WILL YOU GIVE TO One Great Hour?

2015 PLANNING & RESOURCE GUIDE
Dear Friends

Give and change the world ------ It really is that simple.

By the grace of God, all of us have the power to give, and the gifts we give make the world more the way God intended it to be—a place where everyone has what they need. Together, we can achieve a fair balance in our world by giving back to God what God has so richly bestowed upon us.

When the Apostle Paul visited the early churches in Macedonia, they became incredibly excited about the ministry opportunities he laid before them. Namely, to be a part of an offering that would be received for the poor and the suffering in Jerusalem, due to a devastating famine. These early followers of Jesus couldn’t help but get caught up in Paul’s contagious zeal for the ways God was working in their midst. So much so, in fact, that they actually pleaded to be a part of the “service to the saints” Paul spoke of while visiting their community—even though they were themselves living in poverty. This “ministry to the saints,” referred to in his Second Letter to the Corinthians is another name for the offering Paul and the early churches were organizing for those in distant Jerusalem. Never once is the term “offering” used anywhere in the text, yet it is referred to as a “ministry,” or a “service.” The offering was considered a ministry, a spiritual calling, or a living out of one’s faith.

So why, exactly, was Paul facilitating this offering? For those who were hungry, poverty-stricken, and in crisis. The needs among the people in Jerusalem were immense. Thus, Paul’s church-wide offering was not only practical in leveraging funds so they could make the most impact, together, but it was also one of the first visible expressions of the early Church’s unity in Christ. This offering, or ministry, was a way for Paul to model the unity of all believers and to provide a pragmatic mechanism for demonstrating their care and concern for one another—even if they did not know each other personally.

This is still our ministry today. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering reaches those near and far, sometimes changing the life of someone in distress in our congregation or community, and at other times impacting the lives of those we may never meet but who are in desperate need of our compassion and generosity.

For almost seven decades we have been making a difference, together—and glorifying God—through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering which funds relief and development all over the world and in the U.S.

Together, we can achieve a fair balance, bringing about a world the way God intended it to be.

Give and change the world.

Sincerely,

Church Pastor
Organizing the Offering Process

Coordinating the One Great Hour of Sharing offering doesn’t have to be difficult. All it takes is following these two simple steps. All materials are located at www.ucc.org/oghs/resources.

**Step 1. Become familiar with the materials:**
- Use this printed planning and resource guide.
- Additional new materials are on-line including 4 new videos, 2 songs, and great worship resources.
- Schedule the date of the offering. Many Churches will be part of One Great Hour of Sharing on March 15, 2015.

**Step 2. Involve Others:**

*Share the worship resources with your pastor/worship leaders.*
- Ask that the theme of the worship service on the offering date be connected to the offering. Worship resources in this guide and on the website can help.
- Set dates for the Minutes for Mission (two weeks before the offering date) and the dramatic interpretation (one week before).

*Share the children activities with Christian Education and Faith Formation leaders.*
- Ask that they be used during the several weeks before the offering date.

*Recruit people to share the leadership and passion.*
- Offer the Minutes for Mission on several Sundays prior to the offering date.
- Prepare and present the dramatic interpretation.
- Prepare and make the offering invitation on the offering date itself.

*Share the challenge.* Increase your congregation’s goal for 2015 over previous years by percentage or number of giving units.

**Other Ideas:**

*The month before the offering date, begin promoting the offering.*
1. Put the offering date on the church calendar.
2. Send the congregational letter and sharing calendar to each household. Will you use the newsletter? A separate mailing? An e-mail?
3. Display the offering poster in a prominent place. Change the location of the poster each week to keep the message fresh to reach more people.
4. Get active. Host a potluck and presentation on ministries of disasters, sustainable development, and refugees funded by OGHS. Include these ministries in Sunday School or Faith Formation prayer time. Encourage your children and youth to report on ways they have raised funds and participated in disaster, development, and refugee ministries. Find stories of OGHS ministries on-line at www.ucc.org/oghs/stories.

*Two weeks before the offering date:*
1. Share the Minutes for Mission during the worship service.
2. Make sure the offering date is listed among the “upcoming events” in the bulletin.

*One week before the offering date:*
1. Include the dramatic interpretation in the worship service.
2. Include in the bulletin any written material people should consider as they make decisions about their giving.
3. Place offering envelopes in the pews.

*On the offering date:*
1. Make sure extra offering envelopes are available.
2. Help the worship leaders in whatever ways they need to make the offering theme an integral and prominent part of the worship service.
3. Talk before the offering collection about how the offering helps us spread God’s love in the U.S. and the wider world. Specifically invite people to give to OGHS. Tell of your intention to increase your gift this year, and encourage others to do so, too.

*One and two weeks after the offering date:*
1. Report the amount received to date. Did you meet your congregational goal?
2. Invite those who have not yet given to contribute.

*At the end of the offering collection period:*
1. Report to the congregation the total amount contributed. Celebrate and praise God for the wonderful work the offering will do!
2. Thank the congregation verbally and in writing for giving to OGHS.
Call to Worship

This is the day that God has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
Welcome to this sacred place where, indeed, all are welcome.
It is here, in this safe space, we receive one another just as we are,
just as God receives us.
Wherever you are along your life’s journey; whatever your name; however you feel—come one and all.
Come, and experience the abundance of God’s love for you,
providing for your every need.
Come, and experience the invitation to give back to our God
who has given us life itself.
Come, and be empowered by the Good News of Christ so that we
can share that abundant love with others.
Come, so that our abundance
meets the great needs of our world,
and the needs of our sisters
and brothers become part of our abundance.
Let us worship God!

Litany
(Based on 2 Corinthians 8:1-15)

One: In this world of suffering and poverty, hunger and thirst,
vioence and tragedy,
Many: Where often are overwhelmed and even apathetic,
One: We recall the earliest followers of Jesus, who even in their own
poverty, found something to give.
Many: For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to
what one has,
One: Not according to what one does not have.
Many: There should not be relief for some and pressure for others;
One: Rather, it is a question of a fair balance between your present
abundance and their need,
Many: So that their abundance may be for your need,
All: In order that there be a fair balance.
One: The one who had much did not have too much,
Many: And the one who had little did not have too little.
One: Nothing left over to the one with the most;
Many: Nothing lacking to the one with the least.
All: But enough for all.

Opening Prayer

Mother and Father of us all,

As we gather together, surrounded by the loving care of a community of faith, remind us to invite all those
who are without safety, support, and acceptance to this sacred space. Challenge us to include those in need,
whether here in our own community or on the other side of the globe, as part of our faith family. Even if we
never meet them, may we always invoke their spirits, stories, and names to grace this space. May we
remember them all, whether they be recovering from a disaster; fleeing as refugees or asylum seekers;
suffering as victims of violence in any form; attempting to avoid the daily grind of unemployment, hunger,
homlessness, and poverty in this country; or struggling among the more than 1 billion people who live in
extreme poverty, on less than $1.25 a day, all across our world. God, we can’t help but acknowledge what a
generous God you are, and yet can’t understand why so many of your children do not have even their basic
needs met.

Guide us, as your sons and daughters, to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters, wherever they may be.
Call upon us, in all of our abundance, to share what we have so that others may receive what they need to
live the abundant life Christ offered us all. Dare us to share, and to do so faithfully, joyfully, and with
conviction.

O God of all abundance, hear our prayer. Amen.
Prayer of Confession

God of sea and sky and sun and rain, God of the African, the American, the Syrian, and the Honduran, God of the rich and of the poor and all those in between, we have heard it said that good news for the poor is that they are poor no more. We have learned that Christ came “that they may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10b). This abundance is ours, offered freely and lovingly, to all of us.

Yet instead of thanking you we take it for granted. We forget. We deny. We hoard. We do not always or willingly share—even though we know of the tremendous suffering plaguing this world.

We confess that we contribute to that suffering when we ignore or avoid it. We confess that we have blamed others, or even you, for our sins.

Forgive us, God, for the sin of withholding. Forgive us our lack of faith. Forgive us our reluctance to trust in you. Forgive us, your privileged people, for not acknowledging our own abundance—all of which comes from you and only you.

Graceful God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Offertory Meditation
(Based on 2 Corinthians 8-9)

During what the Apostle Paul calls a “severe ordeal of affliction,” the early churches of Macedonia somehow managed to “overflow in a wealth of generosity” for their sisters and brothers in need. Their own extreme poverty combined with their abundant joy resulted in this overflow, and as Paul testifies, they not only gave according to their means, they gave beyond their means. Yes, beyond their means! Even more remarkable, they actually begged “earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints.” Giving is a privilege.

“What have you ever imagined it would be like not to be able to give?”

But God provides all we need, enabling us to be in a constant posture of giving. All that is ours is God’s, so everyone has a gift to give. God does not leave people out. God has created a world where there is more than enough; the sheer joy of that blessing is sharing it! Giving back to God is a matter of faith—it is the natural reaction to our saying “yes!” to following Christ. Once you know the invincible love of God and the Good News of the Gospel, you can’t help but share it. In the sharing of your resources, you are living out your confession of faith as followers of Jesus the Christ.

For almost seven decades, we have been putting our faith into action and making a difference, alongside literally millions of other Christians throughout North America, through the ecumenical One Great Hour of Sharing offering which funds disaster relief, food security, clean water, resettles refugees, empowers women, and provides sustainable development all over the world. For example, your gifts have been hard at work in places such as the Philippines, where Typhoon Hagupit caused major damage impacting over 1 million people. Our response helps the entire community. Praise be to God!

Giving itself is a gift; A privilege; an opportunity to respond to God’s outpouring of love for you. Giving through One Great Hour of Sharing not only changes the lives of more individuals and communities in need, it changes the world.

Join our ministry of saints as we receive this offering. Overflow with the wealth of generosity and feel our own hearts, minds and lives change just as we’re helping improve and transform the quality of life for others. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Creator of all that has been, is, and will be, You are the God who sees us. You are the God who sustains us. How can we ever thank you for all that you have granted us? For you have granted us our very lives, creating us in your own divine image, and calling us good.

Thank you for the capacity and the privilege of giving. May these gifts, which we give right back to you, transform hunger into nutritious food; illiteracy into education; thirst into clean, accessible water; disease into healing; displacement into welcome; and despair into hope. We humbly ask you to consecrate these gifts for the transformation of lives and communities so that our abundance may be for their need and their need become our abundance.

To you, God, be the glory! Amen.

Words of Assurance
(Based on 2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

Beloved of God, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Brand new! Everything old has passed away! See, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. For our sake God made him to be sin who knew no
Communion

Invitation to Communion

Welcome, family, to the feast! This is the feast of our God, where all are fed. No one goes away hungry. No one is turned away. At this table, there is room for everyone. This is not our table, of course, but Christ’s. It is He who has set the table and prepared a meal with enough for all. Just as the early followers of Jesus, who would come together to share a meal, share stories, and share community, we too gather at this table, hungry and eager to be fed. Here, we can eat to our fill.

At this table lies the mystery of our faith; for Communion doesn’t work without a broken body. To share bread, we must break it. To share of ourselves, we must be willing to share our own wounds, worries, and fears. Out of brokenness emerges wholeness and holiness.

This is the paradox of life abundant: love shared not out of perfection, but out of messiness, frailty, confusion, and self-absorption. The stories of our lives shared honestly. This is the perfect love that casts out fear. This is Communion, learning to love one another as we gather around a common meal, regardless of age, gender, class, race, sexual orientation, ethnicity, political affiliation, disability, or name. This is the Feast of Justice, where compassion starts. This is where we are fed and likewise commit to feeding a hungry world, empowered by the divine nourishment of this, the Lord’s Supper. At this abundant feast, we partake and participate in creating a fair balance for all.

Come to the table. All—all, no exceptions!—are welcome.

Communion Prayer

(for many voices, two voices, or only one)

One: God of grace and abundance, we have received your word and tasted your truth: Jesus the Christ, your very presence is among us.

Many: We pray that your Christ will guide us that we may live with each other in unity, equity, and love. May we grow in faithful assurance that our future—the future that all of your children share—is in you today, every day, and always.

All: Amen.

Benediction

Church, hear the Good News: there is enough for all! May we do our part to distribute our abundance equitably and compassionately, so that the needs of our world may be no more. Our sisters and brothers are counting on us. Go now, from this sacred place into a world that is waiting for all you have to give.

Amen and amen!

Hymn Suggestions

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”
“Will You Come and Follow Me”
“We Are Not Our Own”
“God Whose Giving Knows No Ending”
“To God Be the Glory”
“Seek Ye First”
“Take My Gifts”
“Take My Life, God, Let It Be”
“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”
“Fill the World with Love”
“Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race”
“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”
“Our Fair Share”
2 Corinthians 8:13-15

“How is it that there are enough resources on our planet to feed the entire world, and yet so many hungry?”

As people of faith, what is our role in a world where the gap between the rich and the poor only seems to widen? How do we ensure that everyone—all of God’s children—get their fair share?

When the Apostle Paul visited the early churches in Macedonia, they became excited about the ministry opportunities he laid before them. These early followers of Jesus couldn’t help but get caught up in Paul’s contagious zeal for the ways God was working in their midst. So much so, in fact, that they actually pledged to be a part of the “service to the saints” Paul spoke of while visiting their community—even though they were themselves living in poverty. This “ministry to the saints,” referred to in his Second Letter to the Corinthians is another name for the offering Paul and the early churches were organizing for those in distant Jerusalem who had been suffering as a result of a devastating famine. The offering was considered a ministry; in other words, an expression of religious conviction, a spiritual calling, a living out of one’s faith.

To organize a church-wide offering, a relief fund, if you will, (One Great Hour of Sharing is not original!) was not only practical in leveraging funds, it was also a visible expression of their Christian unity. This offering was a way for Paul to model the unity of all believers and to provide a way for them to care for one another—even if they did not know each other personally. For the churches in Macedonia and Corinth, many of them would never see or meet the Christians they were helping in Jerusalem. So their ecumenical offering was a concrete representation of the Gospel, that in Christ there truly was no longer Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female, might I add rich or poor—no longer separation or division, but unity in Christ.

Everyone, regardless of economic or social location, has a gift to give. Our God supplies the gifts and resources so that we can give back. After all, none of what the early followers of Jesus gave was really theirs, right? Because all that we have—all that we have—is whose God’s! We’re simply giving back to God what is already God’s. In giving to God, we give to others. The act of giving is an act of faith, believing that our gift will be part of transforming a life, a community, and indeed, the whole world.

“For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus the Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (2 Cor 8:9). This is what God has given; through our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ the Good News has been shared with us so that we never doubt that we have all we need, and in turn ensure that others get what they need. “For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance” (2 Cor 8:12-13).

The Message translates it this way, “Nothing left over to the one with the most; nothing lacking to the one with the least.” So our abundance becomes their need and their need becomes our abundance. Have you ever thought of it this way? What would happen if all of us made choices based on this concept? We could achieve a fair balance across the globe by not only sharing what we have, out of our abundance, but also by recognizing the abundance in the needs, challenges, spirits, and stories of our sisters and brothers all over the world. “It is not with your own wealth that you give alms to the poor,” asserted St. Ambrose, “but with a fraction of their own which you give back; for you are usurping for yourself something meant for the common good of all. The earth is for everyone, not only for the rich.”

Our generous and gracious God has given us life and a world where there is already enough for all—this has been proven time and again. It is our task, thus, to ensure a fair balance. As the Church in the world, through One Great Hour of Sharing, we have the opportunity to act in one accord as the body of Christ by giving what we have; to collaborate and strategize on how we might share this world of enough in ways that are more equitable; ensure that everyone gets a part of the plenty, and guarantee that all of God’s children have what they need. This is the offering, the “ministry to the saints” that Paul was promoting.

This is still our ministry, all these centuries later, through One Great Hour of Sharing—received not only by this church family, but across the country by Christians of many denominations contributing to an ecumenical offering which has shared abundance for the meeting of needs for almost seven decades.

Together, we can make sure that everyone—yes, every single one of God’s children, our sisters and brothers—get their fair share, bringing about a world the way God intended it to be.

“Ready to change the world?”
Materials Needed:
- Crayons and markers
- Construction paper in different colors
- White paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Table and chairs
- Globe or world map

Legend
Bold= Instructions
Bullets= Activities

"What is your favorite food? What do you love to eat? Maybe it's something your mom or dad or your grandparent makes, or maybe it's something you like to order at a restaurant. Maybe it's something you tried at a friend's house, or at a church pot-luck supper. Share with us what your absolute favorite food is by drawing and coloring it or making it out of construction paper. When you're finished making your favorite dish, please place it on the table where we'll share a meal."

- Allow the children to respond by creating artwork representing their favorite food. Give them ample time to make their dish.
- After each of them has created artwork of their favorite food, invite them to place it on the table. Each child should have his or her own place setting and seat. Once they have all "set the table" with their favorite food, invite them to sit at their place and share what they've contributed to "the meal." Ask them to imagine that they are about to enjoy a meal together.
- Next, invite them to pass the different dishes. Did they make enough for everyone at the table? Or did they make enough only for themselves to eat? Invite them to share their favorite food with everyone at the table. "You have all made your favorite foods. Because they're your favorites, we'll all love to try them!"

- Pay attention to how the children respond. Do they readily pass their dish? Do they not have enough? Are they unsure how to share it? Encourage them to pass their dishes to everyone at the table, with the goal of everyone partaking of all the dishes. Do they enjoy "tasting" each other's favorite foods? Help them to imagine what each tastes like; have fun!

- Chances are, the children may not have made enough for everyone, however, but only enough for themselves. Be prepared to discuss with them how it feels when there is not enough to go around and some people miss out. "How did it feel to try the other favorite foods? How did it feel to be left out?"

- If any of the children actually did make more than enough to share, use that dish as an illustration for what it means to share of your abundance. "How did it feel to share what you made? How did it feel to share your food with others?"

- Show either the globe or the world map to illustrate how the big the world is and how many people do not have enough food to eat, despite there being enough in the world to feed everyone. "Everyone at our table had at least enough food for themselves, because they provided their own favorite food on the table. Imagine now coming to a table where there was very little food for you, your family, and your friends. Imagine how that would make you feel. On some days, there may not be food at all, or maybe food for only one meal a day. For many children in the world, including in the United States, and right here in our own community, there is not enough food to go around. They do not have enough to eat. Eating their favorite food is a rare treat. Many children don't even have a favorite food because they only have one or two foods to eat."

- Help the children understand the concept of sharing so that everyone can have enough. When someone does not have enough, what might the kids do to change that? "One way that you can help other children have something to eat is to share what you have. When someone else does not have enough, but you have what they need, how can you make sure that there is a fair share?"

- Pass out the One Great Hour of Sharing coin boxes. Explain to the children that the boxes are to collect offerings, and be clear about which Sunday to bring them back to church to share in the offering. Explain that coins and bills will turn into food for someone who wouldn't otherwise have enough food to eat.

"When you can't give food itself to people who need food, you can use money to offer food and help to those without enough."

"This is something every child can do, each one of you, with any amount of money. As you collect money in your special offering boxes, you can explain to others how important it is to help every child have enough food to eat, and maybe, even one day, have enough that they can share their favorite food with someone else."

- Last, invite the children to make more of their favorite foods to place on the table, celebrating that when they give to One Great Hour of Sharing, they help to set tables where there is enough food for all; where everyone gets their fair share. Invite others in the congregation to join them for their abundant meal, expanding the table! Close with a table grace, thanking God for the opportunity and ability to share with others so that everyone gets enough.
**Daily Giving**

-Care for other’s health & well-being; keep each other company.
-Contribute your best, whatever you can. It is the gift of yourself.

**Read 2 Corinthians 8:12-16**

-Your spirit of generosity is not only loved by us; it is also very pleasing to God.
-Share your affluence, and let others see that they can be generous too.

**Daily Giving Calendar 2023**

**Week 1: February**

- **Sunday, February 5:** quietly reflect on what you can do for others.
- **Monday, February 6:** write a heartfelt letter to a friend.
- **Tuesday, February 7:** volunteer at a local shelter.
- **Wednesday, February 8:** prepare a meal for a family in need.
- **Thursday, February 9:** donate clothes to a thrift store.
- **Friday, February 10:** lend a helping hand to a neighbor.
- **Saturday, February 11:** plant a garden for your community.

**Week 2: February**

- **Sunday, February 12:** read a book to a child at the library.
- **Monday, February 13:** help a stranger with their day.
- **Tuesday, February 14:** organize a community clean-up.
- **Wednesday, February 15:** donate blood at a local center.
- **Thursday, February 16:** support a local artist by purchasing their work.
- **Friday, February 17:** bring a smile to a patient at a hospital.
- **Saturday, February 18:** volunteer at a local animal shelter.

**Week 3: February**

- **Sunday, February 19:** spend time with someone who needs it most.
- **Monday, February 20:** donate food at a food bank.
- **Tuesday, February 21:** mentor a child.
- **Wednesday, February 22:** attend a community meeting.
- **Thursday, February 23:** volunteer at a senior center.
- **Friday, February 24:** organize a community potluck.
- **Saturday, February 25:** plant a tree in your neighborhood.

**Week 4: February**

- **Sunday, February 26:** read to a child at the library.
- **Monday, February 27:** help a friend with their day.
- **Tuesday, February 28:** volunteer at a local park.
- **Wednesday, February 29:** donate blood at a local center.
- **Thursday, February 30:** support a local small business.
- **Friday, February 31:** bring a smile to a patient at a hospital.
- **Saturday, March 1:** volunteer at a local school.
Abdullah is 10 years old and from Somalia. Back in 2011, Abdullah, his mother, and young brother fled Somalia because of the conflict there, and have been living in Indonesia ever since.

“In 2013, my dream finally came true,” said Abdullah. “Maria Angelia informed my mother that my enrollment in the primary school near our house had been successful.” Maria is a Church World Service staff person working with refugees in Indonesia.

Abdullah enjoys getting ready for his school day. He appreciates the opportunity to attend school, just like other children his age around the world.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) supports reading. Your gifts to the offering provide books, schools supplies and teachers in communities where children like Abdullah, need opportunities to attend school.

---

Melicio is a Farmer in Nueva Frontera, a municipality in the Honduran department of Santa Bárbara.

Hunger and sustainable agriculture are being addressed in Melicio’s community. Farmers, both young and old are helping one another learn new and lasting ways to farm and to yield the best harvest. One lesson includes learning how to compost.

Melicio and others are embracing composting. Together, they are reaping the benefits of better crops and better care for their land. Together, they are hoping to put more food on the table for their families, and increase their ability to sell produce at market.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps farmers by addressing food security issues through practices such as composting. Together, we are increasing the world’s access to good and healthy food.
Our Church’s Wider Mission Basic Support and Special Support provides funding for the work of UCC Conferences, national, and global ministries in support of the life and work of the local church and its members. OCWM changes lives by strengthening our ecumenical relationships and global partnerships, by imagining and embodying a better world through prophetic witness and work, and by providing resources and programs to nurture the vitality of our United Church of Christ congregations. By giving to OCWM basic support and the four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ, more than 1,200 churches are 5 for 5!

One Great Hour of Sharing provides support for health, education, refugee, agricultural and emergency relief initiatives in 138 countries by working with local, national, and global partners. The offering is received most often during Lent, with March 15, 2015 as a suggested Dedication Day. It is administered in the national UCC setting by Wider Church Ministries, Global Sharing of Resources.

Strengthen the Church grows the UCC’s future by funding The Stillspeaking Ministry, new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership formation - especially among women and people of color. It is administered by your church’s Conference and the national UCC setting’s, Local Church Ministries, and The Stillspeaking Ministry. It is most often received on Pentecost.

Neighbors in Need supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), justice and advocacy, and direct service projects supported by Justice and Witness Ministries of the national UCC setting. The suggested offering date is World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of October.

The Christmas Fund provides pensions and health premium, supplementation to low-income retired church workers, emergency assistance to clergy families in need, and Christmas checks to hundreds of annuitants, as administered by the Pension Boards. The offering is most often received the Sunday before Christmas.

Order additional OGHS materials from UCC Resources at: (800) 325-7061 or via email at uccorders@ucc.org

Please send your donation to your UCC Conference Office, clearly marked for One Great Hour of Sharing. The Conference will forward it with gifts from other congregations to our office at:
700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland Ohio 44115-1100

For more resources, please visit www.ucc.org/oghs
“Like Us” on Facebook - facebook.com/onegreathourofsharingucc
Follow us on Twitter - twitter.com/OGHS_at_UCC
Contact our office - 216-736-3215