



# GIFTS OF HOPE DESCRIPTIONS

## GIFTS THAT PROVIDE FOR DAILY NEEDS

- 1 Medical Supplies** NSV \$25  
Provide basic medical supplies, ranging from reading glasses and Emergency Response Equipment to over-the-counter (OTC) medicines, to NSV residents. Non-Alcoholic OTC medications for flu and colds are needed year-round for homeless women who often have poor nutrition and low immunity.

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- 2 Dental Care** NLH \$20  
Your gift provides dental care for residents of limited means who require more than the normal coverage provided by NLH.

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- 3 Bus Tokens or METRO Farecards** NSV \$8  
Provide transportation for a homeless woman served by Bethany Women's Center at N Street Village to get to a medical appointment or job interview.

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- 4 Winter Boots, Socks, Hat, and Scarf** CFLS \$60  
Buy a homeless man or woman some warm winter wear to provide protection from cold, snowy days on the street.

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- 5 Housekeeping for a Resident** FSF \$15  
Provide housekeeping assistance for a resident unable to perform household tasks alone.

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- 6 Food for a Needy Family or Senior** CFLS \$25  
Provide a hot breakfast for 10 homeless men, women, or children on a Saturday morning this winter.

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- 7 Support an HIV/AIDS Patient in Namibia for a Month** ELCIN \$50  
AIDS is overwhelming the health care system in Namibia. Your gift will provide a month of palliative care for a patient at home or in a hospice.

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- 8 Nutritious Meals for a Week** FSF \$20  
Provide seven healthy meals for low-income residents at the two Fellowship Square Foundation residences.

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- 9 Bread and Milk for Children in El Salvador** LCES \$10  
LCES provides food (Pan y Leche) and shelter to abandoned children as well as lunches for homeless people.

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- 10 Ice Cream Treats for Needy Children** CFLS \$3  
Your gift provides ice cream treats for needy children in the D.C. area.

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- 11 Resettlement Kit** LSS \$75  
Provide household essentials for a family being resettled here. Kits include items such as toiletries, cleaning tools, kitchen utensils, and table sets.

## Medical Care for Low-Income Families

LVC \$30

- 12** Free medical clinics are vital for families without health insurance. This gift helps support a Lutheran Volunteer Corps member working in a clinic that provides free medical care to uninsured in Washington, D.C.

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  - 13 Physician Co-pay** FSF \$15  
Seniors face co-payments when they visit a doctor. Your gift provides this unbudgeted expense for low-income seniors.

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  - 14 Domestic Abuse Prevention** LVC \$25  
With your gift, LVC volunteers work with adult and teen survivors of relationship abuse. Prevention, education, and training are vital to eliminate violence against women.

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  - 15 Dress for Success** NSV \$100  
Formerly homeless women need professional clothes and walking shoes to enter or re-enter the workforce.

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  - 16 Bed-Liners** NSV \$30  
Provide NSV with twin-sized bed liners and other bedding for its shelter for homeless women.

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  - 17 Nutritious Snack after Medication** LSS \$10  
Camp Safe Haven provides overnight camp for low-income children with HIV/AIDS. Your gift will provide nutritious snacks for campers after they have taken their medication.

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  - 18 Women's Wellness Program** THC \$50  
Provide a month's support for a Partner Arms resident to participate in THC's new Women's Wellness Program of fitness, health, nutritional activities, workshops, credit counseling and financial planning.

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  - 19 Mattresses for Orphaned or Abandoned Children** ELCRN \$50  
Lutheran hostels in Namibia care for 1,600 abandoned or orphaned HIV/AIDS children. The children sleep 2 in a bunk, and the hostels urgently need water-proof mattresses.
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- GIFTS THAT BUILD FOR THE FUTURE**
- 20 Fill a Prescription** FSF \$35  
Prescriptions are becoming more and more expensive. Your gift will help meet a needy senior's co-payments.

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  - 21 Basket of Books** SE MIN \$5  
Books in the home are essential for children to become good readers. SE Min has a basket of free books for kids and shelves of new and used books for adults.

## Mentoring and Educating At-Risk Youth

LVC \$25

- 22** Help support LVC volunteers who become powerful role models to low-income youth at risk for gang involvement, drug use, teen pregnancy, and other problems.

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- 23 Supplies for GED student** SE MIN \$20  
It is not enough just to come to GED class every day. Students need to be equipped with a calculator, dictionary, 3-ring binder, and subject workbooks to do assignments and be prepared for the GED test.

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- 24 University Scholarships** LCES \$40  
The Lutheran University of El Salvador offers full and half tuition scholarships to needy students who study theology, education, social work, and ecological agriculture.

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- 25 Theological Conference** LCS \$109  
Your gift allows a pastor in Slovakia to attend a 2-3 day theological conference. Attendees receive further theological training and discuss practical congregational leadership issues, while interacting with fellow pastors.

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- 26 Adoptee Search & Reunion** LSS \$100  
A life-altering event usually triggers an adoptive person's search for birth relatives. Such a search is expensive. Your gift funds fees for hospital records, birth records, court adoption files, filing a court petition, and placing newspaper announcements.

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- 27 Books for Namibian Seminary Graduates** ELCIN/ELCRN \$45  
Books are expensive in Namibia. Help the ELCIN/ELCRN Seminary to give 2 books to each graduating seminarian—a Bible commentary and a counseling guide.

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- 28 Chaplains' Conference** LCS \$77  
In Slovakia, chaplains are much like our seminary interns, studying for the ministry under a pastor's supervision. This gift supports attendance at a two-day conference.

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- 29 Doors for the Future** MLR \$50  
Camp Mar-Lu Ridge is refurbishing its Conference Center and other buildings. The Conference Center doors in particular need to be replaced.

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- 30 Pastoral Gatherings in El Salvador** LCES \$100  
Help El Salvadorian pastors and other rostered church leaders attend training, workshops, seminars, and forums in the 6 regions of the church.

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- 31 Traveling Money** SE MIN \$16  
Provide public transportation for a GED or job-readiness student to get to class. Help students help themselves toward a better future.

*The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.*

## Advocating for the Mentally Ill

LVC \$25

- 32** Identifying and applying for government benefits and community resources are difficult, especially for the mentally ill. LVC helps those struggling with mental illness to get the care and benefits they deserve.
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- GIFTS THAT BRING JOY**
- 33 Educational Game or Toy** CFLS \$8  
Provide a game or toy for a homeless child who would not otherwise unwrap a present on Christmas Day.

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  - 34 Trip to the Beauty Shop** NLH \$10  
A hair care appointment gives quite a boost to the spirit. This gift will allow the National Lutheran Home to treat a resident with limited income to this special luxury.

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  - 35 Reading Club Books** THC \$20  
A month's supply of children's books for the Partner Arms Reading Club. Supply 4 paperback books for a beginning or advanced reader.

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  - 36 Outing for a Child** LSS \$25  
Help a child who was a victim of domestic violence and lives in Lutheran Social Services' transitional housing program to participate in monthly activities such as zoo and museum trips or visits from reptile lady, puppet maker, clown or magician.

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  - 37 Summer Enrichment for a Child** GHS \$35  
Help make summer a rewarding time for a formerly homeless child. GSH will evaluate a child's needs and interests. Your gift will provide sports equipment or at least 3 music or art lessons or tutoring.

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  - 38 Special Activities and Treats for the Elderly** NLH \$15  
The trips and special events at the National Lutheran Home are a great source of joy for the residents. NLH does not charge for these activities, enabling residents at all income levels to participate.

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  - 39 A Week of Summer Camp for One Child** CFCL \$250  
Help provide a week of summer camp for a needy child who will experience God's love through caring staff members and gain self-confidence and self-esteem.

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  - 40 Congregational Choice** \$



# GIFTS OF HOPE BENEFICIARIES

## International Church Organizations (Companion Synods)

### Lutheran Church in El Salvador

LCES

The LCES provides spiritual guidance, hope and reconciliation to El Salvadoran people who lack fulfillment of basic needs. Unemployment, lack of basic health care, and violence are daily occurrences for some, with women, senior citizens and children among those most vulnerable. The church works with allied ministries to provide for basic needs, education, and health care for many in urban and rural areas.

[www.elca.org/countrypackets](http://www.elca.org/countrypackets)

### Lutheran Churches in Namibia

ELCIN/ELCRN

Two Lutheran bodies—ELCIN (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia) and ELCRN (Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia) cooperatively support a Lutheran Seminary in Namibia and each also sustains other educational and economic projects to improve life and livelihood and to meet spiritual needs of the Namibian people.

[www.elca.org/countrypackets](http://www.elca.org/countrypackets)

### Lutheran Churches in Slovakia

LCS

Since 1989 LCS, with the assistance of missionaries and financial support from partner churches, has reclaimed most of its pre-World War II properties, reopened numerous Lutheran secondary and elementary schools, established a Lutheran Theological Seminary complex in Bratislava, and begun outreach to the Roma (Gypsy) community.

[www.elca.org/countrypackets](http://www.elca.org/countrypackets)

## Metro DC Synod Social Ministry Organizations (SMO's)

### Community Family Life Services

CFLS

CFLS facilitates personal growth, independence, and integration into a healthy community through a Continuum of Care model for its low-income and homeless clients, regardless of their faith. Its six programs target the root causes of poverty and homelessness and aim to resolve short-term crises needs, as well as to enable people to achieve permanent economic and social self-sufficiency.

[www.cflsdc.org](http://www.cflsdc.org)

### Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area

LSS

LSS provides professional social services; assists congregations in identifying and responding to human needs; and advocates for social justice, individual self-sufficiency and the inherent worth of each human being. LSS is well known for its adoptions programs, refugee resettlement, foster care, mental health services and emergency services, as well as its innovative Safe Haven AIDS camp.

[www.lsnca.org](http://www.lsnca.org)

### Southeast Ministry

SE MIN

SE Ministry, a joint ministry of Church of the Reformation (DC) and the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, offers an integrated education/sports program for youth, a GED and post-GED education program for women, a program for men to prepare them for employment or to continue their education (AMEN), and a culturally sensitive, traveling vacation Bible School. SE Ministry focuses on the SE quadrant of Washington, D.C.

[www.reformationdc.org/sem](http://www.reformationdc.org/sem)

### Fellowship Square Foundation

FSF

FSF provides housing and related services to low-income individuals, especially the elderly and handicapped, in the Washington Metro area. More than just a landlord providing shelter and collecting rent, FSF provides a caring staff, a comfortable, secure living environment worthy of being called "home", and special services such as beauty and barber shops, libraries, social halls, recreational facilities, and places for religious expression. Such environments and services enhance the personal freedom, independence, confidence and well-being of its residents.

[www.fellowshipsquare.org](http://www.fellowshipsquare.org)

### Lutheran Volunteer Corps

LVC

The LVC is a year-long service program for people 21 and over seeking to unite faith, social justice, community living, and simplicity. Volunteers, matched with non-profit organizations in 10 metro areas across the U.S., work full-time in various positions ranging from direct social services, to political advocacy, community organizing, education, and activism. LVC volunteers strive to grow spiritually by working for social justice while living together in intentional communities, simplifying their lifestyles, and managing on a minimal stipend.

[www.lutheranvolunteercorps.org](http://www.lutheranvolunteercorps.org)

### Transitional Housing Corporation

THC

Founded in 1990, THC is a partnership between Christ Lutheran Church (DC) and Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington. With two apartment buildings totaling 27 apartments, THC provides transitional housing and support services for families moving from the streets or shelters to permanent housing and stable independent lives.

[www.thcdc.org](http://www.thcdc.org)

### Lutheran Camps

MLR/CFLC

Mar-lu-Ridge (MLR), an outdoor ministry of the ELCA situated in central Maryland's Catocin Mountains, ministers through its summer camp, retreat and conference center, and other programs throughout the year—providing experiences to change lives, make disciples, build friendships and create Christian communities.

[www.mar-lu-ridge.org](http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org)

Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp (CFLC), a year-round ministry of the Metro DC, Virginia and West Virginia-Western Maryland Synods of the ELCA, provides an intentional Christian community experience where one meets God in God's awesome creation—over 300 acres of central Virginia's hills, streams, ponds and forest. With its summer camp, retreat facilities, trained staff and beautiful environment, Caroline Furnace offers a place to learn and grow with others in faith.

[www.carolinefurnace.org](http://www.carolinefurnace.org)

### National Lutheran Home

NLH

To provide for aged persons whose circumstances may require a comfortable residence with board, clothing, employment, medical attention, and other comforts is the mission of the NLH in Rockville, MD, which has provided a home-like environment and a continuum of care for elderly members of the Lutheran community for over 100 years.

[www.nlha.org](http://www.nlha.org)

### N Street Village

NSV

Founded by Luther Place Memorial Church (DC), N Street Village empowers homeless and low-income women to claim their highest quality of life by offering a broad spectrum of services and advocacy in an atmosphere of dignity and respect, including day and night shelters, addiction recovery programs, group homes for women living with mental illness, transitional housing, a Wellness Center, and housing for low- and moderate-income individuals and families.

[www.nstreetvillage.org](http://www.nstreetvillage.org)

### Good Shepherd Housing Foundation

GSH

GSH, serving the Prince William County (VA) community since 1989, provides permanent supportive housing and support service solutions for persons with chronic low income due to mental or physical disabilities, teenage or single parenthood, HIV/AIDS or age. GSH's Shepherd Homes offers affordable supportive housing for chronically mentally ill adults. Grayson Gardens Horticultural Therapy combines the therapeutic nature of gardening with the needs of the developmentally disabled and the chronically mentally ill. And the Housing Partnership Program provides affordable, permanent supportive housing for single head-of-household families who have graduated from area transitional housing programs.

[www.goodshepherdhousing.org](http://www.goodshepherdhousing.org)

• TOGETHER WE SPREAD THE JOY OF GOD'S GRACE HERE AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD •



Gifts of Hope

# 2007 GIFTS OF HOPE

GIFTS OF HOPE is operated by volunteers from throughout the Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod, ELCA

For additional information on GIFTS OF HOPE or how you can become part of the GIFTS OF HOPE TEAM, E-mail [GiftsOfHope@LutherPlace.org](mailto:GiftsOfHope@LutherPlace.org)

## WELCOME TO THE 2007 GIFTS OF HOPE CATALOG!



GIFTS OF HOPE, the alternative gift-giving program in the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod (ELCA), is starting its 16th year in Advent 2007.

Since 1992, over \$2 million has been raised to help people in need in our community and around the world! And every penny received has gone directly to the beneficiaries.

This 16th GIFTS OF HOPE CATALOG retains the familiar format of 39 unique gifts priced from \$3 to \$250 and the option for each congregation to designate its own gift (see #40 in the catalog).

GIFTS OF HOPE includes all of the social ministry organizations (SMO's) formally affiliated with the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, the Synod's three companion synods, and two camps.

After the Advent sales conclude, you can continue to purchase these Gifts until September 2008 by using our website:

[WWW.GIFTSOFHOPEMETRODC.ORG](http://WWW.GIFTSOFHOPEMETRODC.ORG)

Whether you give Gifts of Hope to share your faith and blessings, to advocate for a simpler lifestyle, to enjoy matching your purchases to the interest of those you present with the gifts, for convenience, or for all these reasons, we thank you for your commitment to Gifts of Hope.

Special thanks to the Synod staff and treasurer for administrative support, to the Mid-Atlantic Region of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for a matching grant, and to local chapters of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for printing support.

## HOW TO PURCHASE GIFTS OF HOPE

You can purchase Gifts of Hope through your congregation or through the U.S. mail with the help of our website: [WWW.GIFTSOFHOPEMETRODC.ORG](http://WWW.GIFTSOFHOPEMETRODC.ORG)

### Through your congregation during Advent 2007

The fastest and simplest way for most people to purchase GIFTS OF HOPE during Advent continues to be in person, at the GIFTS OF HOPE sales event in your local congregation:

1. Review the GIFTS OF HOPE Catalog
2. Fill in the Order Form, available as a separate sheet
3. Write a check to your congregation, or pay in cash
4. For each purchase, receive three items: a gift card, an envelope and an insert describing your chosen gift. The actual gift will be delivered by the designated ministry or organization to the beneficiary.

## WORDS OF THANKS

We all here at Paulinum Seminary, in Namibia, are very grateful to you who helped us to buy and to install our new network system and our new server computers! Before, almost every day students were panicking because they lost their documents when the server computer suddenly froze. Before, there were many days when the computers did not work at all – and even the lecturers would become frustrated when they were not able to write their letters or sermons or lectures.

We have two new server computers! The extra computer we bought with the 2004 Gift of Hope has been connected to the system! We have completely new software for the network! We have the new Windows Office 2007 (all our old licenses had expired).

It is such a relief that we can now work in peace!

*From the librarian at Paulinum Seminary in Windhoek, Namibia*

Gifts of Hope is a huge help for the work we do at N Street Village. Thanks to Gifts of Hope we are able to purchase medical supplies for the Wellness Center, metro and bus tokens to help our women get to appointments, and business wear for women starting work. All of these things greatly expand our ministry to homeless and low-income women in the DC area.

*Kjersten Priddy, Manager of Volunteer and In-Kind Services, N Street Village*

Gifts to Southeast Ministry help clients support their families by providing tools and other professional gear that they must have for apprenticeship programs, but couldn't afford to purchase on their own. And before this, gifts provide bus tokens to ensure that clients can get to class. We saw a marked improvement in class attendance when we started the bus token program. These gifts also are crucial in our clients' ability to obtain, and keep, well-paying employment, especially by helping them get to the job in that first week or two before getting paid.

*Monica Goletiani, Southeast Ministry*