

A Note of Introduction & Explanation:

Dear John Knox Friends and Family,

In 1989, Randy and I were looking for a way to introduce the Advent season to our children as a time of giving, rather than receiving. We were also looking for a way to reconcile the abundance of our blessings with Jesus' declaration that God had anointed him to "preach good news to the poor" and called on his disciples to do the same.

That year some friends introduced us to their family's practice of celebrating St. Nicholas Day on December 6 as a way of nurturing in their children's hearts a concern for the poor. They shared the legends about St. Nicholas, the Bishop of Myra (in modern day Turkey) in the 4th century, who inherited a considerable sum of money but kept none of it; he chose, instead, to give to the poor through anonymous gifts of money, warm clothing, food and handmade toys.

On St. Nicholas Day, therefore, we began to fill our children's Christmas stockings with small gifts symbolic of each of these things. In addition, we chose a family giving project such as "adopting" a needy family or giving to disaster relief. As our children have grown older, we shifted the emphasis from giving them gifts, to giving gifts in their name to our family's World Vision sponsored child, Heifer Project, Operation Christmas Child, to name a few. The unexpected blessing of this tradition is that now our children are giving gifts to others in our name, such as gift certificates from Living Water, International, to fund clean water projects around the world.

Recent headlines have highlighted the plight of the poor in our area as well as the devastation wreaked by natural disasters around the world. Throughout the year, our church partners with a number of local and global organizations to spread the Good News and to alleviate suffering. These organizations are doing incredible things like helping families get back on their feet and providing disaster relief.

Our Children's Ministry team and the Emergency Food bank have already provided you with giving opportunities such as Operation Christmas Child, Heifer Project Living Gift Market, and the Christmas

Food Drive. Your missions committee wanted to give you some additional opportunities this holiday season to partner with some of the other organizations we support.

With this gift catalogue, we invite you to join us in supporting our local and global partners by:

1. Purchasing one of the featured gifts, or
2. Purchasing a "wish list" item and leaving it in one of the boxes in the church narthex.

We thank you, in advance, for touching the lives of vulnerable children and people in the Tri-Valley and around the world.

Sincerely,

Joan McGrady-Beach, Missions Elder

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written:

*"They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever."*

Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. —2 Corinthians 9:7-11

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Philippines, November 2013

One of the worst recorded storms in history, Typhoon Haiyan has left many dead, hundreds of thousands displaced, and extensive damage. It has directly affected the extended family of one of the members of our congregation. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is working in collaboration with our mission partner, the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), and other members of the ACT Alliance to respond to this crisis. Initial response includes the provision of non-food items, material resources, drinking water, emergency shelter kits, and cash-for-work programs.

One Great Hour of Sharing and designated funds will assist with what is expected to be a major humanitarian operation. Your gift of compassion will help with immediate needs and long term recovery.

Give. Act. Pray. Find out more at www.pcusa.org/pda or facebook PDAcared.

PHILIPPINES DISASTER RELIEF (DR000012) \$ Any Amount

HYGIENE KIT\$10.00

SCHOOL KIT\$15.00

BABY KIT\$39.00

CLEANING BUCKET & KIT\$56.00

CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FOOD BANK

The Children's Emergency Food Bank is a local non-profit organization serving Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville, California since 1969. The Food Bank provides food for families in emergency situations, rather than ongoing support. The Food Bank is an all-volunteer organization that operates on the property of John Knox Presbyterian Church in Dublin.

Their objective is to provide canned and packaged food as well as gift certificates from local markets to obtain fresh foods. They try to give each family enough food for one week, up to six times a year. They are currently preparing for their large annual Christmas Giveaway which also includes two large boxes of food and a turkey, chickens or ham.

The Food Bank relies on donations from individuals in the community and is part of the Raley's Food for Families Program, receiving continued support from them. It is not supported by the Alameda or Contra Costa County Food Banks. Cash donations are always welcome and are used in conjunction with food donations.

CASH DONATION (for purchase of gift cards to enable families to purchase perishable items).....\$ Any Amount

DINNER FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR\$25.00

FAMILY LUNCHESES FOR ONE WEEK\$50.00

TRI-VALLEY HAVEN HOMELESS & FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

For over three decades, Tri-Valley Haven has provided shelter for battered women and their children, counseling for survivors of sexual assault and domestic abuse, and a restraining order clinic. The Haven operates a 24-hour crisis phone line for domestic violence and sexual assault and is the region's only rape crisis center.

The Haven's homeless services include:

Sojourner House – a shelter for single parents, women, and families with children

Haven Food Pantry – provides food and a gateway to other Tri-Valley Haven services

Parenting classes.

For long-term assistance, the Haven manages a Linkages subsidized housing program and a CalWorks program. The Haven is also extensively involved in community outreach and education, giving presentations at local schools and classes in women's self-defense for the public.

WHEELS FAREBUSTER DISCOUNT BUS PASS: 10 one-way ride tickets\$16.00

WHEELS EAST BAY MONTHLY BUS PASS.....\$60.00

ONE NIGHT'S STAY for an adult or child at the Shiloh domestic violence shelter or Sojourner House, homeless shelter ...\$45.00

ONE WEEK of around-the-clock in-person response for domestic violence or sexual assault.....\$200.00

TRI-VALLEY HAVEN HOLIDAY WISH LIST

The following NEW, UNWRAPPED items may be left in the designated box in the church narthex:

ADULT ITEMS:

Pajama sets, robes, slippers • Warm jackets, raincoats
Sweatshirts/sweat outfits (L, XL) • Long-sleeved shirts (L, XL) •
Sheets, blankets • Towels • Tool kits

CHILDREN'S ITEMS (3-12)

Crayon or paint sets • Learning toys • Fisher Price push toys or trucks •
Building Blocks • Books • Baby dolls or
Barbie • Warm clothing • Pajama Sets • Coats

TEEN ITEMS

Sports gear • Watches • Pajama sets • Scarves, mittens, hats • Coats •
Warm clothing • Leggings • MP3 players • Electronic hand-held
games • Skateboards/skateboard gear

BABY ITEMS (0-3)

Stimulating toys • Playmats and musical toys • Blankets • Warm
clothing • Pajamas • Bathing supplies • Fisher Price baby items

SHEPHERD'S GATE REBUILDING SHATTERED LIVES

Shepherd's Gate has earned a reputation for rebuilding shattered lives. Since 1984, they have provided shelter and vital services to over 10,000 battered and homeless women and children. They provide a safe haven for women and their children who are homeless because of abusive relationships, addictions, loss of financial support and other factors. All services are provided to anyone regardless of race, age, religion, color, creed, national origin, disability, marital status or veteran status. They currently operate campuses in Livermore and Brentwood, and are able to house up to 95 women and children at a time.

FOUR GALLONS of milk or orange juice.....\$14.00

ONE DAY of food, shelter, and essential care for a woman or child.....\$17.00

CHILD'S PAJAMA SET\$20.00

WOMAN'S WARM COAT\$50.00

ONE WEEK of food, shelter, and essential care for a woman or child\$85.00

DONATIONS of the following **NEW, UNWRAPPED** items may also be left in the designated box in the church narthex:

Children's books • Children's underwear • Women's underwear • Women's pajamas/robes/slippers • White bath towels/washclothes

AGAPE VILLAGES

HEALING HEARTS AND BUILDING FAMILIES

Agape Villages is a Christian foster care agency. Since 1995, children without safe homes have depended on Agape Villages to help them recover and reshape their future. Agape Villages recruits, trains, certifies, supervises and supports families who choose to provide loving foster care for homeless and disadvantaged children. Agape Villages is founded on Christian values, professional quality services, and dependence on caring people who partner with them to fulfill their mission.

In addition, Agape Villages is committed to providing foster youth with enrichment activities in the areas of music, art, dance, church youth group, summer camp, karate, horseback riding and sports for foster youth at no cost to the foster family. Participation in these enrichment activities stimulates social skills, enhances self-esteem, increases motivation for learning and creativity, and lets foster children know they are valued. It also provides them with a sense of normalcy that is too often lacking in their lives. There are many talented foster children who are unable to develop their musical, artistic and athletic talents. Agape Villages believes that such enrichment activities should not be out of reach for any children.

KARATE LESSONS (1 month)\$25.00

DANCE LESSONS (1 month).....\$60.00

GUITAR LESSONS (1 month).....\$60.00

6 ART CLASSES\$95.00

SOCCER (season registration).....\$355.00

VALLEY PREGNANCY CENTER
EMPOWERING WOMEN
TO MAKE CONFIDENT AND HEALTHY LIFE CHOICES

The Valley Pregnancy Center (VPC) helps those involved in an unplanned pregnancy to meet their spiritual, emotional and physical needs. VPC is first and foremost an outreach of love and concern. By providing a safe and caring environment, VPC is there to assist women who may not be aware of all their options. As a state licensed medical facility, VPC offers accurate information and provides support services. All pregnancy services are provided free of charge to the women, men and families of all Tri-Valley communities. VPC is funded by individuals, churches and annual fundraising events. More than 5% of their services are provided by volunteers.

ENFAMIL FORMULA (12.5 oz).....	\$16.00
ENFAMIL FORMULA (22.2 oz).....	\$25.00
UMBRELLA STROLLER	\$30.00
DIAPERS (210 ct.)	\$40.00
GERBER'S 22-PIECE LAYETTE SET	\$60.00

Order Information

HOW DO YOU PLACE YOUR ORDER?

3. **Complete order form, include payment** (checks should be made out to JKPC with "Christmas Gift Catalogue" written in the memo line) **and mail to:**

John Knox Presbyterian Church
Attn: Missions
7421 Amarillo Road
Dublin, CA 94568

OR Drop off your completed form and payment at the Missions table in the courtyard after worship or in the church office

OR Drop off donated items for Tri-Valley Haven or Shepherd's Gate in the designated boxes in the church narthex.

2. **Fill out the gift certificates** that are provided for you in this catalogue to let your family and friends know you have made a donation in their honor!

If you need additional gift certificates you can pick them up at the Missions table after church or in the church office.

All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for partnering with us.

ORDER FORM

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____

PHONE_____EMAIL_____

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	SUGGESTED GIFT	YOUR GIFT AMOUNT
1	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance		
1-A	PDA Philippines Typhoon Relief	Any amount	
1-B	Hygiene Kit	\$10	
1-C	School Kit	\$15	
1-D	Baby Kit	\$39	
1-E	Cleaning Kit	\$56	
2	Children's Emergency Food Bank		
2-A	Cash Donation (grocery gift cards)	Any amount	
2-B	Dinner for a Family of Four	\$25	
2-C	Lunches for a Family for 1 Week	\$50	
3	Tri-Valley Haven		
3-A	Wheels 10-Ride Bus Pass	\$16	
3-B	Wheels East Bay Monthly Bus Pass	\$60	
3-C	One Night's Shelter/Care	\$45	
3-D	1 Week 24-Hour Care for Abuse Victim	\$200	


ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	SUGGESTED GIFT	YOUR GIFT AMOUNT
4	Shepherd's Gate		
4-A	4 Gallons Milk or Juice	\$14	
4-B	One Day Food/Shelter/Care	\$17	
4-C	Pajama Set for a Child	\$20	
4-D	Warm Coat for a Woman	\$50	
4-E	One Week of Food/Shelter/Care	\$85	
5	Agape Villages		
5-A	Karate Lessons (1 month)	\$25	
5-B	Dance Lessons (1 month)	\$60	
5-C	Guitar Lessons (1 month)	\$60	
5-D	6 Art Classes	\$95	
5-E	Registration for a Soccer Season	\$355	
6	Valley Pregnancy Center		
6-A	Enfamil Formula (12.5 oz)	\$16	
6-B	Enfamil Formula (22.2 oz)	\$25	
6-C	Umbrella Stroller	\$30	
6-D	Diapers (210 count)	\$40	
6-E	Gerbers 22-Piece Baby Layette Set	\$60	

YOUR TOTAL DONATION AMOUNT:_____




CHRISTMAS GIFT CATALOGUE

John Knox Presbyterian Church
MISSIONS: LOCAL AND GLOBAL IMPACT



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TO GIVE YOU A GIFT
THAT WILL HELP CHANGE
HEARTS & LIVES
AROUND THE WORLD!



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