

Simplify the Holidays with Alternative Gifting

What exactly is Alternative Gifting?

What if, this holiday season, you could forgo purchasing yet another sweater for that difficult-to-buy-for person on your list and were able to give something very meaningful instead? And what if, in doing so, you could avoid scurrying around in the annual shopping frenzy and contribute to the needy?

Alternative Gifting is a fun holiday way where you can buy "alternative" gifts for your friends and family by making donations to local charities in their name. Alternative gifts appeal to those who advocate a simpler holiday season. They are a way to modify the holidays' commercialization and excess often seen in stores months before Christmas. People who are concerned about the environment will appreciate the minimal packaging too.

Alternative Gifting can provide urgent support for a varied group of local and regional organizations with known advocacy and work of helping people, especially the needy, the ailing, the physically disadvantaged and those in distressed domestic settings.

Alternative Gifting is a wholesome holiday experience we can introduce to the local community - a fun way to forego the annual stress of holiday shopping while favoring relatives & friends with donations to worthy causes which they may value.

Alternative Gifting is giving the gift of charity and it's especially timely in today's economy!

With this we can do some good works with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and inspired by James 2 : 18 - ***Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith and I have works, show me thy Faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works.***

"Maybe Christmas", He thought, "doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more!" ~ from How The Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss ~

Look for cards, in the Christ the King room & the Church, which will be available for you to use to donate to several local charities & ministries that you may want to consider for your Alternative Gifts this Christmas season.

Simply fill them out with who you are giving the gift in the name of, list your name as well, include your check payable to the charity of your choice, and mail. Also available will be cards you can send to the person you have sent the gift in the name of, or feel free to use your own card.

Or you can print off these pdf pages and use the forms shown here for the charities mentioned below.

SOME Suggested Charities to Consider for Alternative Gifting:

LOCAL: Christ Church Food Pantry; Walworth County Emergency Overnight Homeless Shelter; Twin Oaks Shelter for the Homeless; Human Concerns/14th Apostle.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL: (check out their websites for a gift catalog that details ways you can give gifts to help others) .Heifer, International www.heifer.org
Episcopal Relief & Development www.er-d.org

In the spirit of the season and as an Alternative Gift, enclosed is a donation to the **Christ Episcopal Church Food Pantry**. Please note that it is in the name of:

Name _____

Address _____

Your name (presenter) _____

Address _____

Street

state

zip



**Christ Church
Food Pantry**
P. O. Box 528
Delavan, WI
53115

In the spirit of the season and as an Alternative Gift, enclosed is a donation to **WALWORTH COUNTY EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT HOMELESS SHELTER**. Please note that it is in the name of:

Name _____

Address _____

Your name (presenter) _____

Address _____

Street

state

zip



**WCES
(Walworth County
Emerg. Shelter)**
P. O. Box 226
Delavan, WI 53115

In the spirit of the season and as an Alternative Gift, enclosed is a donation to **HUMAN CONCERNS/ 14TH APOSTLE**. Please note that it is in the name of:

Name _____

Address _____

Your name (presenter) _____

Address _____

Street

state

zip



**Delavan Human
Concerns/
14th Apostle**
P. O. Box 466
Delavan, WI
53115

In the spirit of the season and as an Alternative Gift, enclosed is a donation to **TWIN OAKS SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS**. Please note that it is in the name of:

Name _____

Address _____

Your name (presenter) _____

Address _____

Street

state

zip



**Twin Oaks Shelter
for the Homeless**
W9665 Hwy 14
Darien, WI 53114

Alternate Gift Giving can be used for any charity.

Some national & international suggestions are:



Episcopal Relief & Development (ER&D)

Episcopal Relief & Development partners with the worldwide Anglican Church and local organizations around the world to save lives and transform communities. They rebuild after disasters and empower people by offering lasting solutions that fight poverty, hunger and disease. Areas your donations can go to include: Disaster Response (general, or for a specific disaster relief fund); Malaria/NetsforLife; Clean Water; Hunger; Health Care/Disease Fighting; Economic Opportunities; HIV/AIDS Prevention & Care; Women's Development Fund; Middle East/Gaza; Zimbabwe; Sudan & More!

A Chance to DOUBLE your gift by November 30th!

Two generous donors to Episcopal Relief & Development have agreed to match every contribution they receive by November 30th, dollar-for-dollar, up to a total of \$250,000!

Your gift of \$25 will make a \$50 impact. Your \$50 gift will be worth \$100. A \$250 gift will be stretched to \$500 - and so forth. Place your loaves & fishes, so to speak, in the basket & they will multiply!

You can make donations online, by phone or mail in: Online at www.er-d.org (minimum one-time online donation amount of \$12.00), but we appreciate all contributions. If you wish to make a donation of less than \$12.00, mail a check to P.O. Box 7058 Merrifield, VA 22116-7058. To donate by phone, call 1.800.334.7626, ext. 5129. Thank you!



Heifer International

Heifer has learned over the years that a holistic approach is necessary in order to build sustainable communities. They've developed a set of global initiatives – areas of emphasis that must be addressed to meet the mission of ending world hunger and poverty and caring for the earth.

Areas your donations can go to include: Purchasing individual animals such as goats, sheep, heifers, water buffalo, chickens, ducks & other livestock for a family or village; Agroecology (land, water & natural resource protection, use & techniques); Animal Well-Being; Gender Equity; HIV/AIDS Care & Prevention; Microenterprise ("no-interest living loans" in the form of livestock, as well as small monetary loans to help people start and expand businesses that yield big benefits for families); Urban Agriculture; Young People's Initiative & More!

To make a donation & see more that Heifer International does, as well as places for matching donations, go online at www.heifer.org, or mail to: Heifer Project International, 1 World Avenue, Little Rock, AR/USA 72202. Or telephone at: (800) 422-0474