

Alternative Gift MARKET 2024

Geneva Presbyterian Church
24301 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA

What is the Alternative Gift Market?

39 items chosen by ten of Geneva's mission partners are available. You may pick and pay for any number of them as Christmas gifts in the name of a friend or relative (or simply because you feel called to support a particular ministry).

If you wish, you can receive a card for each item purchased, including an insert noting the donation and an envelope, to send to your friend or relative.

The Alternative Gift Market is an opportunity for Genevans to come together and, in the spirit of Christmas, show our compassion and generosity, encouraging our mission partners as they do important work to meet needs locally and globally – while learning more about our partners and those they serve.



When Is the Market Open?

In-person purchases can be made on Sundays November 24, and December 1 and December 8 before or after the service at church in the courtyard.

Online purchases can be made during the period November 24 to December 8.

Mailed in or in-person purchases can also be made through the church office during hours when the office is open between November 25 and December 9.



How Does It Work?

You can pick up an order form on Sundays, in the church office M-Th 9-4, F 9-1, order online, or mail in an order.

For online donations, use the URL: genevapres.org/alternativegiftmarket. Then check the "Shop Online" button and order directly.

If you make an order online, the card can be picked up at the church office when it is open, or you can request one card per item to be mailed to you. [Credit cards can be used for online or office purchases.]

What Are the Items to Choose?

The other side of this flyer gives brief descriptions of each of our participating mission partners.

Items cover a wide range, such as: packs of diapers for \$30 at the Village of Hope or packs of socks for \$18 at the Double R Ranch; a carton of eggs for \$5 at South County Outreach; a piglet for \$40 with PC(USA) Mission Agency; a 45 lb. bag of rice for very needy families in Tijuana with Dios Con Nostoros; scholarships for underserved children in Belize (\$45 with PathLight International), in India (\$50 with Inspire International) or with our local Boys and Girls Club (\$35 or \$125).

How Can I Be More involved in Mission Activity at Geneva?

The Missional Life Ministry Team aims to highlight different ministry partners and mission issues by: brief presentations in worship services; by after-service lunches; with field trips; and with food drives, and other activities.

For more information, or to join the Missional Life Ministry Team, contact one of the current team members: Elizabeth Carlisle (Elder), Dave Lammert, Ray Miller, Judy Scott, Bob and Lori Weatherford, John and Nina Pomery, Diane Smith.

Meet Geneva's Mission Partners

Boys & Girls Club, Via Iglesia is one of three sites for the Boys and Girls Club of Capistrano Valley. It serves low-income families, providing after-school programs, tutoring, summer camps and more to build life skills and self-esteem.

Bridges U.S. does not directly minister to individuals but is an innovative Christian ministry that identifies valuable local ministries throughout the U.S. and provides training in financial, fund-raising, managerial, and other areas, to enhance sustainability and effectiveness.

Dios Con Nostros is our sister Presbyterian congregation in Tijuana. For 35 years it has created a vibrant, multi-generational presence in a low-income community while operating on a shoestring budget. The congregation has trips to people at the local dump and people waiting for extended periods of time for hospital treatment, bringing them food, blankets and other necessities.

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County works to provide affordable housing and the family stability that such a home can bring to those currently living in substandard accommodation. Habitat uses sweat equity, volunteer labor, and affordable mortgages to give people a hand up from housing insecurity. Orange

County Habitat has built or rehabbed several hundred homes but envisions significantly increasing its level of activity.

Inspire International operates in India under difficult conditions. Its ministries include providing education to children in extremely poor and underserved remote rural communities. Inspire witnesses to Christian values with a range of programs, including adult literacy and supporting widows, who are often discarded and ostracized by their neighbors after the deaths of their husbands.

Orange County Rescue Mission -- Village of Hope

is a powerful Christian ministry located at the old Tustin airfield. Individuals struggling with addiction, homelessness, or other life trauma are offered a chance to join a supportive community that – with high success rate – helps them build a sense of self-worth, value, and community, allowing them to re-enter society in a productive capacity.

Orange County Rescue Mission -- Double R Ranch

is a recent addition to the OC Rescue Mission, located along El Toro Road close to the Saddleback Mountains. It creates a Christian live-in community where individuals learn job skills and life skills, and can understand the beauty of God's creation, the value of community, and their own self-worth.

PathLight International is a Christian ministry helping bright but disadvantaged young people attain education, support and guidance beyond the age of 13 in Belize – where public education ends for those who cannot afford to go further. This ministry allows students to realize their potential and gives them an avenue to escape a life of relative poverty.

PC(USA) Mission Agency provides a wide range of support, particularly for the disadvantaged, with an emphasis of creating sustainable communities via, for example, nurturing farming or fishing or funding community irrigation wells.

South County Outreach is a local organization best known for its food pantries in Lake Forest, and now in Laguna Niguel. It serves the growing number of food-insecure individuals in south Orange County, including many homeless and other low-income families (including many in Laguna Woods), while also providing other services.

Geneva also supports:

Presbyterian Church of East Africa;
San Joaquin Elementary School;
Sam Njoroge's ministry in Kenya;
Presbytery of Los Ranchos Missions;
Friendship Shelter;
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
AND COMPASSION IN CHRIST!**