

# **2023 Missions Giving Christmas Market**

## **Be the Light!**



***Save the Children***



***The Farm School***



***Holy Joe's Café***

**The Missions Giving Committee will *MATCH* donations to these organizations.**

- Scan the QR code to complete the form and give online, or visit <https://www.unitedparishbrookline.org/news/missions-giving-christmas-market-2023/>.
- Or mail one check and form to the United Parish office.
- United Parish will MATCH and distribute donations.



**UNITED PARISH IN BROOKLINE**

American Baptist | United Church of Christ | United Methodist

**A lot of GOOD is right here.**

The 10 organizations in this brochure are helping in many ways... locally, nationally, or internationally.

“For there is always light, if only we’re brave enough to see it.  
If we’re brave enough to be it.”

- Amanda Gorman, *Inaugural Poem*, “*The Hill We Climb*”

**This Christmas, let’s be the light!**

# **Agape Global Health for Haiti**

**Violence, hurricanes, and politics have made life in Haiti more complicated than ever. But Agape is still helping.** They need support more than ever.

- *The Agape Clinic*
  - A health clinic specializing in prenatal and newborn care.
- *Menstrual health education*
  - Teaching girls and women about their bodies and menstruation.
  - Providing washable, reusable menstrual kits empowering girls to stay in school when they're menstruating.
- *Clean water access*
  - Training and equipping women to clean water using high-efficiency filtration systems to supply safe drinking water to their and other families.



Doctors from the Boston medical community – including a parishioner from United Parish in Brookline – have traveled to help at Agape to provide assistance and training.

**Gift #1: Agape Global Health for Haiti**

## **Brookline Food Pantry**

None of our neighbors should go to bed hungry.

In August 2021, the *Brookline Food Pantry* moved its headquarters into United Parish in Brookline. The *Brookline Food Pantry* now works out of three locations: our church; *High St. Veterans Community Room* at 226 High Street; and a *Boston Housing Authority* residence.

People accessing food are every age and background, including children and seniors, recent immigrants and longtime residents, the well and the disabled.

The *Brookline Food Pantry* also gives 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.

Contact <a href="mailto:brooklinefoodpantry@gmail.com">brooklinefoodpantry@gmail.com</a> to <b>volunteer</b> throughout the year.
---



### **Gift #2: Brookline Food Pantry**



## **Dhansa Maweni School, Kenya**

A school for local **children, ages three to fourteen**, 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**

## The Farm School, Athol, Massachusetts



*The Farm School* runs multiple interwoven programs spread out over almost 400 acres of land in north central Massachusetts, linked together through a mission of connecting people to the land.

*The Farm School* introduces students to farming, food production and the interconnectedness of modern society.

Through day and overnight programs, they connect people to the land through:

- School visits to *The Farm School*
- Summer program for youth
- Chicken Coop Middle School
- Nipmuc Land Project, supporting the Nipmuc indigenous community
- Addressing local food insecurity

### **Gift #4: The Farm School**

# **Holy Joe's Café**

## ***Coffee for our Troops***

“Holy Joe’s Café is a place where chaplains in makeshift chapels are able to bring a taste of home to the tired, the anxious, the angry, the lonely and the wounded,” says Chaplain A.S. “They all can get a gourmet coffee, a reminder that the world they willingly left behind still cares.”

*Holy Joe’s Café* provides coffee to US military Chaplains helping the troops. Chaplains help soldiers with family emergencies, care for wounded soldiers, conduct memorial services for the fallen, and counsel survivors when a soldier is killed in battle. Soldiers are allowed complete confidentiality to express themselves to the Chaplains.

All service personnel are welcome, including NATO troops from other countries that share the same base as well as people of all religious faiths and backgrounds. US denominational chaplains want to promote a place for relaxation, focusing on great coffee and conversation. It is vital for troops to have a place to unwind and share a taste of home.



Construction Battalion in Iraq



Multi Medical Unit in Afghanistan

## **Gift #5: Holy Joe's Cafe**



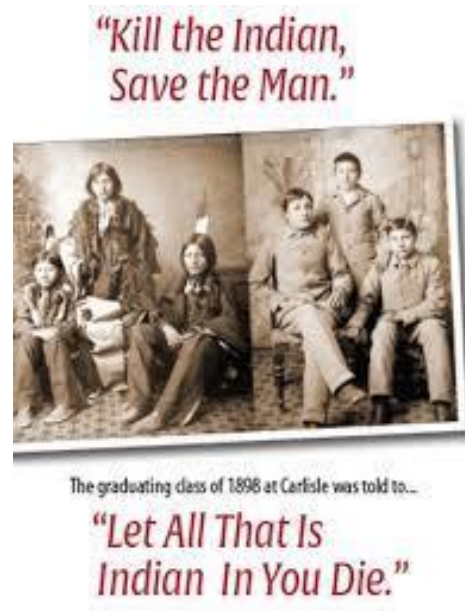
# Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition

The social, emotional, spiritual, and cultural devastation from forced boarding schools has been passed down to Native American individuals, families, communities, and Tribal Nations today. The time for healing inter-generational trauma is now.

*Baptist, Congregational and Methodist churches historically sponsored these boarding schools. Once, we were part of the problem. **Today, let's be part of the healing.***

Until the 1970s, some Native American children were abducted by government agents and sent away to boarding schools. Children were beaten, starved or otherwise abused when they spoke their native languages. It's estimated that there were 500 boarding schools. The objective of the schools was to “*kill the Indian and save the man.*”

The Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition works for **truth, healing and justice** for boarding school survivors and descendants.



## **Gift #6: Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition**

See NABSHC [free lesson plans](#) for elementary, middle, and high school teachers, and the NABSHC [online database](#) of educational resources.

Watch a PBS News Hour report about Native American Boarding Schools and NSBSHC: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z0xRni69e\\_c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z0xRni69e_c)



# Save the Children

So much is going on around the world – wars, climate change, hunger. Needs are overwhelming. While the *United Parish in Brookline Missions Giving Committee* often supports smaller organizations where our financial contributions have a larger impact, we also support Save the Children, a known and responsible organization able to reach children in some of the most challenging places around the world.

*Save the Children* is helping in **Gaza**, **Lebanon**, **Sudan**, and **Ukraine**.

*Save the Children* works in **over 100 countries, doing whatever it takes** — [every day and in times of crisis](#) — to give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm.

As the world's leading expert on childhood, *Save the Children* believes **that every child deserves a future.**



**Gift #7: Save the Children**

# **Slingshot**

*Slingshot* works alongside communities most impacted by environmental threats to take aim at polluters and build community power— giving leaders the tools, training, and organizing support they need to run successful campaigns for clean air, clean water, and vibrant communities.

“Our goal isn’t just to win on local environmental problems. Our goal is to build a base of long-term leaders who will fight for change across the region.”

*Slingshot* is working with more than 40 communities across six states (and across the country with communities facing PFAS contamination in water). *Slingshot* provides support, training, and networking opportunities for community-based groups. Statewide and regionally, bringing community groups together to advocate for broader change to make sure no community has to suffer the same problem ever again.

*Helping more Davids stand with their slingshots before Goliath.*



## **Gift #8: Slingshot**

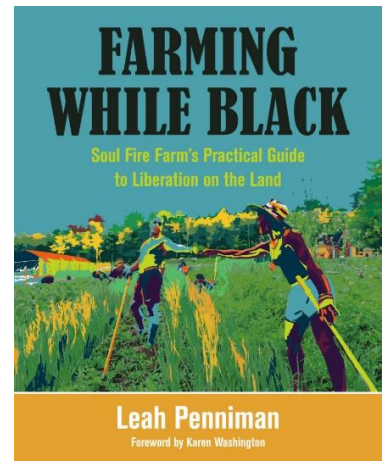
# **Soul Fire Farm**

*An Afro-Indigenous centered community farm committed to uprooting racism and seeding sovereignty in the food system.*

“We raise and distribute life-giving food as a means to end food apartheid. With deep reverence for the land and wisdom of our ancestors, we work to reclaim our collective right to belong to the earth and to have agency in the food system. We bring diverse communities together on this healing land to share skills on sustainable agriculture, natural building, spiritual activism, health, and environmental justice.”

Food sovereignty programs reach over 160,000 people each year through:

- Farmer training for Black and Brown growers
- Reparations and land return initiatives for northeast farmers
- Food justice workshops for urban youth
- Home gardens for city-dwellers living under food apartheid
- Doorstep harvest delivery for food insecure households
- Systems and policy education for public decision-makers



**Gift #9: Soul Fire Farm**

## **Youth Enrichment Services (YES)**

The mission of *Youth Enrichment Services (YES)* is to inspire youth through outdoor experiences and leadership opportunities that build confidence and prepare them to summit life's challenges.

YES engages youth through a unique three-tiered ladder of programs which support and challenge them throughout elementary, middle, and high school. As they move through the progressively challenging tiers, youth develop confidence and gain valuable life skills. They learn how to stay active, set goals, be confident, make healthy choices, act as community leaders, and succeed in college

Experiences include rock climbing, surfing, mountain biking, kayaking, track and field, ski and snowboarding.

YES is recommended by some youth at *United Parish in Brookline*.



### **Gift #10: Youth Enrichment Services**



# United Parish in Brookline

## *Missions Giving*

United Parish Missions Giving is committed to financially supporting organizations doing good work locally, nationally and internationally.

Funds come from three sources:

- **Interest** from the United Parish church **endowment**
- Roughly **10% of all pledges** to United Parish goes to Missions Giving and other philanthropic efforts
- Specific **offerings** in church services

Missions Giving also *supplements, matches, doubles or triples* the amounts raised by congregants involved in church-sponsored initiatives, such as **One Great Hour of Sharing**, the **Negro Spiritual Royalties Project**, and **Walk for Hunger**.

“Where your treasure is, your heart will be also.”

– Matthew 6:21



## United Parish in Brookline Missions Giving Christmas Market 2023

Organization		Dollar Amount
Gift #1	Agape Global Health for Haiti	
Gift #2	Brookline Food Pantry	
Gift #3	Dhansa Maweni School, Kenya	
Gift #4	The Farm School	
Gift #5	Holy Joe's Café	
Gift #6	Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition	
Gift #7	Save the Children	
Gift #8	Slingshot	
Gift #9	Soul Fire Farm	
Gift #10	Youth Enrichment Services	
Additional Donation		
<b>Grand Total</b>		

(To fill out the above form online, please click [here](#) or scan the QR code.)



- Give online at [unitedparishbrookline.org/give](https://unitedparishbrookline.org/give).
  - Click the green "Make a Donation" button.
  - Enter your total amount next to "Special Gift Christmas Mission Market."
- Or mail one check and form to the United Parish office.

United Parish will match and distribute donations.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Cash

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit

\_\_\_\_\_ Check (Payable to United Parish in Brookline. Memo: Missions Giving Christmas Market)

\_\_\_\_\_ Venmo (Search @unitedparishinbrookline on the app)

\_\_\_\_\_ PayPal (Visit [PayPay.me/unitedparish](https://PayPay.me/unitedparish) or search [office@upbrookline.org](mailto:office@upbrookline.org) on the app)