

2018 Missions Giving Christmas Market

December 9th & December 16th



Dhansa Maweni School, Kenya

Join us after worship to purchase cards that let your friends and family know that a gift has been made in their honor to a chosen mission.

- Perfect for gifts or stocking stuffers
- Descriptions of the mission included on all cards
- Determine the amount you want to give
- Purchase your cards after worship on December 9th and 16th
- Or stop by the Church Office to turn in your order form and payment, and pick up your cards.

Spread the joy that is United Parish!

missiongiving@upbrookline.org



UNITED PARISH IN BROOKLINE

American Baptist | United Church of Christ | United Methodist

Brookline Food Pantry

Ensure that none of our Brookline neighbors go to bed hungry. The Brookline Food Pantry works out of two locations: St. Paul's Episcopal Church and 55a Egmont, and every month provides about 800 Brookline residents with fresh produce, canned goods, toiletries, and healthy snacks.

They have launched a new program to give free take-home weekend meal packs to school-age children in need.

United Parish is proud to have supported the Brookline Food Pantry for decades through monthly food collections, the *Walk for Hunger* and other financial support.

Gift #1: Brookline Food Pantry



United Parish parishioner John Bowman at the Brookline Food Pantry.

Common Cathedral

An outdoor church for people experiencing homelessness.

Since 1994, Common Cathedral (Ecclesia Ministries, Inc.) has been an outdoor congregation on the Boston Common of people who are un-housed and housed, sharing God's love through community, pastoral care, creative expression, and worship. All Ecclesia Ministries are non-proselytizing and ecumenical.

Every Sunday, a housed congregation, including United Parish, provides and serves food for the service on Boston Common. Other programs include Common Art, which provides space, materials and caring staff to support unhoused and low-income individuals as they develop their artistic abilities. One of their pastors, Laura Shatzer, is a member of United Parish. For the last two years, Common Cathedral artists have run an art show of their work at United Parish.

"I came for the art... and I stayed for the love." – DS, a longtime common artist

Gift #2: Common Cathedral



United Parish members serving lunch before worship at Common Cathedral.

Dhansa Maweni School, Kenya

A new school for local children, ages three to fourteen, 63 girls and 48 boys, whose families cannot afford public school fees. Four teachers and a maintenance worker have come together to help children have a better chance of lifting themselves out of poverty. Children study math, science, Christian religious education, English, Swahili, creative arts and physical education. Staff strive to feed the children physically, academically and spiritually.

Staff and students are dedicated. Their work goes a long way. So do donations to this visionary school.

- \$25 pays one week of a teacher's salary.
- \$50 provides one year of a student's school supplies.
- \$100 provides one month of breakfast porridge.

Gift #3: Dhansa Maweni School, Kenya



Disaster Relief

Hurricanes and fires wreak havoc. They can destroy communities, homes and families. Large and small initiatives have grown to help. All three denominations at United Parish run significant programs for humanitarian aid and relief when disasters strike.

Gift #4 to Disaster Relief will be distributed in equal thirds to:

- American Baptist One Great Hour of Sharing, Disaster Relief Funds
- United Church of Christ Disaster Relief, Emergency USA Fund
- United Methodist Committee on Relief

Working together, our reach is vast.

Gift #4: Disaster Relief



Doctors Without Borders

The United Parish Missions Giving Committee has been supporting Doctors Without Borders for years because it goes where the need is greatest. When the Syrian refugee crisis escalated, we gave more.

Doctors Without Borders is still on the forefront of helping in the worldwide refugee and migration crisis. They work in more than 70 countries, including Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. They've been helping those trapped in Myanmar's Rohingya Refugee Crisis. They are able to help so many because they observe neutrality and impartiality in the name of universal medical ethics and the right to humanitarian assistance.

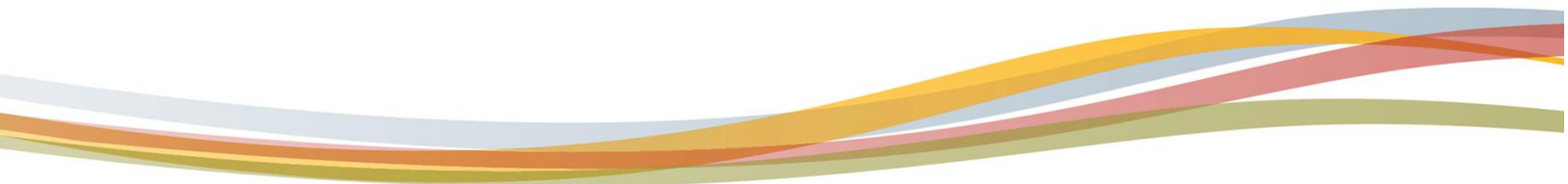
This past summer, we heard firsthand about the agency's amazing work. Emily Gill and her family from New Zealand joined United Parish while she was in Boston for a year-long healthcare program. She spoke at summer worship about her two years in Africa as a physician with Doctors Without Borders. The needs are immediate, the situations dire. The impact and reach of Doctors Without Borders is phenomenal.

Gift #5: Doctors Without Borders

Afghanistan
Armenia
Bangladesh
Cambodia
Cameroon
Central African
Republic
Chad
Colombia
Côte d'Ivoire
Democratic
Republic of Congo
Eswatini
Ethiopia
Georgia
Greece
Guinea
Haiti
Honduras
Italy

India
Iraq
Italy
Jordan
Kenya
Kyrgyzstan
Lebanon
Liberia
Libya
Malawi
Mali
Mexico
Mozambique
Myanmar
Niger
Nigeria
Pakistan
Palestine
Papua New Guinea
Philippines

Philippines
Russian Federation
South Sudan
Sudan
Syria
Tajikistan
Tanzania
Uganda
Ukraine
Uzbekistan
Yemen
Zimbabwe



Everytown for Gun Safety

Gun violence in the United States is worse than ever. For too long, change has been thwarted by the Washington gun lobby and by leaders who refuse to pass the common-sense gun laws that would save lives.

Youth in this country get it. Politicians don't.

Everytown for Gun Safety is currently working to prevent gun violence and save lives by:

- Pressuring lawmakers to improve our gun laws
- Raising awareness about gun violence
- Educating the public about common-sense gun laws and responsible gun ownership
- Mobilizing grassroots supporters
- Connecting and amplifying the voices of survivors of gun violence

Last fall, the Missions Giving Committee awarded a gift to Everytown for Gun Safety. We also included them in the Christmas Market. That spring, United Parish youth led a musical worship service, which addressed a variety of concerns, including their frustration with gun violence. To honor the work of United Parish youth, we donated a second gift to Everytown for Gun Safety.

Gift #6: Everytown for Gun Safety



Heifer International

Heifer empowers families to turn hunger and poverty into hope and prosperity – their approach is more than just giving a handout. Heifer links communities and helps bring sustainable agriculture and commerce to areas with a long history of poverty. The gift of animals provide partners with both food and reliable income because agricultural products such as milk, eggs and honey can be traded or sold at market.

\$10 buys a share of a pig for a family

\$20 gives a share of a llama to a family

\$60 gives “A Flock of Hope,” chicks, ducks or gosling to:

- Provide a family with daily protein through eggs
- Provide income through sale of eggs
- Fertilize a family’s crops

Gift #7: Heifer International



Cows were the first animals that Heifer provided to help people in need to become self sufficient through farming



Homes for Our Troops

Building Homes, Rebuilding Lives.

Homes For Our Troops (HFOT) builds and donates specially-adapted custom homes nationwide for severely injured post-9/11 Veterans, to enable them to rebuild their lives. Most of these Veterans have sustained injuries including multiple limb amputations, partial or full paralysis, and/or severe traumatic brain injury.

Homes restore some of the freedom and independence our Veterans sacrificed while defending our country, and enable them to focus on their family, recovery, and rebuilding their lives. HFOT builds homes where the Veteran chooses to live, and continues its relationship with the Veterans after home delivery to assist them with rebuilding their lives.

“An accessible home makes everything easier. All the little and big things that I had trouble with in the past, I no longer worry about. I can do what I need to do as a husband and father.” – Neil, a Marine Corporal

Gift #8: Homes for Our Troops



Horizons for Homeless Children

Combating the effects of homelessness becomes an even more pressing and critical mission when children are involved. Horizons for Homeless Children is leading the fight in Massachusetts to help alleviate the trauma and stress of homelessness on both children and their families by providing early education, opportunities for play, support for parents, and advocacy on behalf of some of our most marginalized citizens.

Horizons for Homeless Children provides services to more than 2,000 children a week.

- Early Education Centers in Dorchester, Roxbury and Jamaica Plain. Horizons also helps children transition to Boston public schools when they age out of their centers.
- Horizons has installed child-friendly Playspace rooms in more than 90 partner shelters in Massachusetts.
- The Family Partnerships Program helps families navigate the often frightening and frustrating terrain of homelessness.
- Through policy and advocacy initiatives, Horizons helps give homeless children and families a stronger voice in government decision-making.

Gift #9: Horizons for Homeless Children



My Life My Choice

My Life My Choice works to end commercial sexual exploitation of children by empowering youth and their allies to fight back. They are building a network of allies to stand up to the force of the illegal sex industry and create long-lasting social change. Their work includes survivor empowerment, prevention, training and advocacy, and educating service providers and law enforcement to impact policy and practice.

Accomplishments include:

- Training over 11,000 service providers in Massachusetts and nationally.
- Providing prevention groups to more than 2,000 girls.
- Training facilitators on their Prevention Curriculum in 29 states.
- Mentoring over 400 girls in Greater Boston.

“I will always be a survivor. I think I will always be a leader, too.” – Kayla, age 17

Gift #10: My Life My Choice



Simply Smiles

In the desolate prairies of the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota and in the remote mountains of Oaxaca, Mexico, Simply Smiles uses a personal and holistic approach to provide food, clothing, shelter, medical care, education, infrastructure, jobs, pride, dignity, hope and solutions.

On the reservation, projects include summer camps and youth support, building homes, helping create a community center, a morning walking program, a community garden, and weekly cooking classes. In Mexico, Simply Smiles runs a home for children that helps access education. Since 2013, their Parasite Eradication program has helped decrease the parasitic infection rate in the region from 50% to 20%.

Gift #11: Simply Smiles

Simply Smiles



dedicated to providing bright futures for impoverished children



Toxics Action Center

Toxics Action Center's mission is to work side-by-side with communities, providing people with the skills and resources needed to prevent or clean up pollution at the local level.

“At Toxics Action Center, we believe everyone has the right to breathe clean air, the right to access clean water, and the right to live in a healthy, sustainable community. We believe our government should operate responsively, democratically, and help us ensure that our children grow up free of exposure to dangerous chemicals and have every opportunity to thrive.”

Since 1987, they have organized over 1,000 community groups and trained over 20,000 individuals across New England to put together plans and strategies to effectively solve the problems in their communities.

Gift #12: Toxics Action Center



United Parish in Brookline Missions Giving

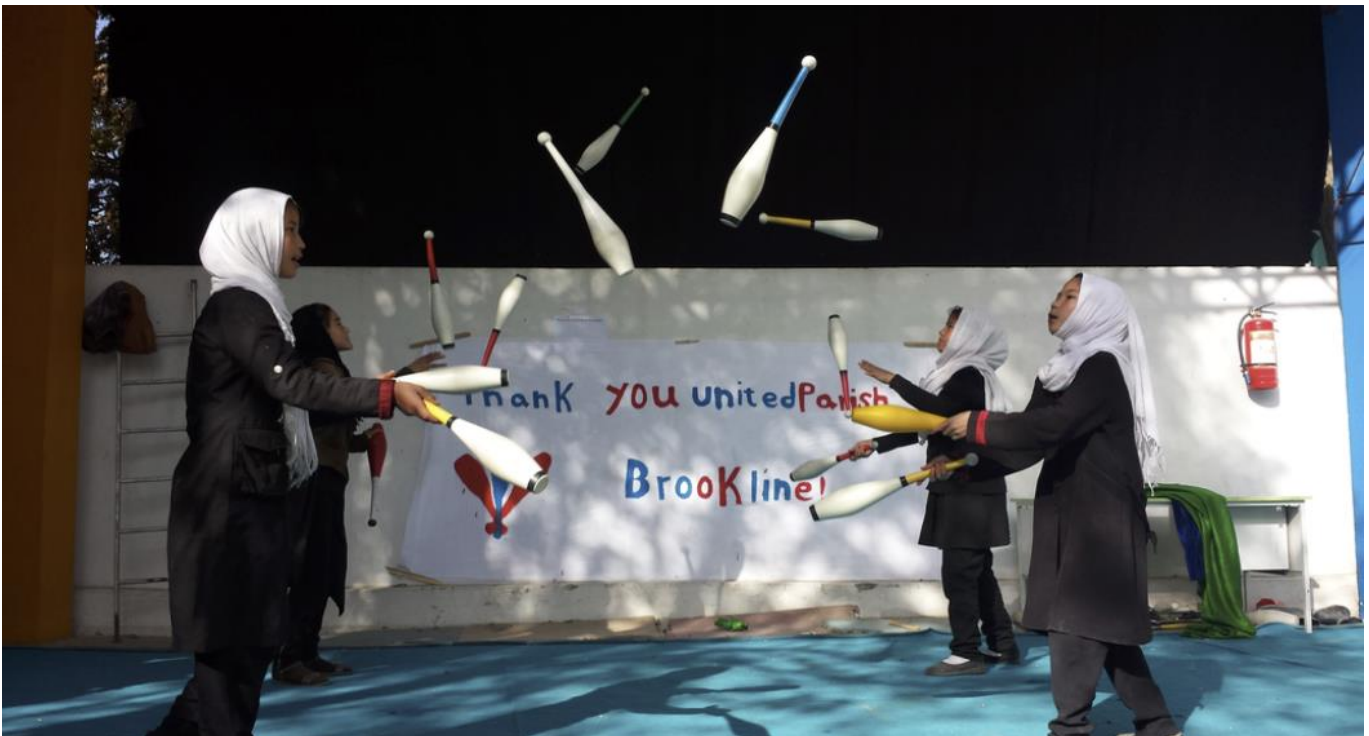
United Parish Missions Giving shares financial gifts with organizations doing good work locally, nationally and internationally. Funds come from three sources:

- Interest from the United Parish church endowment
- Church members who direct a portion of their annual pledges to support Missions Giving
- Specific offerings during church services

Missions Giving also supplements, matches, doubles or triples the amounts raised by congregants involved in church-sponsored initiatives, such as the *Walk for Hunger*.

A gift to the Missions Giving Committee allows the committee to award more gifts this fiscal year.

Gift #13: United Parish Mission Giving Committee



Girls in the Afghan Mini Mobile Circus for Children. United Parish is a proud supporter.



upbrookline.org