



A Guide for Congregations

2025

DEAR PARTNER IN MINISTRY,

Eighty years ago, our Lutheran forebearers had a vision to join together and be the Body of Christ in the world, responding boldly to the needs of our neighbors in Europe after World War II.

When they founded Lutheran World Relief in 1945, the outpouring of love was immense.

Our grandparents got busy sewing quilts and organizing fundraising drives. Within just 14 years, American Lutherans had provided more than \$100 million worth of aid. **And we were just getting started.**

Over these **80 years of faithful service**, our ministry together has grown. Today — together — we go where no one else goes ... to the front lines of war and to places even cars can't reach. And we stay as long as we're needed to help families recover and rebuild.

We can't predict where or when the next urgent need may arise. **But we know we can always count on YOU to respond in love and create a brighter future for the next generation.**

As we reflect on 80 years of faithfully working together to break the cycle of poverty, we invite your congregation to **join us by marking this milestone and continuing our Lutheran legacy of love.**

In partnership,

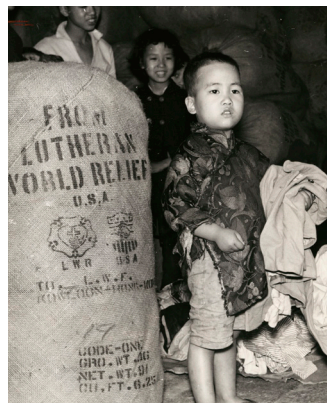


A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Kipp".

REV. LISA KIPP

Director of
Congregational Engagement
lkipp@lwr.org

P.S. See the back of this guide for more helpful links and resources!



Celebrate **80 years** — and continue the **Lutheran legacy of love** in 2025

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in a hurting world through your support of Lutheran World Relief! Here are a few suggestions for marking this milestone in your congregation and sharing God's love with your neighbors.



Challenge your congregation to give generously. The following pages offer a variety of ways your congregational giving can make a difference. Set a goal and strive for it for a season or throughout the year.



Get your hands busy. Accompany your fundraising efforts with an LWR Kit packing event. Visit lwr.org/kits to learn more.



Involve your children and youth. Challenge your young people to raise money to send school supplies or buy a family a “Herd of Hope” (see page 6). Incorporate making School Kits or Personal Care Kits into your Vacation Bible School or other youth ministries.



Celebrate with your quilters. If your congregation has a quilting group, mark our milestone on your quilt blessing Sunday. Show the 80th Anniversary video and ask God to bless your quilts, kits and financial gifts as they deliver hope to your neighbors.

VIDEO: Watch & Share with your congregation



Watch and share our 80th Anniversary video with your congregation. See and celebrate how our ministry together is walking alongside families so that all God's children have a chance to thrive. lwr.org/80

Encourage
your congregation
to share **God's life-**
changing love
with the world



Look through this guide for gift ideas to inspire your congregation to love your neighbors in times of **EMERGENCY**, provide access to **EDUCATION** and fight **HUNGER** in the world's poorest communities.

SET A BOLD FUNDRAISING GOAL:

With each generation, the mission of Lutheran World Relief has grown, reaching farther and staying longer to end poverty, injustice and human suffering wherever it resides. Your church's generosity can continue that legacy of love.

\$1,945 in honor of the year LWR was founded

\$4,000 \$500 for every decade of serving our neighbors

\$8,000 stretch farther and give \$1,000 for each decade of LWR

\$40,000 that's \$500 for each year LWR has changed lives around the world

\$80,000 give a transformational gift of \$1,000 for every year of LWR's history



EMERGENCIES

War, disasters and other emergencies affect everyone, but the world's poorest suffer most. That's why Lutheran World Relief is there to offer help and hope, wherever and whenever a crisis arises.

How will your love be there when the next disaster strikes?



\$45

EMERGENCY FOOD PARCEL

In times of emergency, finding enough food can be nearly impossible. An emergency food parcel generally includes enough canned food items and rice to **feed a family for one week.**



\$75

WATER PURIFICATION TABLETS + 10 BUCKETS

Water purification tablets can **prevent waterborne illnesses like typhoid and cholera.** One tablet dissolved in a bucket of water can be the difference between healthy hydration and debilitating illness.



\$300

WOOD STOVE

Your gift of a wood stove can provide much-needed **heat and a safe place for preparing meals** until power is restored. Stoves are a source of comfort and warmth for a family's home – and their hearts.



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY:

Make LWR Personal Care Kits

When homes are destroyed or families must flee for safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry.

LWR Personal Care Kits provide critical germ fighting supplies and the chance to regain dignity amid fear and uncertainty.

Learn more at lwr.org/kits.



Education is one of the best pathways out of poverty. But in many places, the cost of tuition and supplies — plus the lost income from sending children to school rather than work — prevents many young people from getting an education.

How will your love create a brighter future?



\$75

TABLET FOR VIRTUAL CLASS

When a student is forced away from home and school **due to war or disaster, online learning becomes necessary.** Your gift will provide the resources needed for a young learner to continue their education.



\$285

SEND 100 SCHOOL KITS

School Kits contain **essential supplies to help children continue learning** in the face of obstacles. Your gift will send School Kits where they are needed most, such as displacement camps and under-resourced communities.



\$348

KEEP GIRLS IN SCHOOL

A recent study by LWR found that a lack of income is by far the largest barrier to girls' education. Your gift will provide monthly cash assistance **to help a vulnerable girl stay in school for one year.**



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY:

Make LWR School Kits

School Kits are a fabulous intergenerational activity. These supplies can support student attendance, relieve parents of financial burdens and set students on a path for educational success. Learn more at lwr.org/kits.



HUNGER

Around the world, food insecurity has doubled since 2020. Conflicts, economic struggles, climate events and other factors are making it harder for families to access enough nourishing food to meet their basic needs.

How will your love help feed hungry families?



\$60

SEEDS FOR A FAMILY

Hunger is a persistent problem for families in poor communities. Your gift of **high-quality, drought-tolerant seeds** will help four families grow more and better crops. This is a tremendous opportunity to keep the fruits (and vegetables) of your compassion **growing for years to come.**



\$100

GOAT

Goats are a source of lasting blessings for families in need. A hardy goat can survive in parts of the world where other farm animals can't. In addition to providing **nutritious milk and cheese**, goats provide rich manure to **fertilize crops.**



\$530

HERD OF HOPE

This herd of animals is a great source of **nutritious milk and eggs** to keep children and adults healthy and strong.

A herd of hope includes

2 goats
2 sheep
2 piglets
1 hen
6 chicks

As the animals multiply, so will your gift.

Celebrating 80 years of loving our neighbors

Resources for your congregation

As we reflect on 80 years of faithfully working together, we invite your congregation to mark this milestone and continue our Lutheran legacy of love.



Scan this QR code to visit the online suite of resources.

Visit lwr.org/80 to:

Watch and share our 80th anniversary video with your congregation

View the historical timeline of LWR's Quilt & Kit Ministry

Order LWR brochures

Order LWR pew envelopes

Ready to make your gift?

Give online at lwr.org/80 or **mail** a check to:

**Lutheran World Relief
PO Box 17061
Baltimore, MD 21297-1061**

Until your love reaches every neighbor.

***Note:** The dollar amounts listed represent the actual average cost of providing the respective service. Your gifts contribute to the entire mission of Lutheran World Relief, to be used where the need is greatest.*