



CHRIST CHURCH 

Oak Brook | Butterfield | ChristChurch.us

***A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices.
And yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.***

It has been a year-and-a-half marked by challenge, hardship and loss. Lives and livelihoods have been lost to the pandemic. Financial strain has pushed families into eviction and homelessness. Poverty, disease and oppression continue to shake our world, and political strife has again forced peaceful people to flee their homelands. More than a billion people across the globe have yet to hear of the hope and life-changing love of Jesus.

Yet all is not lost—for God invites us, His church, to share in His great redemptive mission for the world.

God has invited us to be a part of bringing real change to our world. Christ Church works alongside some 75 mission partners—people who have devoted their lives to serving those in need and sharing the love of Christ. From homeless shelters in Chicago to homes made among mountains of garbage in Cairo; from foster homes in Costa Rica to farming villages in Thailand; from dirt-floor churches in India to tin-roof classrooms in Nairobi to our very own neighborhoods, God is rescuing, reconciling, and redeeming. God is making things new.

It is our honor to celebrate and support the work of our mission partners through Christmas Spirit Village. Your gifts provide nourishing food, medication, counseling, education and a chance for a better life. ***Thank you for joining in on what God is doing throughout our world.***

Merry Christmas,

The Christ Church Missions Team



A sampling of the types of support that your giving will provide:

- Dental care
- Medical transportation
- Pastoral training books
- Parenting resources
- Language tutoring
- Animals for families in rural areas
- Clean bedding
- Food and medicine for children
- Emergency shelters, food and medication for those affected by natural disasters
- Hats, gloves and raincoats
- Community dinners for families in need
- Counseling
- Adult literacy programs
- Summer programs, camps and mission trips
- Savings, microfinance and business training
- Rescue from slavery and human trafficking
- Evangelistic video and audio resources in the native tongues of remote villagers
- Student backpacks and school supplies
- Water bottles
- Clean water for villages

The Five Passions of Christ Church Missions

Our mission partners work tirelessly to spread the Gospel and serve people in need around the world. We carefully select partners with a proven track record of advancing FIVE CAUSES our church is most passionate about: Multiplying Churches and Disciples, Lifting Women and Children, Transforming Communities, Relieving Suffering and Developing Leaders.



The Alternative Christmas Marketplace

Christmas Spirit Village provides the opportunity to play a helping role in the lives of others—and to share the joy of giving with friends and family. Beautiful cards are available to bring home and give away for Christmas ... and each one represents a gift to our mission partners, purchased on your loved one's behalf. These cards (available throughout Christmas Spirit Village) describe how men, women and children will be empowered to overcome hardship, rebuild in the wake of disaster, escape oppression or addiction, be equipped to flourish and experience the life-changing love of Jesus — all thanks to your generosity.

This year, we've divided our gift options according to the Five Passions of Missions. While the work of many of our partners falls into more than one category, we've chosen the Passion most prominently applicable to each partner.

When you give to support one or more of these Passions, rest assured that your gift will bolster the ministries of a variety of mission partners in that category. New this year is the option to support the Christ Church Food Pantry, which serves well over 1,000 families annually with food, clothing, Bibles and prayer.

Not sure what to choose? Consider giving to the Undesignated Fund. These gifts will be distributed in order to make support of all our partners more equitable overall.

How to Give | You can give online by credit card until December 31, 2021, at ChristChurch.us/CSVillage. You can also give onsite at Christmas Spirit Village on December 4 by card, cash or check.



Lifting Women & Children

Jesus said that children are to be valued, protected and nurtured. And His oft-countercultural interactions elevated women. As a result, we fund partners who work to protect kids and women from abuse and ensure that they are adequately fed, clothed and cared for. Further, these partners provide them with the spiritual and academic nurture that increases their health and hope, draws them closer to God and empowers them to achieve their full potential.



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14



Relieving Suffering

Time and again, Scripture paints a clear picture of a certain kind of life: one that involves sacrifice to help those who have been beaten and left in a ditch without resources. When we have experienced that kind of rescue from God—that kind of amazing grace—we are moved to lift others to their God-given potential and meet their practical needs.

“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Matthew 25:34–40



“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

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 microfinance.





"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."

John 14:12



Developing Leaders

Jesus' apostles and friends gave their lives so that others would know His love and experience the divine grace that is greater than the gravity of this world. We have joined forces with ministries that provide theological education, leadership training, financing, volunteer support and prayer to existing and emerging leaders.

We come alongside men and women such as Bishop Rev. Paul and his wife Leah, seeking to bring the hope and change that only comes through living out the Gospel in their communities, and President of Malawi, Lazarus Chakwera, a graduate of Haggai International. Reflecting upon how his Haggai training influences his policies, Chakwera says "Malawi will now have a government that will serve its people, not one that rules."

Multiplying Churches & Disciples

One of the primary ways God changes the world for the better is through the radiant influence of His Church. We can be part of that by investing in individuals and ministries committed to lifting others up out of the crushing pressures and challenges of the day while sharing the life-changing truth of the Bible. People who have been changed by God's love want to share that good news and be His hands and feet to those in need of hope.



Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:18–20





The Christ Church Food Pantry Ministry

In 2004, a group of Christ Church members felt a stirring to serve the struggling families in our area. In the years since, the pantry has served well over 60,000 men, women and children.

Throughout the year the people of Christ Church and the surrounding communities respond to needs of their neighbors, bringing winter coats, gloves, mittens, home supplies, toys, backpacks and Bibles, in addition to food and clothing. Each month, in partnership with the Oakbrook Terrace Salvation Army, we offer hope, hospitality and prayer—often to 100 or more families in a single morning.

The Food Pantry welcomes guests on the second Saturday of each month at 1 South 415 Summit Avenue, Oakbrook Terrace. In December, the Pantry is held at the Oak Brook campus of Christ Church. We'd love to have you and your family join us.

ChristChurch.us/FoodPantry | ChristChurch.us/drive



God of life,

We are in awe of Your heart for the people of this world and that You actively pursue and want what is best for all. We thank You for including us in Your redemptive mission. At times we feel tired, thin and limited. It is comforting that it isn't all up to us. Through Your Holy Spirit You empower and equip us for Your good works. Give us strength to trust You.

Lord, we pray for our partners—those who have given so much for the sake of others. Sustain them as they work to relieve the suffering of the hungry, downtrodden and disaster-stricken. Empower them to bring transformation to communities. Compel and inspire them to lift women and children to a better quality of life. Embolden them to multiply churches so that Your grace and goodness will be known to all. Raise up and develop leaders who will bring hope and healing to our wounded and weary world.

God, lift our eyes to see Your vision. Use our resources to raise up others toward their God-given potential. May we join You in bringing heaven to earth.

All this we pray in Jesus' name.

Amen



The Five Passions of Missions

While all of our mission partners do multifaceted work that falls under more than one passion, for the purposes of Christmas Spirit Village we've chosen the category most prominently applicable to each partner.

When you give to one of these five passions, your gift will support the efforts of amazing missionaries and Christian organizations near and far!

LIFTING WOMEN & CHILDREN

Global Mission Partners

Philip & Jill Aspegren, Casa Viva | Costa Rica
Mama Maggie Gobran, Stephen's Children | Egypt
Dotun Modupe, Mathare Community Outreach | Kenya
Jean Baptiste Mugarura, Youth For Christ | Rwanda
Kellie O'Brien, O'Brien School for the Maasai | Tanzania
Mark & Ruth Stoscher, Torchbearers International | Albania
Emil Toader, Missio Link International | Romania
Victor & Leslie Trautwein, Kids Alive | Dominican Republic

Domestic Mission Partners

By The Hand Club For Kids | Chicago
Caring Network | Chicagoland
Inner City Impact | Chicagoland
Reclaim13 | Chicagoland
Young Life | Western Suburbs
Youth For Christ, Juvenile Justice Mission | Chicago

RELIEVING SUFFERING

Global Mission Partner

International Justice Mission

Domestic Mission Partners

Administer Justice | Nationwide
Emmaus Ministries | Chicago
Love Christian Clearinghouse (Love Inc.) | Chicago Suburbs
Pacific Garden Mission | Chicago
Prison Fellowship | Nationwide
World Relief DuPage | Chicagoland

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Global Mission Partners

Cesar & Nancy Cortez | South America
Chris & Dana Harding | India
Steve & Mary Hawthorne | Bolivia
Heather & Mike Hernandez | Honduras
Emmanuel & Blessing Oluwayemi, Life Builders Ministries | Nigeria
Villages In Partnership | Malawi

Domestic Mission Partners

Breakthrough Urban Ministries | Garfield Park
Fox Valley Christian Action | Fox Valley, Illinois
Lawndale Community Church | Chicago
Resilient | Villa Park, Illinois

DEVELOPING LEADERS

Global Mission Partners

Atul & Suman Aghamkar | India
Haggai International | Worldwide
Carlos Calderon, Partners | Worldwide
Jake & Honah Finn
Kevin & Rahela Conway, Cru | Budapest
Vance Frusher, TeachBeyond | England
Michel Khalil, Step Forward Global Ministries Middle East & Africa
Mihai & Tammy Lundell | Italy
Barbosa Oliveira | Spain & Portugal
Jeremy & Christy Otten | Belgium
John Phiri | Zambia
China Graduate School | China

Domestic Mission Partner

Fuller Theological Seminary | California

MULTIPLYING CHURCHES & DISCIPLES

Global Mission Partners

Ben & Mandy Pehrson | Papua New Guinea
Greg & Faith Hurst | Bolivia
Mission India | India
Iran Alive | Iran
Jose Pablo Sanchez | Spain
Paul & Leah Manyara | Kenya
Philip Baarendse | Thailand
Project Video | Thailand
Salim Munayer | Israel
Scott & Katarina Breslin, Operation Mercy | Sweden
Shane & Eden Niles | Senegal
Samuel Stephens, India Gospel League | India

Domestic Mission Partners

Cru, Elmhurst University/College of DuPage | Elmhurst
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship | Chicago & Indiana
Salam Christian Fellowship | Chicago
South Asian Friendship Center | Chicago

