

**Quilters, kit-makers, box-packers, materials buyers, drivers -**

***SPRING 2024 Seattle LWR Ingathering will be May 3/4 at Our Redeemers' Lutheran Church.***

### **Attachments:**

1. Seattle Spring 2024 Loading Form. Print on Legal for largest print format. Reverse side has kit instructions. *[Also separate download on Ingathering Map]*
2. The attachment "LWR Distributions 2023.pdf" is where shipments went overseas in 2023 (fiscal year Oct 2022-Sept 2023).
- 3 The Fabric Kits instruction is attached as well. The Loading Form back side does not include those.

***LWR is working on modifying the bar-code system.*** However, in the interim there is no longer a bar code system.

All boxes going on our Seattle containers need your church name and address ( at least city) - there are a lot of First Lutherans or St Pauls' Lutheran Churches.

Please write "Quilts" or "School" or "School Kits" or "Personal CK" etc on the boxes, so the warehouse personnel know which room to send the box to without having to open it first Please list number of items in that box. I am guessing most of us already hand-write "quilts" and "5" as we pack quilts. That is part of our process at my congregation to ensure we count correctly. Prior to bar codes being introduced, many of us created "address labels" for our church mailing label, including type and number of items. That is still an option.

You can recycle all your old, preprinted bar-code labels. The new system will not use them.

## **Rich's thoughts on buying Kit Supplies in 2024**

Our QALC LWR Kit Making effort depends upon help from many of you who purchase items. This was excerpted from my church newsletter. Some comments may not apply to your community or nearby stores. If you have ideas, or suggestions for me, please let me know.

***Personal Care Kit Supplies:*** My congregation purchases most Personal Care Kit Supplies online, in bulk. The combs, fingernail clippers and tooth brushes are uniform, tooth brushes individually wrapped. If in doubt, use larger combs (7+ inches with handle, 4+ inches without). **Combs** need to be long enough to control them in your hands. I order combs from Medline At Home; 144 of the 7" combs for \$82 including shipping (I order MDS137209). Ensure **tooth brushes** are soft, and will hold up for a month or more - I tested mine at home. I order SmartSmile Adult Toothbrushes (72 count, individually wrapped, 144 for \$71) from American Dental Accessories, Inc. I order 72 pack **nail clippers** from Amazon (diane brand)

**Bath towels** need to be minimum of 20"x40" (hotel size) up to 27"x 52". They should be dark colored - hard to clean white towels in a refugee camp without washing machines. They do not need to be thick and plush - need to air dry in hot, humid climates. Target's bath towels (dark gray) have ranged from \$2.40 to \$3.00.

**Four ounce bars of soap** are best, since each kit must have 8-9 oz of soap. We send two 4oz bars. 3 or 3.5 oz bars are fine - you just must pack three bars We prefer Ivory. Yes prices have increased a lot. I am paying 75 cents per bar.

## Purchasing batting for quilts:

The question often comes up, where do you buy your batting? Because of shipping cost, Queen Anne Lutheran has been getting batting from PerfectFit out of Portland. If you carefully read their website they have a 60" wide batting. It comes in 2 weights. QA uses the lighter weight. It is cheaper if you buy 6 rolls. Shipping is like \$15.00. Sometimes you can go in with another church to buy the 6 rolls for the cheaper price. To get the cheaper price (not the full price listed on line) you need to call and tell them that you are a church making quilts as a mission project. The online price is almost double.

## Fabric Samples Available at Ingathering:

The Women of Queen Anne Lutheran may bring fabric samples this spring. Please call Candy at 206-919-7330 if you need fabric samples. Or send email to [LWRmathes@aol.com](mailto:LWRmathes@aol.com)

## Reminders from LWR Baltimore

1. Please do not send bulk soap. Baby Care Kits & Personal Care Kits still need 8-9 oz of soap - i.e. either three 3oz bars or two 4 oz bar
2. No more fleece blankets or fleece in any quilts or kits - not biodegradable
3. Please ensure your boxes can support the weight inside, and please limit school kits to eight in a box - which is 30 pounds. When we are stacking boxes 9.5 feet high, heavy boxes are more difficult for the average 6 foot male. My church uses apple boxes - each holds eight school kits. The apple box lids do not need taping if the top fits tight over the bottom half of the box.

## HANDY LWR VIDEOS FOR ASSEMBLING KITS:

[www.lwr.org/kitvideos](http://www.lwr.org/kitvideos) is a link from LWR that takes you directly to the Melanie Gibbons videos on kit assembly. The videos are quite useful, because we all need to ensure that those who help with assembling quilts twice a year are using similar good practices. If possible, have someone show these videos at your church as an aid to assembling kits. They are great for viewing right before you assemble the kits. Last fall, before my Men's Group assembled Personal Care Kits, one person said "I had forgotten some of the details from 6 months ago."

You can also just input "LWR Personal Care Kit video," "LWR School Kit video," "LWR Baby Care Kit video" or "LWR Fabric Kit video" in Google search bar. If you pack school kits, please refer to Melanie Gibbons wonderful YouTube video - "LWR School Kits: Tips & Tricks". There are also videos for other kits on YouTube. I play them once a year before we pack kits, just as a refresher.

## Seattle LWR Ingathering Statistics for past seven years:

Thanks to all of you who have hung in there, kept, or gotten, your groups going during and after Covid19. 2022 seems to have been our low point; 2023 increased a bit - both at Seattle LWR Ingathering AND LWR's worldwide shipments.

Year	Quilts	Fleece*** Blankets	Soap*** (lbs)	School Kits	Personal Care Kits	Fabric Kits	Baby Kits	Seattle Pounds	N. CA. Pounds
2017	12,158	29	606	6,159	5,417	468	2,853	83,678	
2018	12,226	42	627	5,698	5,449	496	2,307	78,778	
2019	11,302	9	593	6,034	5,006	241	2,197	76,766	
2020*	2,394	11	0	2,932	1,780	86	1,119	23,962	
2021*	10,750	0	0	5,044	3,629	256	1,642	63,369	
2022**	9,284	0	0	3,960	4,364	142	1,145	56,910	11,250
2023**	10,256	0	0	5,145	3,911	348	1,556	64,634	11,000

The Seattle Ingathering includes around 120 churches in Western Washington north of Centralia, and all of Alaska.

\*The single fall 2020 Ingathering and the spring 2021 Ingathering were held at First Lutheran Church of Bothell (FLCB). The entire process was masked, socially distanced, even temperature checked at the church door. Since many churches were closed and quilting groups unable to meet, contributions declined in 2020 and 2021 from "historical normal." \*\*At 2022 & 2023 Fall Ingatherings, Northern California (Cupertino/Redding) sent their boxes of quilts and kits (11,000+ pounds) to Seattle Ingathering to be sent to Maryland.

\*\*\*Fleece blankets are no longer sent overseas because they are not biodegradable, and fibers have been found in the ground water; soap as a separate item is no longer needed by LWR for overseas distribution; there are still soap bars in Personal Care & Baby

### **LWR Worldwide Shipments past seven years:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Quilts</b>	<b>Soap (lbs.)</b>	<b>School Kits</b>	<b>Personal Care Kits</b>	<b>Sewing/ Fabric Kits</b>	<b>Baby Care Kits</b>
2017	305,490	27,770	214,490	153,560	12,710	51,800
2018	323,610	0	216,430	119,865	11,890	64,445
2019	333,405	0	210,745	137,760	16,646	51,945
2020	264,585	0	174,055	71,900	12,300	52,860
2021	122,400	0	103,880	60,030	915	38,850
2022	221,967	0	90,860	94,060	8,815	46,560
2023	194,983	0	190,043	123,920	7,264	35,490

*The LWR Fiscal year is Oct 1- Sept 30. Soap is no longer given separately; it is available in most areas.*

Please pass on the above to your groups and friends, even if you will not participate this fall. If you want to get off of these lists, please let me know. And if you need to add someone, please let me know. I mail hard-copy of this Email to those on my "hard-copy" list that do not have Email.

Sincerely

Rich Mathes

# Seattle Freight Reimbursement; Quilt and Shipping Fund

## Mail checks to:

LWR Quilt and Kits Shipping Fund  
PO Box 17061, Baltimore MD 21298

Make check payable to:  
Lutheran World Relief

Mark on check:  
Quilt and Kits Shipping Fund

Congregation/Parish	Barcode ID Number
Congregation Mailing Address	Amount of Check
Contact Person	Email (print legibly)

## Seattle Ingathering:

Friday, May 3, 2024  
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Saturday, May 4, 2024  
8 a.m. to 11:30 am  
Location: Our  
Redeemers' Lutheran  
Church parking lot.  
NW85th St & 25th Ave NW.  
Take I-5, Exit 172 (N 85th  
Street). Go west on N 85th  
which becomes NW 85th.  
3 miles from I-5.

*Include the  
name and  
address of your  
congregation on  
each box & label  
contents!*

## Seattle questions:

Rich Mathes  
206-384-1183 (cell)  
Candy: 206-919-7330

[lwrmathes@aol.com](mailto:lwrmathes@aol.com)

Drivers - If you know  
you will arrive late,  
please call Rich's cell  
206-384-1183.

## Lutheran World Relief Ingathering Seattle Spring 2024 Loading Form

Congregation:
Address, City and Zip Code:
Contact Person:
Phone Number:
Email Address (Print Legibly)

*Ensure boxes are less than 40 pounds (30 for school kits)*

	Number of Quilts/ Kits	Weight in lbs.
Mission Quilts (60"x80")		
School Kits - Limit 30 pounds; use sturdy boxes		
Personal Care Kits		
Fabric Kits		
Baby Care Kits		
Total weight (lbs)		
Shipping Cost - ALL the Way!	x \$ .75	\$
Total Check sent to Quilt & Kits	Shipping Fund.	\$

**To ship just to LWR Warehouse multiply x \$.21. To ship it from  
LWR Warehouse to those in need multiply x \$.54. To ship it from  
Washington ALL the way to those in need multiply it by \$.75.**

# How to Pack & Send - *(Checks are mailed to Baltimore using form on reverse!)*

## Packing your Quilts and Kits:

- Pack completed Quilts and Kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents - *type, number, weight, congregation, city* - in LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS on the outside top of the boxes.
- Apple boxes, banana boxes (if you cover the "hole"), Secure with tape so items don't fall out.
- Do not overfill boxes - tops need to be flat for stacking.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds - 30 pound limit for school kits.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.

## Quilts and Kits Contents:

**LWR Quilts should measure approximately 60" X 80". Full-size Quilts** best serve adult recipients and children as they grow older. Please donate only full-size Quilts.

### Include the following items in each **School Kit**:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side, inches on other
- One pencil sharpener, two holes best
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2½" eraser
- One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

**Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.** All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in bag and close. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags. Use heavy enough cardboard boxes to support the 150 pounds of boxes stacked above your box.

### Include the following items in each **Personal Care Kit**:

- One light-weight bath-size towel (maximum 52" X 27"), dark color recommended
- 2 or 3 bath-size bars soap, any brand, in original wrapping (8-9 oz total)
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging or in separate sealed envelope
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

Fold towel in half; place items in towel; fold and roll towel so nothing falls out; tie with yarn, string or large rubber band.

### Include the following items in each **Baby Care Kit**:

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies)
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square; **No Fleece**
- Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, *or include a baby cap*
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- 2 or 3 bath-size bars gentle soap, in original wrapping, 8-9 oz total
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins

**Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.** Gently used, clean items (no stains or tears) can be substituted for new ones. Wrap Baby Care Kit items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.



LUTHERAN  
WORLD RELIEF



facebook.com/LuthWorldRelief



instagram.com/LuthWorldRelief



youtube.com/LutheranWorldRelief

# WHERE DID LWR QUILTS & KITS GO IN 2023?



**551,700**

**QUILTS & KITS**

**IN 14 COUNTRIES**



**194,983**  
QUILTS



**190,043**  
SCHOOL KITS



**123,920**  
PERSONAL CARE KITS



**35,490**  
BABY CARE KITS



**7,264**  
FABRIC KITS

COUNTRY	SHIPPING WAREHOUSE	QUILTS	SCHOOL KITS	PERSONAL CARE KITS	BABY CARE KITS	FABRIC KITS
ANGOLA	Minnesota	24,140	7,250	18,600	4,830	3,600
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	Maryland	12,375	13,650	11,670		
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Minnesota		15,225	32,550	14,700	
ECUADOR	Maryland		13,650			
GEORGIA	Minnesota	38,080				
GUATEMALA	Minnesota	9,520	27,840			
HONDURAS	Maryland		12,480			
LIBERIA	Maryland		27,300			
	Minnesota		13,282			
MALI	Minnesota	45,798	14,500	9,300	4,200	1,800
SRI LANKA	Minnesota		14,326			
TANZANIA	Maryland	26,400	1,300	6,000	1,800	1,684
	Minnesota	2,040	9,860	6,200	4,200	180
THE GAMBIA	Minnesota		13,920			
TÜRKIYE	Maryland	11,880		14,400	5,760	
UKRAINE	Maryland	24,750	5,460	25,200		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>194,983</b>	<b>190,043</b>	<b>123,920</b>	<b>35,490</b>	<b>7,264</b>

*This shipping information is from LWR's 2023 fiscal year (Oct 2022 - Sept 2023).*



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



## FABRIC KITS

### SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Fabric should have no stains or holes.
- Pieces do not need to match in size or color/pattern as long as they fit into one of the three size options.
- Each spool of thread should match one of the pieces of fabric included. Neutral thread is also a good option.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags

### HOW TO PACK YOUR PROJECT PROMISE KITS

- Wrap one piece of fabric and spools of thread inside the other piece of fabric, ensuring nothing will fall out. Secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.
- Pack completed Kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents.

### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH FABRIC KIT

- ☐ **TWO** spools of neutral-colored, general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each
- ☐ **TWO** pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (no knits or 100% polyester). Each piece should match one of the sizes below:
  - 2 ¼ yards of 60" wide fabric
  - 3 yards of 44" wide fabric
  - 4 yards of 36" wide fabric

