.

DEVELOPING LEADERS

Jesus chose apostles who could not only influence individuals but multiply ministry that changed entire regions. In like fashion, we seek to identify catalytic change-makers and provide them with theological education, leadership training, financing, volunteer support and prayer that helps increase their impact.

MULTIPLYING CHURCHES & DISCIPLES

The primary way God changes the world for the better is through the radiant influence of disciple-making churches. We, therefore, invest in individuals and ministries serious about evangelistic witness, discipleship and church-planting. In this way, we advance the redemptive work of Christ faster than any other measure.



Oh what fun it is to build family traditions!

Our habits and customs have the potential to shape how we view the world, our neighbors, our family and God. Advent offers us a unique opportunity to continue traditions or begin new ones, drawing us closer to one another and to Jesus.

We're hoping that gatherings like the Oh What Fun! Christmas Party, special events like CarolFest, Sunday worship and giving opportunities like you find in this catalog will become transformational traditions for you and your family.

You'll also find a simple Advent calendar in the pages that follow, inviting your kids or grandkids to engage in the story of Christmas with easy activities that demonstrate how the gift of a child can change the world. We encourage you to post this calendar somewhere in your home. Next, choose a "family time" each day to focus on the coming of the Christ Child and sharing the goodness, beauty and truth of the season.

If you don't yet have a church home, we hope you'll join us for one of our Christmas Eve services. If Christ Church is your home, we hope you'll consider inviting someone to worship with you this Christmas. You'll find an invitation for your kids to color and deliver to friends and family. For you, it might be as easy as a call or a text.

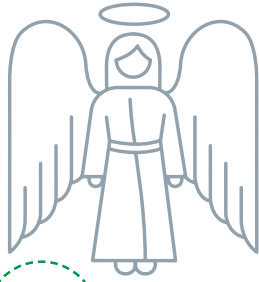
We look forward to welcoming you and your guests each Sunday this Advent and at Christmas Eve worship services on December 23 and 24.

Merry Christmas!



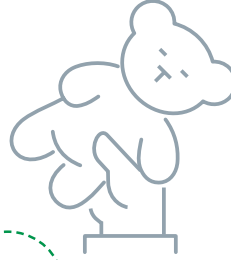
**Oh what fun
it is to
count down
the days until
Christmas!**

Read Luke 1:26–38.



1

Donate new or used toys
to your favorite charity.



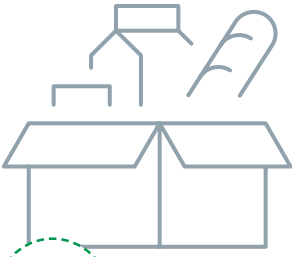
2

Christmas family event:
Oh What Fun!



3

Give food to a local
food pantry.



4

Read Luke 1:39–56.



5

Make paper snowflakes.



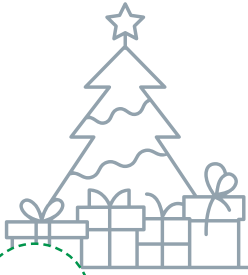
6

Make cookies
for your
fire station.



7

Make Christmas cards for
those in a nursing home.



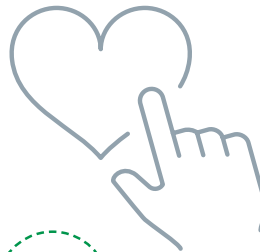
8

Read Matthew 1:18–25.



9

Tell someone you
love them!



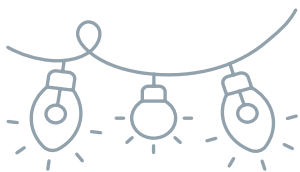
10

Do a chore for a
neighbor.



11

Drive around the
neighborhood and enjoy
the Christmas lights.



12

Read Luke 2:1–7.



13

Donate socks/hats/gloves
to a homeless shelter.



14

Do a secret act of
kindness for someone
so they glorify God
in thanks.

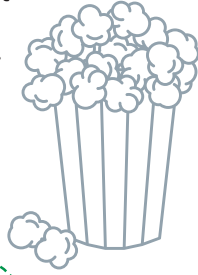


15



**Oh what fun
it is to
count down
the days until
Christmas!**

Join us for Family Movie
Night at
Christ
Church.



16

Read Luke 2:8-12.



17

Leave a surprise on
someone's doorstep.



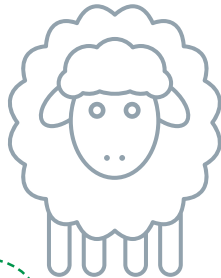
18

Pray for someone you
don't get along with.



19

Read Luke 2:13-15.



20

Read Matthew 2:1-7.



21

Read John 3:16.



22

Join us for Worship at
Christ Church.



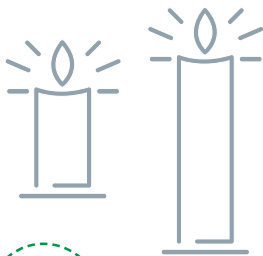
23

Watch the
Christ Church
special
Christmas
experience.



25

Join us for Worship at
Christ Church.



24

**Oh what fun it is
to invite someone
to Christmas Eve
at Christ Church!**

Pray about who God might be prompting you to invite to the Christmas Eve worship services—then color the invitations below and decorate with stickers.



Come with me to Christ Church on
Christmas Eve

Contemporary Worship
Friday, December 23
7:00* p.m. | Oak Brook

Saturday, December 24
3:00* and 5:00* p.m. | Oak Brook
4:00 p.m. | Butterfield

Classic Candlelight Worship
Saturday, December 24
7:00*, 9:00 & 11:00 p.m. | Oak Brook

*Child care will be available for children 4 years and younger at select services.



Oak Brook | 501 Oak Brook Rd., Oak Brook

CHRIST CHURCH

Butterfield | 25361 Glen Park Rd., Lombard

Come with me to Christ Church on
Christmas Eve

Contemporary Worship
Friday, December 23
7:00* p.m. | Oak Brook

Saturday, December 24
3:00* and 5:00* p.m. | Oak Brook
4:00 p.m. | Butterfield

Classic Candlelight Worship
Saturday, December 24
7:00*, 9:00 & 11:00 p.m. | Oak Brook

*Child care will be available for children 4 years and younger at select services.



Oak Brook | 501 Oak Brook Rd., Oak Brook

CHRIST CHURCH

Butterfield | 25361 Glen Park Rd., Lombard

finding JOY

Can you ever have too much **JOY**? Scan this code to learn about serve opportunities for spreading **JOY**, listen to our specially curated Christmas playlist to celebrate **JOY** and gain access to our interactive 25 Days of Joy Advent calendar as you seek to find **JOY**.



FindingJoy2022.com

Celebrate Christmas at Christ Church



Oh What Fun! Christmas Party

Saturday, December 3

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Oak Brook

A Thrill of Hope: A Weary World Rejoices

Sundays | December 4–18

9:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. | Oak Brook

10:00 a.m. | Butterfield

CarolFest

Sunday, December 11 | 3:00 p.m.

Selections from Handel's *Messiah* and Songs of Christmas

Free tickets available at ChristChurch.us/CarolFest

Family Movie Night

Friday, December 16

6:30 p.m. | Oak Brook

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Contemporary Worship

Friday, December 23

7:00* p.m. | Oak Brook

Saturday, December 24

3:00* and 5:00* p.m. | Oak Brook

4:00 p.m. | Butterfield

Classic Candlelight Worship

Saturday, December 24

7:00*, 9:00 & 11:00 p.m. | Oak Brook

No children's programming will be offered to allow families to worship together.

*Child care will be available for children 4 years and younger at select services.

Christmas Day

We will provide a special on-demand Christmas experience for you and your family to enjoy at your convenience. We will not be meeting in person.

New Year's Day

Sunday, January 1

Classic Worship | 9:00 a.m. | Oak Brook

Contemporary Worship | 10:00 a.m. | Butterfield

Contemporary Worship | 10:45 a.m. | Oak Brook



501 Oak Brook Rd., Oak Brook | 630.654.1882 | ChristChurch.us

[ChristChurch.us](https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurch.us)

[@ChristChurch.us](https://www.instagram.com/ChristChurch.us)

25361 Glen Park Rd., Lombard | 630.654.1884 | ChristChurch.us

[Christ Church Butterfield](https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchButterfield)

[@ChristChurchBC](https://www.instagram.com/ChristChurchBC)



Scan to learn more about the holiday season at Christ Church.