

“Alternative” Alternative Gift Market

Des Moines Intentional Eucharistic Community (DMIEC) annually hosts a live Alternative Gift Market. Multiple non-profits have joined us in the past, with the market growing to about 15 participating organizations prior to the pandemic. Due to COVID-19, we are again unable to host a live Market this year. However, we are pleased to present the return of an “Alternative” Alternative Gift Market featuring many of the charitable organizations who normally have booths at the live Market.

The attached resource document includes important information about the mission, purpose, and contact information for each participating organization. Please make donations/purchases directly with each organization. (If possible, when sending a check, please put “DMIEC” in the memo line to help us track donations made through the Market.)

Please continue to support these worthy organizations as you are able in an effort of solidarity to improve the lives of our brothers and sisters locally, nationally, and globally.

Any questions? Contact Cindy Mumm, 515-657-1667

Our Sister Parish/Don Justo Coffee with Dignity

Our Sister Parish attempts to follow standards designed to reduce or eliminate inequalities found in the conventional coffee trade. Our mission is to promote fair wages, decent working conditions, and sustainable organic agricultural practices that allow Salvadoran workers the ability to earn an honest living with dignity. For each pound of Don Justo Coffee with Dignity purchased, funds are divided into three categories:

1. The local economy in and around Berlin, El Salvador (growing, harvesting, processing, roasting, and grinding the coffee)
2. Administrative and supply costs (bags, labels, flavor oils, and shipping to the United States)
3. The Pastoral Team who assist with local social and economic development projects in and around Berlin.

Donations are accepted and tax deductible. Checks may be made out to *Our Sister Parish*, and sent to: Our Sister Parish, P.O. Box 71632. Clive, IA 50325.

Contact: Steve Gude 515-778-4195 or smgude@gmail.com

Catholic Peace Ministry

Catholic Peace Ministry is a faith-based peace and justice organization that focuses on the abolition of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, as well as diplomacy over military intervention. We call for the prioritization of human needs and environmental justice over war making. Our call to peacemaking is rooted in our faith, and we encourage all people of faith to join with us.

We also sell Palestinian Olive Oil to support farmers there. Large bottles (750 ml) are \$25, and small bottles (500 ml) are \$20.

Donations are tax deductible and are accepted through PayPal connected to our website, or via check to Catholic Peace Ministry, 4211 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50312

Contact: catholicpeaceministry@gmail.com

Website: <http://catholicpeaceministry.org/>.

LSI Refugee and Immigrant Services

LSI Refugee and Immigrant Services empowers refugees and immigrants to pursue the quality of life they desire through connections to resources, education, training, and community integration.

Financial donations are gratefully accepted and are tax deductible to the full extent allowable. All contributions support programs and services offered by LSI. These services include English and citizenship classes, career training, business development, elders support programs, and family mental health and wellness.

Contact: Nancy Strutzenberg, 515-271-7464 or Nancy.Strutzenberg@LSIowa.org

Website: www.LSIowa.org/refugee and LSIowa.org/resettlement

Self-Help International

Self-Help International (SHI) is an Iowa-based organization dedicated to alleviating hunger by helping people help themselves. SHI alleviates hunger through systemic interventions that improve household food security for low-income rural families in Ghana and Nicaragua. SHI's overseas teams are led by in-country nationals who partner with local community leaders to design and implement interventions to improve agricultural production to increase food and nutrition security, to support women's economic empowerment, to improve nutrition among children in the first 1000 days, and to access clean water to keep vital nutrients in the body. SHI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Tax ID 42-0844679. Donations are tax deductible.

- **Give the gift of clean water:** Safe water and sanitation are essential for protecting human health during COVID-19. However, only 52% of Nicaraguans use safely managed drinking water services. Sponsor clean, safe drinking water for the 246 families of Melchorita and El Espavel to improve the entire community's health, enable the children to spend time in school — not the health clinic — and empower their parents to live healthier, more productive lives. Learn more and donate at <https://www.globalgiving.org/microprojects/help-861-people-in-nicaragua-access-sanitary-water/>
- **Give where most needed:** Undesignated donations allow us to respond quickly and flexibly to address changing needs in the ongoing pandemic. Donate at <https://www.selfhelpinternational.org/donate/> or mail checks to Self-Help International at 207 20th St. NW, Suite A, Waverly, IA 50677. *Donate directly to SHI by November 30 to double your impact!*
- **Shop SHI's online gift market here:** <https://www.32auctions.com/SelfHelp>
- If you would like to make a donation in honor of a loved one, we will mail you a card to give for the holidays. Request your card by emailing susan@selfhelpinternational.org

Contact: Nora Tobin, nora@selfhelpinternational.org

Website: www.selfhelpinternational.org

Social media: <https://www.facebook.com/SelfHelpIntl/>

Agape Gardens

Agape Garden is a Fruit and Vegetable Growing Fellowship of the Ankeny First United Methodist Church, 7384 NW 16th St., Ankeny, IA. Our Mission: Grow produce and donate it to those in need at homeless shelters and food pantries in the glory of God. We work closely with DMARC food pantry.

In addition to Ankeny First United Methodist Church, the following churches are involved in this ministry: Lutheran Church of Hope - Ankeny, Trinity United Methodist Church, and Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church. DMIEC has several volunteer workers, and The Agape Garden was a DMIEC First Sunday recipient several years ago when we helped purchase a tractor. Harvest for 2021 was around 15,000 pounds.

Jars of raspberry or cherry jam will be available, until sold out, for \$10 donation.

Donations (AFUMC-Agape Garden) will go into the garden fund for seed for 2022. Checks may be sent to: AFUMC, 206 SW. Walnut, Ankeny, IA 50023

Contact: Mary Routh, mlenaghanrouth@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/agapegarden>

Lila Mae's House

Our mission is to provide a safe, healthy environment where adult survivors of sex trafficking can rest, heal, recover, and develop life skills necessary to become empowered, independent, and self-sufficient women.

Adult women who've been victimized through sex trafficking often see themselves as worthless and expendable. Lila Mae's House seeks to help women develop the skills to regain control over their lives. The program offers a safe and supportive environment with knowledgeable staff. Here, women have an opportunity to regain their voices, control, and power with 24/7 support. Staff help coordinate medical care, trauma therapy, legal needs, job training, life skills and much more, to help survivors become independent, self-sufficient women.

Lila Mae's House is a tax-exempt public charity (federal tax ID 811017056). All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Contacts: Sister Maureen Leach, OSF, 210-621-5755

Sister Shirley Fineran, OSF LISW, Founder/Board President, PO Box 1281, Sioux City, IA 51102, 712-899-6211 or info@lilamaeshouse.org

Website: <https://lilamaeshouse.org/>

Social media: <https://www.facebook.com/Lila-Maes-House-650799982057292/>

Water Is Life: Sister Water Project, Sisters of St. Francis

The mission of Sister Water Project is to bring safe water to villages in Tanzania and Honduras. One in 10 people in the world do not have access to clean water. In Honduras, 80% of all illness is caused by impure water. In Tanzania women are adversely affected by time spent fetching water, which keeps them out of school and productive employment. Despite completing many wells and water projects in these two countries, the continued need is immense, the challenge remains, and the Sisters of St. Francis' commitment to their mission statement of "living in right relationship with all of creation" is unwavering. One hundred percent (100%) of donations to the Sister Water Project go toward materials, transport, and labor for water systems in Honduras or Tanzania. Donations are accepted and tax deductible. Sisters of Saint Francis pay for administrative costs from a separate fund.

Contacts: Gina MacRae, 515-745-2492 (phone/text preferred) or ginarm56@aol.com

Mary Ann Koch, 515-230-8410 or kochmaryann2014@gmail.com

Maureen Leach OSF, 210-621-5755 or 563-583-9786 ext. 6172, or leach@osfdbq.org

View Sister Water Project video on website

Website: <https://www.osfdbq.org/sister-water-project-main/sister-water-project/>

You tube video: <https://www.youtube.com/user/dubuquefranciscans>

Donations: *Sister Water Project* (with DMIEC in memo) sent to: Sister Water Project, 3390 Windsor Ave., Dubuque, IA 52001

Or by credit card: <https://www.osfdbq.org/sister-water-project-main/how-you-can-help/>

The Sister Water Project Speakers Bureau offers presentations to schools, civic organizations, or non-profit groups to share the Sister Water story and help raise awareness about water issues and water usage. During COVID-19 the Speakers Bureau is open to doing online presentations. To arrange a Sister Water Project presentation, contact Sister Maureen Leach at 563-583-9786 or leach@osfdbq.org.

Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC)

The Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) is an interfaith organization with a mission of working together to meet basic human needs for the greater Des Moines community. This year, the DMARC Food Pantry Network commemorates its 45th anniversary.

The DMARC Food Pantry Network consists of 14 partner pantry sites, 30+ mobile food pantry locations, two food warehouses, and numerous community partners. The DMARC Food Pantry Network is committed to providing healthy food options and fresh produce to the people we assist. Last year, DMARC assisted over 58,000 unique individuals living with food insecurity in Greater Des Moines.

DMARC could never do the work of feeding so many people without the partnership of many diverse faith communities. Nearly 200 faith communities from across the religious spectrum support DMARC with cash support, donations of food, and service. Because we can do so much more together than we can on our own, DMARC has a commitment to helping our faith communities learn about one another and build relationships.

DMARC is a registered 501(c)3 organization, and donations are tax deductible. Because DMARC purchases food in bulk directly from wholesalers, your dollars can go much further purchasing food through DMARC than at the grocery store.

Contact: Sarah Trone Garriott, stronegarriott@dmarcunited.org or 515-277-6969 x19

Website: www.dmarcunited.org

Social media: www.facebook.com/DesMoinesARC

Care and Development Organization Nepal (CDO Nepal)

CDO Nepal is a non-governmental, nonprofit organization working at the grass roots level in the countryside of Nepal. CDO has been serving the poor and underprivileged, with special focus on women and children, since 2005, with a USA 501c3 established in 2015. CDO's Mission is to help create sustainable development programs in the most remote villages of Nepal, with the hope of improving the quality of life for the poorest and most vulnerable people of Nepal. Programs include:

- Medical care including mobile health, immunization, and free eye clinics
- Health awareness and training with special focus on women and children, including nutrition
- Education, both formal and informal, including childcare
- Empowerment through skill development for women
- Ceramic water filter production to provide safe drinking water through filters which eliminate approximately 99.98% of waterborne disease agents, and
- Emergency relief, including addition of mental health support during the current Covid-19 pandemic.

Donations will be directed to the two greatest needs of ceramic water filter production (85% of Nepalese do not have access to clean drinking water) and expanding mental health and awareness services (90% of the population have no access to mental health care) to meet the increased need occurring with the pandemic. Donations are tax deductible and 100% goes directly to CDO Nepal for program support. Checks may be written to CDO NEPAL and sent % Cindy Mumm, 7115 Reite Ave., Windsor Heights, IA 50324; or make donations securely on our website.

Contact: Cindy Mumm, 515-657-1667 or cindymumm@q.com

Website: cdonepal.org

Advent Peru Mission Support

Prior patrons of DMIEC's Alternative Gift Market may recall the Ñaña Knitting Cooperative, a group of Peruvian women who left their homes in small mountain villages hoping to find better opportunities in the city. They live in the impoverished settlement of Alto Cayma on the outskirts of Arequipa, Peru. Due to the continuing global pandemic, we are again unable to offer their beautiful alpaca knitted goods, but you can still help support their community.

Advent Peru Mission Support is a nonprofit that has provided food, medical care, help with education expenses, and so much more for needy families and the elderly in Alto Cayma since 2003. The needs there became even more dire with the onset of the Covid crisis when Peru was put under a hard lockdown that prevented people from leaving their homes to work. While conditions have improved somewhat, the needs are still great. The organization continues to focus its efforts predominantly on people's most basic need for food. Additional funds are urgently needed for this food relief effort.

Donations are tax-deductible. Checks should be made to **Advent Peru Mission Support** with **Emergency Relief Fund** in the memo line. Mail to Martha Fifield, 2004 44th St., Des Moines, IA 50310.

Contact: Martha Fifield, 515-480-8401 or martha.fifield@gmail.com.

JAbU the Joy Project

JAbU the Joy Project is an organization in eSwatini (formerly Swaziland) which provides safe housing and tuition for high school and tertiary school for orphaned and vulnerable Swazi students; provides mental health education for Swazi mothers and caregivers; and creates income-generating opportunities for women in rural communities in eSwatini.

Donations will be used to pay tuition, fund safe housing for orphaned/vulnerable students, and to conduct mental health education seminars for Swazi mothers and caregivers. Donations are tax deductible. Finances are managed by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Des Moines.

Contact: Katie Walters, 515-720-1414 or KTDoubleyou@gmail.com

Website: jabujoy.com

Beza Threads

Beza Threads brings redemption and freedom to the enslaved, providing rehabilitation and job training for a sustainable future. We support organizations and former enslaved persons by bringing their products to the marketplace. Most of Beza Threads' support comes through the sales of beautiful handcrafted leather goods and scarves.

Donations and/or purchases can be made via our website. Donations are tax deductible, and we provide annual receipts. Donors can choose how their donations are used: rescuing girls out of exploitation, supporting kindergarten students vulnerable to a life of begging on the streets, or general Beza fund.

Contact: Breanna Owen, Breanna@BezaThreads.org or 515-822-2323

Website: www.bezathreads.org

Social media: @BezaThreads; facebook.com/bezathreads

Center for Social Ministry

The Center for Social Ministry provides poverty awareness and social justice education programs. We serve as a key resource to help individuals connect to programs, volunteer opportunities, and advocacy efforts.

Donations are used to provide poverty awareness and social justice educational programming to the community. <https://centerforsocialministry.org/donate/>

Books: <https://centerforsocialministry.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/CSM-Book-Catalog.pdf>

T-Shirts: <https://centerforsocialministry.org/t-shirt-order-form/>

Contact: Jamie Loggins-Evans, director@centerforsocialministry.org or 515-782-3054

Website: www.centerforsocialministry.org

Social media: <https://www.facebook.com/centerforsocialministry>

Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity

Seeking to put God's love into action, Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Founded on the conviction that every person should have a decent, safe, and affordable place to live, GDM Habitat seeks to transform neighborhoods and build brighter futures through affordable homeownership and owner-occupied repair.

Homeownership: Families apply for partnership based on three criteria: need for housing, ability to pay, and willingness to partner. Partner families complete 300-400 hours of sweat equity, including Habitat homeownership program education. At closing, families purchase their home through an affordable mortgage.

Rock the Block® Home Repair: Brings low-income residents with owner-occupied repair needs together with organizations and volunteers for maintenance, weatherization, safety, accessibility, and beautification.

Housing Counseling & Financial Education: Opportunities for one-on-one counseling and group classes focused on homebuyer education and financial literacy. GDM Habitat staff focus on learning real world application of concepts, and the program is designed for participants of all skill levels to reach their goals.

The Need: One in eight households in Polk County spend more than half of their income on housing, making them severely cost-burdened. And the need for affordable housing continues to grow as our workforce grows. In the next twenty years, Polk County alone will need to add 57,000 net new housing units to accommodate the net new workers in the region. Of these, more than 33,000 units will need to be new owner-occupied. More than half of the demand for owner-occupied homes is for homes priced below \$175,000.

Why GDM Habitat? Over the last 34 years, GDM Habitat has been on the forefront of addressing affordable housing in Des Moines and surrounding areas. Since 1987, more than 400 families have had the opportunity to purchase a safe, affordable place to live, and 2,000 families have been helped to stay in their homes. GDM Habitat continues to create, preserve, and champion homeownership affordability.

Contacts: Brendalyn Shird, Director of Strategic Partnerships, bshird@gdmhabitat.org
Emily Parker, Donor Relations and Events Manager, eparker@gdmhabitat.org

Website: www.gdmhabitat.org

Alternative Gift Donation Link: *Make a gift in honor of someone this Christmas. We will send them a Christmas card notifying them that you made a gift in their honor. Click here to learn more and to make your gift:* <https://greaterdesmoineshabitatforhumanity.salsalabs.org/alternativegiftmarket>