

JOY OF GIVING 2009

Your name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Please distribute my gift as follows.

Opportunities at Our Doorstep

_____ InnVision

_____ Green Pastures

_____ EPA CAN DO

_____ Ecumenical Hunger Program

_____ Ministers' Discretionary Fund

_____ Support Network (victims of violence)

Global and Regional Opportunities

_____ Water for life: Kenya and Uganda

_____ Heifer Project: Kids to Kids

_____ Maua Methodist Hospital: Kenya

_____ Sierra Service Project

_____ Person in Mission: Mexico

_____ Missionary Support / Paul Jeffrey

_____ **Total Amount**

Make check payable to

First United Methodist Church

and identify for "Joy of Giving"

in the memo line. Mail to:

625 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301



Opportunities at Our Doorstep

InnVision

InnVision focuses on empowering homeless and at-risk families and individuals. Our contribution is vital in this tough economic time because of cutbacks in funds from Silicon Valley firms.

InnVision addresses the multiple needs of people in transition, including food, clothing, showers, laundry, healthcare, transition housing, job training and many other items. *InnVision* programs reach throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo counties and serve more than 20,000 people each year at 20 different sites.



Green Pastures

For children with developmental disabilities *Green Pastures*, a local mission project in Mountain View, has provided a home — a safe place, a haven to learn and grow with and individualized care — for more than 20 years. *Green Pastures* has started a second home in East Palo Alto and seeks funds to remodel the original home in Mountain View to serve the children better.

EPA CAN DO

East Palo Alto Community Alliance & Neighborhood Development Corporation (*EPA CAN DO*) focuses on affordable housing development and management for individuals and families, including those who have encountered troubled mortgages. In the last two years *EPA CAN DO* has guided over 250 families in modifying their loans and has counseled hundreds of others in home buying.

Ecumenical Hunger Program

Located in East Palo Alto, *Ecumenical Hunger Program* (EHP) works with families throughout our area to eliminate their hunger and break the cycle of poverty. EHP provides food, clothing, household goods, and referral services. By providing its programs with compassion and respect, EHP promotes the personal dignity of those it serves while encouraging self-reliance.

Ministers' Discretionary Fund

This fund allows our pastors to confidentially provide small gifts of money to congregation members in financial crisis and to the increasing number of jobless and homeless people who come to our church for help. Our pastors depend on the fund so that no one in need will be turned away empty-handed.

Support Network (for victims of violence)

The Sunnyvale-based *Support Network* helps battered women and families throughout Santa Clara County. They provide counseling, shelter, support groups, legal assistance, a children's program and a volunteer program. During the past fiscal year they answered over 6,000 crisis calls, provided 16,000 counseling sessions and sheltered 247 women and children. Our gifts will help maintain these vital services.

Coming Attractions

Several opportunities to experience the "Joy of Doing" in local and regional organizations will be presented to the congregation in spring and summer, 2010.



Global and Regional Opportunities

Water for life: Kenya and Uganda

In October 2009 FUMC hosted a Special Mission Visitor, Deborah Katina from the East African office of Church World Service (CWS). Deborah heads the CWS projects in Kenya and Uganda that bring good water — literally, the water of life — to peoples in those two sub-Saharan countries. She told us of the Sand Dam technology and witnessed to the transformation the projects bring to the health and well being of the people. This is your opportunity to provide additional support for this life-giving work.

Heifer Project: Kids for Kids

Somewhere in the world, right now, children are tending to their goats. Goats and children go together well: one dairy goat can provide a family of four with enough milk to drink for a year and plenty leftover to sell. With this income, many children will be able to go to school. Gardens fertilized with goat manure yield more crops. Help provide “Kids for Kids” in many different countries. (\$120 provides a goat and training in its care.)

Maua Methodist Hospital: Kenya

For several years FUMC has continued to help the Maua Methodist Hospital in Meru, Kenya to expand its Community Health Outreach Program to several outlying communities where no such services were available. This staff cares for AIDS patients and provides HIV prevention education, family planning information, immunizations, malaria prevention services, TB testing, and more to the communities. In 2006 several of our youth and Stephen Black visited this hospital to work on projects there and gave us a first-hand account of the hospital’s vital medical outreach.

Sierra Service Project

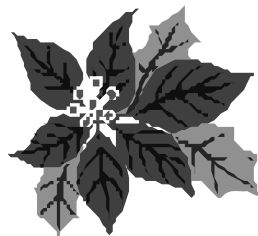
Sierra Service Project is a non-profit organization providing life-changing experiences through acts of service repairing homes in Native American and urban communities, and building homes in Honduras. Each summer, approximately 1500 teenagers, 250 adult volunteers and over 40 paid summer staff live, worship and work together on different project sites. Their work results in more than 130 safer, drier and more comfortable homes each year. Program fees cover about 85% of SSP’s expenses. The remaining 15% of costs are covered by donations from congregations, individuals, and grant-making organizations.

Person in Mission (PIM): Mexico

The Santa Elena School in Mexico serves 60 Tarahumara Indian children, improving their lives through education, a balanced diet, hygiene, medical attention, and growth in the Christian faith. The school directors are UMC *Persons in Mission* (PIM). This program enables UMC partner organizations in other countries to hire personnel as missionaries in their own countries. Supporting a PIM is part of our commitment to be a Global Mission Partner.

Missionary: Paul Jeffrey

FUMC budget provides \$2500 to support Paul Jeffrey, a missionary who works as a photojournalist traveling throughout the world reporting for church-based media. This is your opportunity to provide additional support for his award winning work.



JOY OF GIVING 2009

The *Joy of Giving* is a Christmas tradition at First United Methodist in Palo Alto. It is a natural expression of our faith in Christ and our commitment to caring for people in our local community, our region, and the global community.

Through the *Joy of Giving*, you can indicate to which listed organization(s) your financial gift should be given. If you wish to give a gift in honor of someone on your Christmas list, you may request a gift card from the church office.