



IT'S TIME TO SHARE



**One Great
HOUR**
OF SHARING

So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up...
Galatians 6:9

ucc.org/oghs

Photo Craig Thompson

SCS23P

Dear Friends,
Happy New Year!

In this New Year, the 2023 One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) theme is It's Time to Share, based on Galatians 6:9–10 (The MSG).

*So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit.
Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all...*

The apostle Paul wrote these words to the church in Galatia to assure them of the power of God's Spirit to strengthen them to persist in the work of being generous in caring for others.



Because you didn't give up or quit, the United Church of Christ has been able to provide support that offered hope when situations seemed hopeless. We've offered food, water, medicines, education, and opportunities for sustainable development.

The gifts you give to OGHS are leveraged with

those of others across the United Church of Christ bringing a greater impact to the work being done with local and global partners. Your support enables us to respond to a variety of global and local concerns by addressing advocacy, sustainable development, refugee and asylum

issues, migration, disasters, and assisting those most in need and vulnerable among us.

Wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes, and flooding have ravaged communities in the United States and worldwide, leaving families and communities in desperate need of assistance. Some of these disasters have occurred in your hometown, or in nearby communities or to friends and neighbors in countries thousands of miles away, across the globe. Strengthened by the power of God's Spirit and your collective generosity, the United Church of Christ continues to work with partners to care for others, and not give up... as together we build a just world for all.

The stories and worship resources in this OGHS Planning and Resource Guide will be helpful for sharing our work together with your congregations. For free downloads of the Planning and Resource Guide and to **order** promotional materials (posters, offering envelopes, coin boxes, etc.), contact UCC Resources. **Automatic shipment of materials will NOT be sent to your church this year**, so it is important to order your materials soon.

Additional promotional resources (e.g. videos, graphics, mission moment slides) are available online: www.ucc.org/oghs.

It's Time to Share on **March 19, 2023**, the recommended date to receive the offering, but you can receive it at any time.

Thank you for your generous gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing Special offering!

With Much Gratitude,
The Rev. Dr. Monica Dawkins-Smith

For more information, contact our office at oghs@ucc.org or at 216-736-3232.

Promoting the OGHS Offering in **4** Easy Steps

Thank you for your support of One Great Hour of Sharing. Each year, congregations promote the offering to help reach those in need worldwide. This guide aims to make promoting the offering easy by putting the resources in your hands and sharing where to find additional resources. Thank you, on behalf of each life that will be blessed because of our support.

- 1 Order materials** at www.uccresources.com to ensure you have adequate quantities. Discuss promotional and worship service ideas with your ministry leaders.
- 2 Generate Excitement** by getting others involved. Set a goal. Invite participation through a pastoral letter or regular newsletter. Get the children involved. Remind people of the offering at weekly services and gatherings or by sharing the moments for mission included in this guide, and available on this website: ucc.org/oghs_resources.
- 3 Help the Congregation** learn something new about the offering. Use the mission moments, adult and children's sermon suggestions, stories, skits, and video resources. Make OGHS a special part of the service on multiple dates prior to the offering. The suggested OGHS offering date is March 19, 2023.
- 4 Share the Good News.** After thanking the congregation for their support, announce the amount received for the offering in worship and in your church newsletter. Celebrate reaching your goal and send your congregation's gift to your UCC Conference Office making sure it is clearly marked "OGHS." Let members know they can give to One Great Hour of Sharing all year round using the [OGHS donation website](#).



In addition to Our Church's Wider Mission (Basic Support), the United Church of Christ has 4 Special Mission Offerings. They (SMOs) exist to allow congregations and individuals to meet people at points of critical need in their lives. Though many options exist for direct, individual support of these needs, the SMOs allow a common witness and make a collective positive impact. Our church has identified four areas where these critical human needs exist: • in places lacking health and educational resources and/or where disaster has struck; • within systems of injustice which oppress daily life and opportunity; • in the nurture of youth and congregations just beginning their lives of faith. • in the lives of church leaders without sufficient resources to live with dignity; We believe these SMOs collectively serve to lift people closer to the abundance and wholeness to which Jesus Christ has called us to work together to bring about.

One Great Hour of Sharing received the Fourth Sunday of Lent, supports partners in countries with ministries that fund health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries and both international and domestic disaster response.

Strengthen the Church received on Pentecost Sunday, supports church growth, pastoral and lay leadership development, youth and young adult ministries within conferences.

Neighbors in Need received the First Sunday of October as part of World Communion Sunday supports the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM) and Justice and Local Church Ministries. It supports a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

The Christmas Fund received the Sunday before Christmas provides direct financial assistance to retired and active United Church of Christ authorized ministers and lay employees and their surviving spouses, including pension and health premium

IT'S TIME TO SHARE...

Background

For over 70 years, the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (OGHS)—known as Week of Compassion (WoC) in the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ—has been helping American and Canadian Christians bring God's hope and healing to hurting people both in the U.S. and around the world. Since the closing years of World War II, OGHS has raised funds to support domestic and international development, fight poverty and its consequences, and bring aid and relief to communities torn by war or ravaged by natural disaster.

Each year, the Offering is gathered by several denominations under a single theme developed by the ecumenical OGHS Committee. In addition to posters, brochures, and interactive media, the Committee commissions a Planning and Resource Guide that contains a variety of resources and activities for pastors and church leaders to use as they promote and receive the offering.

“So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all.”

Galatians 6:9-10 [The Message]

Theme Development and Scriptural Exegesis

“Give a person a fish and you feed them for one day. Teach a person to fish and you feed them forever.”¹ The meaning of this phrase seems clear—take care of a need now or empower others to do for themselves.

While the Apostle Paul does not talk about fishing or hunger or food insecurity in his letter to the Galatians, he does talk about how Christians are to live: generously helping and caring for others.

In Paul's day, more than half of the population lived at or below subsistence level, barely able to make ends meet. Many died prematurely due to malnutrition and ailments that resulted from lack of healthy and plentiful food. Most people—adults and children—experienced food insecurity.

Those who had money and power contributed to building roads and water systems, and hosted lavish banquets for their colleagues. Their public displays of generosity were often self-serving, though: the bigger and more public their acts of giving, the more they were esteemed in the eyes of those they wanted to impress. Acts of charity, on any scale to make a difference for those in need, were few and far between. Government safety nets were non-existent.

Paul understands that God raises the bar on community life—the care of the poor and vulnerable; the use of resources to benefit those who really need help; loving one’s neighbor; caring for the environment; and advocating social justice so all can live and thrive. For Paul, communities grounded in Jesus’ sacrificial life and death are to practice radical hospitality and generosity: making a place for all *and* using financial resources to help those who really need help. Community life means meeting immediate needs (giving fish) and working for long term progress (teaching to fish). Food security requires both.

Paul also understands that radical hospitality and generosity are tiring. The needs of people keep growing. The call to help and to share is insistent, urgent, unending, exhausting. Paul reminds the Galatians that their communities are different; they are shaped and sustained by God’s Spirit. Their loving acts are responses to God’s own loving acts towards each of them. God keeps on giving, and so should they.

Paul compares sacrificial, communal love to harvesting. So much is needed for a bountiful harvest, and anything can disrupt its outcome. Embedded in harvesting is fatigue, uncertainty, and anxiety—yet, the planting, pruning, and tending are done as one waits, in hope, for the outcome.

Paul encourages the Galatians, and us, to look at the bigger picture. Guided and strengthened by God’s Spirit, we are called to work, plant, grow, and produce until the final harvest day—the harvest that marks the fulfillment of God’s Reign, already started and yet to be completed in God’s own time.

Perhaps, we grow weary because we do not know if our efforts truly make a difference. Will our dollars improve the devastating effects of climate change? Will our contributions feed all the hungry people of the world? How can we know if our gifts are worth it?

The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering answers these questions. Your gifts help organizations confront food insecurity and hunger. OGHS partners with others to provide immediate aid to those affected by disasters, poverty, or fleeing conflict—providing food, water, shelter, and companionship during times



"Take a Closer Look"

In rural Honduras, your gifts to OGHS enable Church World Services and partners to form CASM² that has provided eco-stoves to Esmerelda Robles and 58 families. They can prepare meals without increasing environmental pollution. Eco-stoves require less firewood, produce less smoke and soot, and are more efficient. "Now we don't need as much firewood to cook, unlike the stove we had before. And it is very helpful for our lungs that there is no smoke," Esmerelda says. Today, she uses less firewood, cooks faster, and saves time preparing meals in her kitchen.

Your contributions also provide Esmerelda and her neighbors with training on planting crops, producing fertilizers, and implementing irrigation techniques. They receive seeds and now produce most of the food that families eat. In addition to feeding her family, Esmerelda sells her produce or exchanges it with neighbors. Your dollars empower families like Esmerelda's to thrive in ways unimaginable before. Her community is more food secure and healthier, because of your generosity.

of distress. Your dollars support soup kitchens and food pantries. OGHS shows up when people are in crisis. This offering provides "fish" when needed most.

In addition, your financial gifts enable the building (and rebuilding) of structures and processes that make a difference for the future, providing education and helping hands for long-term improvements.

OGHS gifts allow families to plant crops, produce fertilizers and receive the physical seeds they need for planting. Contributions to OGHS allow women and men to learn practices of irrigation and sustainable farming techniques. OGHS enables partners to teach about food and nutrition, hygiene, waste management and environmental protection.

OGHS's programs for food security range from sponsoring gardens that supply food pantries in Indiana to crop diversification in Honduras and Nicaragua to

Food is life. Hunger is the denial of life. Fighting hunger is an affirmation of life.

renewable energy in Bosnia to irrigation techniques in Indonesia. Your dollars enable OGHS partners “to teach sisters and brothers how to fish”—here at home and overseas.

We cannot physically be in all the places that OGHS serves or even see all the results with our own eyes, but through your generous offerings and special gifts, you help promote the loving community that Paul advocates.

others. We cannot grow weary or quit—lives are at stake. God’s Spirit energizes and re-energizes us when we get tired. God helps us to help others.

Food is life. Hunger is the denial of life. Fighting hunger is an affirmation of life.

The need has never been greater. Let us continue this good work. Let us stay energized. Let us give generously. The opportunity is now. It’s time to share.

Scripture Commentary and Sermon Starter: It’s time to share...

Carpe diem! Often translated “seize the day,” the phrase has a range of meanings: life is short, create new experiences now; swallow that fear and just do whatever strikes your fancy; stop wasting time and have that adventure; don’t squander time and energy on the small stuff; grab the gusto; be all you can be; take the trip; buy the shoes; eat the chocolate cake. Time is of the essence—do it now!

Roman poet Horace used the phrase in his *Odes*, written over 2,000 years ago. We suppose his intention was to spur people to live their lives fully—in all the ways that hold meaning for them. Perhaps, he wanted people to know that there are experiences that enrich our lives that we might miss if we’re not paying attention. We suppose...but we don’t know, for sure.

In its original language, *carpe diem* is not quite “seize the day.” Latin scholar Maria S. Marsilio states that *carpe diem* is “a horticultural metaphor that, particularly seen in the context of Horace’s poem, is more accurately translated as ‘plucking the day,’ evoking the plucking and gathering of ripening fruits or flowers, enjoying a moment that is rooted in the sensory experience of nature.”³

Paul speaks of reaping, sowing, and harvesting to the Galatian churches. He encourages them to do the right things to extend hospitality and generosity to the community. Paul envisions church communities of men and women from every

**YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES
ALL THE DIFFERENCE.**

Dominggus Liunokas, of West Timor, is the leader of one of five groups participating in the Timor Zero Hunger program. Before the program, farmers could only harvest part of the year because there wasn’t enough water during the dry season. Since joining the program, Dominggus and others have been learning how to make organic liquid fertilizer and how to ward off pests and plant diseases. Group members built a cistern and installed a pipe to bring more water from a spring directly to their group’s land. They

also have built a drip irrigation system. “The Timor Zero Hunger program has been a life changing experience for members,” says Dominggus. “We were able to diversify...Over the past two years we have been able to harvest much more and eat vegetables every day. Once or twice in a week we sell our crops in the local market in the district capital. This program has changed the life of all our members.” This program and its components are made possible because of your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.
— Luke 3:11



OGHS is YOUR reach into the world; working in partnership with people we will never meet, yet to whom we are connected. Your contributions are transforming lives for generations to come and are part of the harvest into which Paul invites us. Your gifts bring the Reign/Kindom of God closer to us all.

We *can* make a difference.
We *do* make a difference.
Your generosity makes all the difference in the world.

There is power in doing good and changing the lives of

The suggested Sunday for the OGHS Offering is March 19, 2023.

walk of life, embraced as siblings and cared for as if each were caring for themselves. Their response to God's love and care for them is to love and care for others by doing the works of Jesus—feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, welcoming the stranger, and working for justice.

Paul's image of the harvest reminds us that we live in a world in which hunger is widespread and can be brought on by disasters, poverty, or fleeing conflict. Food sustains life. Responding to hunger is an affirmation of life. One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is responding to hunger issues, no matter the cause, both locally and globally.

The OGHS offering supports partnerships and programs that creatively promote food security. One such partnership is with Church Community Services (CCS) in Elkhart, IN. CCS is a faith-based agency that helps people of Elkhart County weather life's storms and build more secure futures through emergency assistance and intensive job and life-skills training. Three of their programs include: a food pantry; *Seed to Feed* community gardening program; and *Soup for Success*, a social enterprise providing hands-on job experience and support for participants.

As you prepare to preach in preparation for lifting the OGHS offering, consider these questions: Is there a sense of urgency in your congregation to respond to sisters and brothers in need? For whom is food insecurity an issue in your congregation and your community? How is your congregation and community responding to the needs of those who are hungry? How does your congregation advocate for those who experience food insecurity? What are some positive

YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

Maribel Espinoza Bermudez is a member of one of 292 families in the Carazo region participating in a holistic food security program. Before joining the program, Maribel's harvest was limited to corn and occasionally beans; she received fruit plants and seeds through the program. Now, Maribel has a diversified rotation of crops, improving her family's nutrition and food security. "May the Lord

increase the blessings on each of the brothers and sisters and their families who dedicate resources to our support, we also tell them those good things come from above and hands that give, never they will come back empty," Maribel says. This program and its components are made possible because of your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same. —Luke 3:11

stories you can share about your congregation's and community's work to alleviate hunger? How can volunteers stay motivated as the need for food security increases?

In Galatians 6, Paul urges the churches to take every opportunity or time to do the right thing. The word translated "time" is the Greek *kairos*. *Kairos* is not simply chronological time; it is a decisive and appointed moment and season to do God's work. Whenever we have an opportunity, we can work together—for the good of all, one community at a time,

"Take a Closer Look"

Elkhart, IN's Church Community Services (CCS) was created by a caring group of area churches to serve the immediate needs of their neighbors with food and financial challenges. Today, that mission continues along with an expanding mission of helping families break the cycle of poverty through intensive training and counseling.

CCS sponsors a food pantry for individuals and families living below the poverty level. It serves an average of 1,400 families a month, which is approximately 5,000 people.

Its Seed to Feed program provides homegrown solutions to local hunger by sponsoring gardens throughout the county that are run by churches, motivated individuals, and numerous community organizations. The gardens provide fresh produce year-round for the food pantry—over 138,314 pounds of fresh produce.

Its Soup of Success program is a social enterprise for women that produces dried food mixes, candles, and mittens while participants gain hands-on job experience and support as they move towards self-sufficiency. This is a creative example of a life-changing program.

CCS is at "ground-zero" in the fight against hunger and poverty.

planting seeds of faith, hope, and love to feed a hungry world.

In the spirit of *carpe diem*, let us do what we can, while we can, with all that we have—it is the right thing to do to ensure a bountiful harvest for all of God's children.

Seize, pluck, harvest the day. It's time to share so that no one goes hungry. There is enough for all when we share. The time to share is now.

Carpe diem, indeed, and in deed!

IT'S TIME TO SHARE...

*So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all.*⁹⁻¹⁰

Galatians 6: 9-10 (The MSG)

Call to Worship

One: It's time to share ...

All: with those we know.

**It's time to share ...
with those we may never know.**

**It's time to share...
when it seems easy ...**

And when it seems a more difficult task.

It's time to share!

Let us not grow weary.

For the time has come for us to share!

Prayer of Invocation

God of abundant life, we come to worship this day from various walks of life and places of engagement, yet we are drawn together through the connection in this community of faith. We pray that during this time, we would be reminded yet again of the power of doing good and of changing the lives of others. It can be so easy to get caught up in our own lives that we forget the simple acts of kindness which can make a world of difference. We want to seize the day and not miss any opportunities. Show us the paths where we might follow in the footsteps of your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Litany or Responsive Reading

One: "Let us not grow weary in doing right,"

All: but sometimes we are tired.

"We will reap at harvest time,"

but we do not always see the harvest that is in front of us.

"We do not give up,"

but there are times when we want to quit.

"Whenever we have an opportunity,"

we can work together.

"Let us work for the good of all,"

side by side.

One community at a time.

Around the world.

Planting the seeds of faith, hope and love to feed a hungry world.

It's time to share.

No one has to go hungry.

There is enough for all when all share.

Invitation to Communion

“All who hunger, gather gladly. Holy manna is our bread.” These words were penned by Sylvia Dunstan, who, after a brief, arduous battle with liver cancer, died in 1993 at the age of 38. For thirteen years, Dunstan had served the United Church of Canada as a parish minister and prison chaplain.

Like many of us, Dunstan knew what it was to live in a world in which hunger is prevalent and to recognize the many reasons for it. It can be brought on by disasters, poverty, or fleeing conflict. The experience of hunger to those who are hungry goes deeper. Food sustains life. Responding to hunger is an affirmation of life. One Great Hour of Sharing is responding to hunger issues, no matter the cause, both locally and globally.

When we come to the table for Holy Communion, we are confronted with the hungers of this world—physically and spiritually. And yet, we turn toward Christ and this communal meal which draws us together in ways that are both mystical and comforting ... affirming and filling.

At this table, we share in the fellowship of one another and with Christ. We are filled again, so that we might go out and share with others. At the table, we hear Christ saying to us, “It’s time to share.” All who hunger, gather gladly. Like the Israelites in exile, holy manna is set before us. It’s time to share in the bounty of Christ’s offering to us this day.

Communion Prayer

Throughout the ages, we have been witnesses, God, to the ways you share life with us. You shared your creation and then created us in your image. You

offered a bounty and we squandered it. You allowed us to share in stewardship of your creation through the prophets and the judges, through men and women across the centuries, and finally through your Son, Jesus Christ, who showed us the ultimate act of sharing by giving his life over to the authorities of the day.

If that was not enough, you shared with us the Spirit – the Paraclete – the Advocate – the one present from creation who came in a new and powerful way at Pentecost, so that we might be empowered to love and share with others in the way that we have been loved and cared for throughout time.

You, O God, have shown us the way to share with others by the way you have shared with us, so let us not grow weary in doing so, even as we boldly proclaim this truth which we believe, live and proclaim:

Continue with the Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) and the Great Thanksgiving as your tradition practices.

Invitation to the Offering

There is in every human heart
Some not completely barren part,
Where seeds of truth and love might grow,
And flowers of generous virtue flow;
To plant, to watch, to water there,
This be our duty, be our care.

This poem, by John Bowring, reminds us that generosity flows out of our own hearts, where seeds of truth and love have been planted. Today, through your special offering to One Great Hour of Sharing, you have the opportunity to plant generous seeds in places near and far.

Your gifts help organizations confront food insecurity. Your gifts allow women to plant crops, produce fertilizers and receive the physical seeds they need for planting. Your gifts allow other women to learn practices of irrigation and sustainable farming techniques. Your gifts help support food pantries and soup kitchens and much more.

We cannot be in all of these places ourselves or even see them with our own eyes, but through our generous tithes, offerings and special gifts, we can proclaim boldly that it’s time to share. In that spirit, let us share now!

Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, we offer these gifts in the spirit of gratitude and with an open heart. These offerings are one way of showing our commitment to sharing with those who are in need, neighbors near and far, whom we are unlikely to meet. Let us not grow weary in giving our gifts to others. Bless them, just as you have us, with an extra measure of your grace. In Christ’s name, Amen.

Charge & Benediction

One: Carpe diem!

All: Seize the day!

It’s time to share.

As we enter the mission field, we are ready to share our gifts with others.

Let us not grow weary nor give up,

For this is the opportune time to start right here, right now.

It’s time to share!

Children's Activity—Sharing Bingo

This is a take on the traditional bingo game. The “caller” will need the card with the various acts of kindness listed. The participants will need the card with the numbers.

The idea behind this take on traditional bingo is for children to share out loud times when they have shared with others in tangible ways. It is different from traditional bingo in which you are just calling letters and numbers. In this version, you are calling a letter, number AND the sharing phrase.

Pre-Planning

To prepare for the Bingo activity, you might want to put all the square number/letter combinations in a bowl or some other holder for drawing them out. You would have slips of paper with A1, A2, E22, etc... so that you can draw them out easily and randomly.

Instructions:

Give each participant a bingo card and something to mark it with (marker, pen, dobber). All of their cards can be the same as the important part of this activity is the associated phrase with the number.

The “caller” calls out random bingo squares. For example, “A11— Gave away some of your toys.” All participants that have done that mark their cards and yell “YES!” If a person has not done that, they would not mark that square.

Call upon one of the children who said “YES!” and ask them to tell the story of, in this instance, when they gave away their toys.

By sharing stories, children begin to get a sense of how they might SHARE with others in their own lives.

You can play traditional bingo (five in a row) or one in which all squares have to be covered. The second version might be more fun!

This is the Bingo Card for the caller. Only the caller has this card.

S	H	A	R	E
1. Helped a friend	6. Played with a lonely person on the playground	11. Gave away some of your toys	16. Prayed for a person who was sick	21. Offered a compliment to another
2. Encouraged someone when they were down	7. Completed your chores	12. Let someone go ahead of you in line	17. Held open the door for a stranger	22. Fed or watered birds
3. Planted something like a tree or flower	8. Cleaned your room without being asked	13. FREE	18. Helped an animal which was not yours	23. Told your principal how great your teacher is
4. Turned off the water while brushing your teeth	9. Visited a nursing home or a relative who could not leave their home	14. Baked something and delivered it to your neighbor	19. Volunteered in your community with your family	24. Donated money to a charity or a good cause
5. Picked up trash in a park or at school	10. Offered to do a siblings' chores in their stead	15. Offered a compliment to someone who isn't always kind	20. Called or wrote to a relative whom you haven't seen recently	25. Carried a fellow students lunch tray in the cafeteria

This is the Bingo card for the participants. It can be reproduced for as many as needed.

S	H	A	R	E
<p>1 </p> <p>Helped a friend</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Played with a lonely person on the playground</p>	<p>11 </p> <p>Gave away some of your toys</p>	<p>16 </p> <p>Prayed for a person who was sick</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Offered a compliment to another</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Encouraged someone when they were down</p>	<p>7 </p> <p>Completed your chores</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Let someone go ahead of you in line</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Held open the door for a stranger</p>	<p>22 </p> <p>Fed or watered birds</p>
<p>3 </p> <p>Planted something like a tree or flower</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Cleaned your room without being asked</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Wrote a note to thank someone for how they helped you</p>	<p>18 </p> <p>Helped an animal which was not yours</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Told your principal how great your teacher is</p>
<p>4 </p> <p>Turned off the water while brushing your teeth</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Visited a nursing home or a relative who could not leave their home</p>	<p>14 </p> <p>Baked something and delivered it to your neighbor</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Volunteered in your community with your family</p>	<p>24 </p> <p>Donated money to a charity or a good cause</p>
<p>5 </p> <p>Picked up trash in a park or at school</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Offered to do a siblings' chores in their stead</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Offered a compliment to someone who isn't always kind</p>	<p>20 </p> <p>Called or wrote to a relative whom you haven't seen recently</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Carried a fellow students lunch tray in the cafeteria</p>

After the game concludes, read Galatians 6:9-10 from The Message paraphrase:

So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all.

Ask the children to think about how they can share, just as they already have, but encourage them to think about different people in various segments of their lives.

To play a version with all the squares covered, like a sharing calendar, put a dollar (or any amount of money) in a coin bank every time you share something listed on the bingo card or share something in general.

Children's Activity—Planting Seeds of Sharing

One of the projects benefitting from the One Great Hour of Sharing offering is Church Community Services in Elkhart, IN. One of their programs is called “Seed to Feed.” It started in 2011 with two gardens and two cash crop fields, with the goal of providing fresh, local produce to food pantries in the area. In 2017 Seed to Feed shared 138,314 pounds of fresh produce with our pantry guests through our gardens and donations from local farmers.

This year's theme for One Great Hour of Sharing is, quite simply, the reminder “It's Time to Share.”

Regardless of our age, we can share with others. When we share with them, we are planting seeds which will take root and grow over time.

Matching Game

Supplies needed: Matching cards

Create a memory game using cutouts that look like seeds with matching phrases written on two separate cards. Shuffle the cards and place them face down on a flat surface. Individuals or teams can attempt to match as many as possible.

However, unlike other memory games, they have to reflect on the phrase or perform the action on the card when they make a match.

You can create as many matching notecards for the game as you would like, but a minimum of 6 or 7 would make the game competitive.

Phrases on the cards could include, but not limited to:

- Sharing is _____.
- Sharing is not _____.
- Tell about the most caring action you can think of doing for a person you do not know.
- Tell about the most caring action you can think of doing for a person you know.

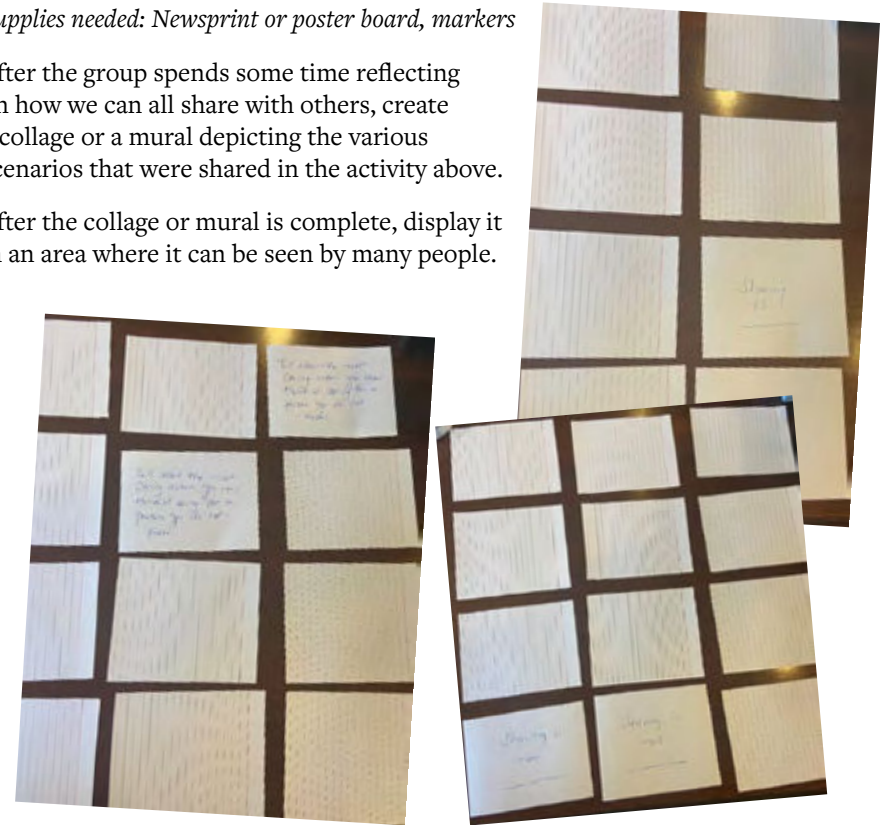
- Use phrases from Galatians 6:9–10—
 - Do not grow weary.
 - Do not give up.
 - Work for the good of all.

Activity—Create a collage or mural

Supplies needed: Newsprint or poster board, markers

After the group spends some time reflecting on how we can all share with others, create a collage or a mural depicting the various scenarios that were shared in the activity above.

After the collage or mural is complete, display it in an area where it can be seen by many people.



Youth Activity—How Do We Share?

The various projects highlighted as a part of One Great Hour of Sharing in countries like Honduras, Nicaragua and West Timor assist local farmers and other producers increase their ability to produce and sell crops in more sustainable ways.

However, it is important that those of us who want to share in these programs understand the implications of our charity and benevolence.

Paul's letter to the small churches in Galatia is one of inclusivity, hospitality, and generosity. His message took hold in a culture that cared little for these values, except as they led to self-serving benefits. In some ways, that is not much different than what we see today in our own society.

Young people look around their communities—and even the world—and want to share with others, but HOW we share is as important as the sharing itself. These activities are designed to think about this very topic. This youth section involves a Bible study and then three activities which follow. You can choose to do this in one meeting or use it over the course of several gatherings.

Study the Bible

This year's focus text for One Great Hour of Sharing is **Galatians 6:9–10**

⁹“So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.” [NRSV]

^{9–10}“So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all.” [MSG]

Break into smaller groups and discuss these questions (others can be added):

- When have you wanted to “give up” and stop doing good for another?
- Can you think of a time when you have just said, “I'm tired of helping?” What motivated you to continue?
- When has your life been changed for the better because you shared with another?

Role Playing

Many times, we share with others without thinking about the implications. We look for a “quick fix” through our sharing. It is important for youth to realize that sometimes our sincere actions are not received in the same way by the recipient of our charity. In fact, sometimes we just feel better about ourselves.

In this role-playing exercise, youth are divided into smaller groups to consider three different scenarios of “sharing.” They have the opportunity to bring up issues regarding how groups engage with mutuality and sensitivity.

Ask the groups to role play and then discuss the questions which follow:

Role Play 1

Upon seeing the need in one community for clothing, a group of youth gathered up dirty clothes upon the completion of a mission trip and gave them to the community.

Role Play 2

Because of the heat from the summer temperatures in a community where your youth group was doing a mission trip, your group decided to purchase fans for some community members where access to electricity was limited and expensive.

Role Play 3

Your group visits a local food pantry/domestic violence shelter/non-profit agency. While on the tour, the guide mentions that they have a computer lab but not enough printers for those who use the lab. As soon as the tour is over, your group decides to purchase two printers at a local office supply store and donate them immediately.

Questions for all groups

1. How do you think the sending community/group felt about the interaction?
2. How do you think the receiving community/group felt about the interaction?
3. What might be the consequences of giving gifts in this way?
4. What might have been a better approach to the situation?

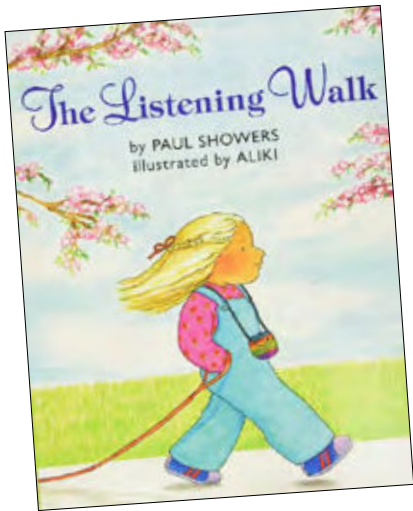
Intergenerational Activity—Planning to Share

There are two options for intergenerational activities, both designed to help participants think about HOW they would plan to share with others. Both activities are designed to take between 40 minutes and 1 hour.

Option A—Neighborhood Walk

The children's book *The Listening Walk* is about a young girl who walks around her neighborhood and only uses her intentional listening skills to “see” her neighborhood in a new way.

Programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing and Church World Service help mothers in faraway places feed their families and others through agriculture initiatives like planting new crops and finding ways to save water when it rains.



While we may live worlds apart, there are certainly similarities in our homes, neighborhoods and communities.

This activity is designed to help participants use their five senses to determine what they might be able to share with others in their own settings.

If you are doing this activity at home, children should always be accompanied by adults. Take a walk around your neighborhood.

If you are doing this activity at church, children still must be accompanied but you could do this in smaller groups to make the experience more personal and easier to manage. This lends itself to multiple generations working together.

Adults should ask questions to help guide the experience while walking:

- What do you see? Is there rubbish to pick up? Depending on the season, what do the flowers and trees look like?

- What do you hear? Birds or cars? Kids playing? Airplanes flying overhead? Falling leaves?
- What do you smell? Freshly mown grass? Fireplaces?
- What do you taste? This one is a bit harder, isn't it? Hold your mouth open and see if you notice anything distinctive.
- What do you feel? The wind on your face? Cold or warmth? Think also about what you feel inside!

When you return from the walk, **discuss** some questions about sharing:

- While you were on the walk, did you see, smell, hear, taste or feel anything that upset you? Was new to you? Surprised you?

Read Galatians 6:9a and 10a from the International Children's Bible—"We must not become tired of doing good. We must not give up! When we have the opportunity to help anyone, we should do it."

- As you were on the walk and using all of your senses, did you think of some good you could do? If so, what was it? What part of the walk made you think of that?

Create an action plan.

- What will you do next? How can you do good? What can you share with others?

Now that you have engaged your five senses, engage the 5W's and an H in your planning:

- 1) What will you do?
- 2) When will you do it?
- 3) Who will be involved?
- 4) Where will you do this?
- 5) Why do you want to do this?
- 6) How will you accomplish the good?

Ensure there is a time to follow-up after the action plan is enacted.

Option B—Paper Bag Skits

This activity is designed to be a fun way to use anything available to create a spur of the moment skit about sharing. However, some preparation is required.

You will need to locate some paper sacks and fill them with random items (“junk”) which could be used in an unscripted skit performed by participants. You will want to make sure you have the exact number of items included in the bags for the number of people in the small groups.

Divide your group into equal numbers and ensure they are multi-generational.

Instructions:

Give each group a paper bag and instruct them to create a skit which involves all participants in the group with each participant using their assigned item in the skit.

The skit should answer this question—“How can we make sure we are sharing our time, treasure and talent with others?” It’s a broad question for a reason. Let their creativity take root and be on display.

Give each group 15 minutes to develop and rehearse the skit, then invite all groups to share their skits with the rest of the participants. (You will need to adjust time according to the size of your group.)

After the skits, read Galatians 6:9a and 10a from the International Children’s Bible—“We must not become tired of doing good. We must not give up! When we have the opportunity to help anyone, we should do it.”

- As you were watching the skits, did you think of some good you could do? If so, what was it?

Create an action plan.

- What will you do next? How can you do good? What can you share with others?

Now that you have engaged your five senses, engage the 5W’s and an H in your planning:

- 1) What will you do?
- 2) When will you do it?
- 3) Who will be involved?
- 4) Where will you do this?
- 5) Why do you want to do this?
- 6) How will you accomplish the good?

Ensure there is a time to follow-up after the action plan is enacted.

Intergenerational Activity 2—Community Sharing

Church Community Service in Elkhart, IN is a featured organization in this year’s One Great Hour of Sharing. CCS is a faith-based agency helping people of Elkhart County weather life’s storms and build more secure futures through emergency assistance and intensive job and life-skills training. Three of their programs include:

- Food Pantry,
- Seed to Feed, works alongside the organization’s food pantry to address food insecurity through community gardening and
- Soup for Success, a social enterprise that produces dried food mixes, candles, and mittens while participants gain hands-on job experience and support as they move towards self-sufficiency.

While these three projects may be far away from you, you can explore your own community to see ways that you might share with them.

Here are some ideas:

- Visit a community garden and learn about what they do with the produce. It is donated to others or could it be?
- If your community does not have a garden, consider starting one.
 - If you are considering this, visit a garden in another city or town. Ask questions like:
 - Tell us the story of how you started this garden?
 - What didn’t you know before that you wish you’d known?
 - How many volunteers are needed to be successful?
 - Do you have a board of directors or some other group which is in charge of the garden?
 - How did you acquire the land you are using?
- Visit a food pantry and learn about their services and clientele.
 - Host a food drive. Make it competitive by hosting a contest between various age groups.

After your visits, spend some time in reflection on questions like these:

- 1) Who was being served at these sites (garden or food pantry)?
- 2) Who was serving at these sites? How did you know they were serving? What actions did you witness?
- 3) How did the groups interact with each other?

Children's Sermon

This is based on the story of Esmerelda, found on Page 18 in this guide.

Theme

One Great Hour of Sharing reminds us that it “is time to share” by giving to others in small ways which make a big difference—even one we cannot see ourselves. There are many ways for us to know God’s generosity in our lives and to share that with others. Sometimes, we just need to think about them in new ways.

Materials Needed

- An affirming listening ear, eager to engage children’s ideas!
- Pictures of Esmerelda and her farm (<https://cwsglobal.org/stories/esmerelda/>)
- Banks or Coin Boxes if you want them to take up an offering.

Game

During this children’s moment, you will be asked to play the classic game “Telephone” or “Whisper down the lane”. Here are the simple instructions:

1. **Getting Started.** Players must sit in a circle or stand in a straight line. They need to be close enough that whispering is possible, but not so close that players can hear each other whisper.
2. **Begin the Game.** The first person in the line or circle whispers a word or phrase into the ear of the person sitting or standing to their right.
3. **The Game Continues.** Players whisper the phrase to their neighbors until it reaches the last player in line.
4. **The Conclusion.** The last player says the word or phrase out loud so everyone can hear how much it has changed from the first whisper at the beginning of the circle or line.¹

If a player doesn’t understand the phrase, he/she/they cannot ask for it to be repeated. That’s a very important part of the game!

Script Suggestion

I want to ask you a very serious question: Are you good at sharing with others?

Give time for responses.

Sometimes when I was your age, I found it hard to share. But as I got older, it seemed to get a little easier.

This morning, we are going to play a game in which you have to share something with another person. Are you ready?

[Set up and explain the game of “Telephone” or “Whisper down the lane” as described above. Suggested phrases for them to whisper include:

- Sharing is caring.
- Do you want to share a pig?
- Share a story with me.
- Or any version that includes the phrase “sharing.”]



Play the game and then ask the last person to say it out loud for all to hear ... and you, as the leader, can affirm or correct it.

In one of the books of the Bible, a man by the name of Paul, we sometimes call him "Apostle Paul," wrote some ideas sharing with others.

To the church at Galatia, he reminded them of this: "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people" and "let us not become weary of doing good." Those are big words, aren't they?

What do you think he meant?

Give time for responses.

That's right—he meant that we should always be looking for ways to share with others.

Well, let me tell you a story about a lady named Esmerelda. She lives in a country called Honduras. And through some people like members of this church sharing a gift with her, she can pass that on. Want to know how she does it?

You ready to hear? It's really neat!

Through an activity called "pass chain," Esmeralda receives foster animals—maybe a pregnant pig, sheep or cow she feeds and cares for them. When the next piglet, lamb or calf is born, it is passed on to another family, which in turn will do the same. Today, Esmeralda has a pregnant sow, three sheep and 30 chickens.

How cool is that? Remember how you passed along that phrase earlier. Imagine if you were passing along an animal after it was born to another family. That is a really great way to do good and it provides an income for the families that participate. You think your parents would let you do this at your house?

Do you want to see some pictures of Esmeralda?

Show the picture.

Did you ever think you could do good by raising an animal and passing it on!

Well, you can and you can help by giving an offering to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Next, pass out coinboxes to children and families OR arrange for them to be given out at an appropriate time.

You have a chance to share with another through an offering you can collect through the next week [or two].

Here is a special bank so you can help others by doing good and sharing with them. At home, I'd like you to think about all the times each day someone shares something with you. Maybe it's at school or when you are playing with your siblings. And with your family, maybe each night at dinner, or when you have breakfast, think and pray together about how you want to make a difference. Maybe you want to put in a dollar for every time someone shares something with you, either at home or at school.

Or maybe you want to count all the times you've shared something with another person and add an amount of money for every time. I bet you can think of a lot of creative ways to help. It's a way of being mindful of all that we have, being grateful, and helping others.

Share any details about when your community will be receiving the offering, and when and how they should return the coinboxes.

Can we pray a blessing together on these banks and on the offering we'll receive with them? What do we hope God will do?

Allow for all their prayer requests. All prayers are welcome!

Very good! Let's pray:

If you are comfortable doing so, incorporate the specific requests and wording offered by the children in your prayer with them. And/Or you may wish to use this prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for loving us so much and showing us how we can love others. These offerings we will put in these boxes we know will change someone's life. We can love those we will never even meet. Sharing really is caring. With thankful hearts, we pray. Amen.

MISSION MOMENT

A New Frontier in Responding to Hunger

Hunger can be brought on by disasters, poverty, or conflict—but the experience of hunger to those who are hungry goes deeper. In a world where climate change disproportionately impacts places and people already struggling with food insecurity, now is the time to share—generously and creatively.

In Nueva Frontera (New Frontier) and other rural areas in the department of Santa Bárbara, Honduras, a new program is unfolding, and has already reached 500 families. Esmerelda Robles is a 27-year-old wife, mother, and farmer who lives in the Macuelizo region, and has benefitted greatly from the installation of an eco-stove which has significantly reduced the soot that previously covered her home. “Before, I had a permanent cough,” Esmerelda says. “Now, with just a load of firewood, you cook, you don’t need much (unlike the stove we had before), and it is very helpful for our lungs that there is no smoke.”

Beyond this life-affirming aspect for individual families, the most important contribution of these eco-stoves is their significant reduction in the use of firewood. This is all part of the new frontier of innovative CWS programs developed with local partners, and supported by One Great Hour of Sharing, to improve food security while adapting to climate change.

For Esmerelda and her family, other aspects of this program include learning about food and nutrition, hygiene, waste management, and environmental protection. She

has participated in training sessions about planting crops and producing fertilizers and has received seeds which have allowed her to grow most of the food her family eats, such as: plantain, cushaw pumpkin (ayote), chili peppers, and yucca. She is also able to sell or exchange her produce with neighbors.

Additionally, Esmerelda was part of a “pass chain” activity in the program, where she received several foster animals. This activity consists of a family receiving a pregnant pig, sheep, or cow and feeding and caring for it. When the next piglet, lamb, or calf is born, it is passed on to another family, which in turn will do the same. Esmerelda describes her village as “a beautiful place with friendly people, with good coexistence. We all know each other because we have always been there. I was born and raised here.”



CWS PHOTO

Food sustains life. Responding to hunger is an affirmation of life. Let us not grow weary of affirming life! Regardless of the cause of hunger, One Great Hour of Sharing responds – both locally and globally. Like Esmerelda, many of our global siblings living at the intersections of hunger and climate change are already reaping the harvests of your past generosity. But there are still more families in need of these life-affirming programs. It’s time to share.

“So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up...So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all.” —Galatians 6.9-10

The suggested Sunday for the OGHS Offering is March 19, 2023.

MISSION MOMENT

Holistic Security Through OGHS

Hunger is defined as a condition in which a person does not have the physical or financial capability to meet basic nutritional needs—for a sustained period.

What, then, does the opposite of hunger look like? For Maribel and her family in the Carazo region of Nicaragua, it looks like a holistic food security program called CIEETS. Through a CWS local partnership with Growing Hope Globally, the CIEETS program provides training in diversity farming that teaches families to grow many different crops, so that one bad harvest or failed planting season doesn't have a devastating impact on their livelihoods. Additionally, a diversified diet leads to better overall nutrition.

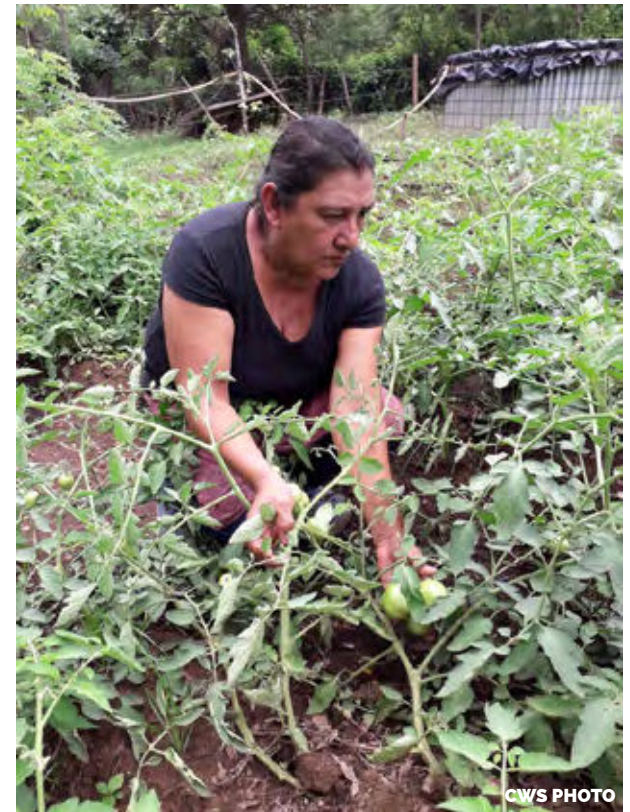
“Thank God we are part of the CIEETS project,” Maribel says. “Thanks to the Pastor of the Nazarene Church, the CIEETS program came to my community and my family life. I praised and blessed His name.”

In addition to crop diversification, the CIEETS program also assists with water safety, irrigation, sanitation, and hygiene – all of which helps strengthen food security throughout the area. For communities like Maribel's, this is especially important because there are low levels of coverage in basic services. For Maribel's family, these aspects of the program have included learning to farm with irrigation, as well as the replacement of a latrine that had reached the end of its useful life. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and hurricanes Eta

and Iota in 2020, it has been exceptionally difficult for Maribel's husband to find work. This means that the skills Maribel developed and the support her family has received have been even more critical throughout this time. “We learned how to produce with irrigation. Anything we harvest is welcome, this is the basis of our livelihood,” she says.

One Great Hour of Sharing supports programs like CIEETS, helping Maribel's family, plus 290 other families from her region, create sustainable farming and safe water and hygiene practices for their community. Programs like this address the root causes of food insecurity and bring real and sustainable change—one community at a time, all over the world. In Maribel's words, “May the Lord increase the blessings on the CIEETS project, and on each of the brothers and sisters and their families who dedicate resources to our support, we also tell them those good things come from above and hands that give, never they will come back empty.”

Holistic security for entire communities is one way your giving hands will never come back empty. The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. It's time to share. “So let us not grow weary of doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all.”—Galatians 6:9–10



CWS PHOTO

MISSION MOMENT

It's Time for Zero Hunger

Food sustains life. Responding to hunger is an affirmation of life. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, “The time is always right to do what is right.” Ending hunger is always the right thing to do.

What does ending hunger in West Timor, Indonesia look like?—the Timor Zero Hunger program. With your support, CWS has been working with the Oe Ekam community in West Timor since 2018, where there are now five farmers groups.

Dominggus is the leader of the Tosilo Toselo farmers group. “In the past, each family was only able to plant Chinese cabbage, tomatoes, and chili on about 100 square meters (2% of an acre) of land per family,” says Dominggus. After feeding their families, some community members were able to generate a small surplus and sell it in the local market, earning around \$3.50-\$7.00 each time they sold produce.

Before the Timor Zero Hunger program, the dry season made it difficult for the people of Oe Ekam to harvest crops year-round because they could only plant vegetables during the short rainy season from December to March. “The Timor Zero Hunger program has been a life changing experience for members,” says Dominggus. “We were able to expand our farmland to about 2.5 acres. We were also able to diversify: now we harvest white mustards, cabbage, kale, green beans, bitter melons, tomatoes, chilies, zucchinis, cucumbers and papayas. Over the past two years we have been able to harvest much more and eat vegetables every day. Once or twice in a week we sell our crops in the local market in the district capital. On average our members make \$17.50-\$52.50 for each harvest. Now we can harvest 3 to 4 times in a year,” he added.

The Timor Zero Hunger program has trained farmer groups on how to make organic liquid fertilizer and how to ward off pests and disease. With CWS support, the Tosilo Toselo group also built a cistern and installed a pipe that is over half a mile long to bring more water from a spring directly to their land. The program

also taught them about the benefits of drip irrigation, and they have built a drip irrigation system for themselves.

All of this would not have been possible without your gifts through One Great Hour of Sharing, which support programs that address the root causes of food insecurity, bringing real and sustainable change to communities like Oe Ekam.



Dominggus shares his gratitude for your generosity and the Timor Zero Hunger program: “Thank you, CWS. This program has changed the life of all our members.”

The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. It's time to share. “So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up...” Galatians 6:9

The suggested Sunday for the OGHS Offering is March 19, 2023.

Top 50 Giving Churches (based on 2021 dollars)

California, Nevada Northern

First Congregational Church of Palo Alto UCC
Palo Alto, CA

Skyland Community UCC
Los Gatos, CA

Peace UCC
Santa Cruz, CA

The Community Church or Sebastopol UCC
Sebastopol, CA

California, Nevada Southern

Neighborhood Church UCC
Palos Verdes Estates, CA

Church of the Foothills UCC
Santa Ana, CA

Claremont United Church of Christ
Claremont, CA

Mission Hills UCC
San Diego, CA

Central Atlantic

Little River UCC
Annandale, VA

Central Pacific

United Church of Christ
Lake Oswego, OR

Florida

Cocoa Beach Community Church UCC
Cocoa Beach, FL

Hawaii

Waikeola Congregational Church UCC
Honolulu, HI

Heartland

David's UCC
Kettering, OH

Illinois

First Congregational UCC
Crystal Lake, IL

Iowa

The Congregational Church UCC
Iowa City, IA

Plymouth Congregational UCC
Des Moines, IA

United Church of Christ—
Congregational
Grinnel, IA

Maine

First Parish UCC
Brunswick, ME

Michigan

Plymouth UCC
Grand Rapids, MI

Minnesota

First United Church of Christ
Northfield, MN

Macalester Plymouth United Church
Saint Paul, MN

United Church of Christ in New Brighton
New Brighton, MN

Robbinsdale Parkway United Church of Christ
Robbinsdale, MN

(Top Givers: \$6,000–\$22,000)

First Church of Christ
Congregational, Glastonbury
Glastonbury, CT

First Congregational UCC
Crystal Lake, IL

First Congregational UCC
Eau Claire, WI

First United Church of Arvada
UCC
Arvada, CO

Plymouth UCC
Grand Rapids, MI

First Congregational UCC
Baraboo, WI

United Church of Christ
McFarland, WI

Neighborhood Church UCC
Palos Verdes Estates, CA

Nebraska

First Plymouth Congregational UCC
Lincoln, NE

New York

Mountain Rise United Church of Christ
Fairport, NY

Pacific Northwest

University Congregational UCC
Seattle, WA

Magnolia UCC
Seattle, WA

Penn Central

Trinity UCC
East Petersburg, PA

Myerstown United Church of Christ
Myerstown, PA

Emmanuel UCC
Hanover, PA

Pennsylvania Southeast

United Church of Christ at Valley Forge
Wayne, PA

Rocky Mountain

First United Church of Arvada UCC
Arvada, CO

First Congregational UCC
Greeley, CO

Southeast

Pleasant Hill Community Church UCC
Pleasant Hill, TN

Central Congregational UCC
Atlanta, GA

Southern New England

First Church of Christ
Congregational, Glastonbury
Glastonbury, CT

First Congregational Church of Old Lyme
Old Lyme, CT

First Church in Windsor UCC
Windsor, CT

Old South Church UCC
Boston, MA

Central Congregational UCC
Providence, RI

Southwest

The Good Shepherd UCC
Sahuarita, AZ

United Church of Santa Fe UCC
Santa Fe, NM

Vermont

The Congregational Church of Middlebury UCC
Middlebury, VT

Charlotte Congregational Church UCC
Charlotte, VT

Wisconsin

First Congregational UCC
Eau Claire, WI

First Congregational UCC
Baraboo, WI

United Church of Christ
McFarland, WI

First Congregational UCC
Oconomowoc, WI

First Congregational UCC
Sheboygan, WI

First Congregational UCC
Madison, WI

Top 50 Giving Churches (based on 2021 per capita)

California, Nevada Northern

Skyland Community UCC
Los Gatos, CA

Ladera Community Church
Portola Valley, CA

First Congregational Church of Los
Guilicos
Kenwood, CA

California, Nevada Southern

Church of the Foothills UCC
Santa Ana, CA

Fairview Community Church
Costa Mesa, CA

Seaside Community UCC
Torrance, CA

Central Atlantic

United Christian Parish
Reston, VA

Central Pacific

United Church of Christ
Lake Oswego, OR

UCC Congregational of the Dalles
The Dalles, OR

Florida

Cocoa Beach Community Church
UCC
Cocoa Beach, FL

Hawaii

Lahuiokalani Kaanapali
Congregational UCC
Honokowai, HI

Waiiokeola Congregational Church
UCC
Honolulu, HI

Hoolehua Congregational UCC
Hoolehua, HI

Illinois

Federated UCC
Paxton, IL

First Congregational UCC
Crystal Lake, IL

Indiana-Kentucky

United Church of Paducah
Paducah, KY

Kansas-Oklahoma

Rollings Hill Congregational UCC
Salina, KS

Maine

Oxford Congregational Church
UCC
Oxford, ME

Winthrop Congregational UCC
Winthrop, ME

Michigan

Plymouth UCC
Grand Rapids, MI

Minnesota

Saint Paul's UCC
Delano, MN

Missouri Mid-South

Saint John/Stolpe UCC
Hermann, MO
Zion-Saint Paul UCC
Hermann, MO

New Hampshire

Deering Community Church UCC
Deering, NH

(Top "per capita" Givers: \$50-\$200)

Lahuiokalani Kaanapali
Congregational UCC
Honokowai, HI

First Congregational UCC
Randolph Center, VT
Congregational UCC
Conrath, WI

Shalom United Church of Christ
New Haven, CT

Skyland Community UCC
Los Gatos, CA

Eastgate Congregational UCC
Fall City, WA

First Congregational UCC
Baraboo, WI

First Congregational Church of
East Troy UCC
East Troy, WI

Federated UCC
Paxton, IL

Church of the Foothills UCC
Santa Ana, CA

The First Church in Jaffrey UCC
Jaffrey, NH

Center Harbor Congregational
Church UCC
Center Harbor, NH

New York

Saint Mark's UCC
Queens, NY

United Church of Copenhagen
Copenhagen, NY

Pacific Northwest

Shalom United Church of Christ
Spokane, WA

Eastgate Congregational UCC
Fall City, WA

United Church in University Place
University Place, WA

Magnolia UCC
Seattle, WA

Congregational Church UCC
Mercer Island, WA

Northshore UCC
Woodinville, WA

Penn Central

St. Paul's Verdilla UCC
Selinsgrove, PA

Myerstown United Church of Christ
Myerstown, PA

Penn West

First United Church of Christ
Manor, PA

Rocky Mountain

First United Church of Arvada UCC
Arvada, CO

Christ Congregational UCC
Beulah, CO

Saint Paul's UCC
Laramie, WY

Southeast

First United Church UCC
Belvidere, TN

Peace Congregational Church
Clemson, SC

Pleasant Hill Community Church
UCC
Pleasant Hill, TN

Southern New England

Shalom United Church of Christ
New Haven, CT

Mashpee Congregational Church
UCC
Mashpee, MA

Vermont

First Congregational UCC
Randolph Center, VT

Wisconsin

Congregational UCC
Conrath, WI

First Congregational UCC
Baraboo, WI

First Congregational Church of
East Troy UCC
East Troy, WI

United Church of Christ
McFarland, WI

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Additional print resources can be ordered online—www.uccresources.com

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