

University UMC Giving Calendar

For our University UMC family, compassion remains a foundational spiritual practice. Examining the needs of our community and finding tangible means of support is a dedicated focus. Throughout the next year, we will highlight each of our mission partners as indicated in the Giving Calendar below. These mission partners provide opportunities to support organizations who make a difference in the lives of our community members. Prayerfully discern how you might assist in each endeavor, ensuring that vital resources are committed to works of hope and compassion.



Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity of Orange County brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Through the use of volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds homes for families in need. In addition to building new homes, Habitat also partners with families who live in non-Habitat homes to assist them in making repairs to their homes such as exterior painting, siding repairs, or cleaning, repairing, or installing ramps and handrails, etc.

Each Lent from 2023-2025, University UMC is raising a grand total of \$50,000 to help sponsor the new community center at Habitat for Humanity's Weavers Grove housing development.

IFC provides hot meals, a food pantry, emergency housing, transitional housing, emergency financial assistance, and advocacy in an effort to confront the causes and respond to the effects of poverty in our community.

During the Easter Season, University UMC will support the Interfaith Council for Social Service through Project 5,000. Based on an unforgettable experience in the life of Jesus – the feeding of the 5,000 – this food drive encourages us to give our own small contribution of food and see it multiplied into greater usefulness. Participants donate boxes of food designed to provide emergency food for a family of four for two days.

Communiversality is an after-school program run by the Sonja Haynes Stone Center and UNC student volunteers, providing cultural literacy enrichment, academic enhancement, and mentor relationships for K-5 students in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools. This program is housed at University UMC as part of our commitment to work with the Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools to bridge the second-largest achievement gap between black and white students in the U.S.

During the months of June and July, University UMC will raise money to support Communiversality. Donations of individually wrapped snacks for students are welcome at University UMC throughout the academic year.

TABLE's mission is to provide healthy, emergency food aid every week to hungry elementary school children living in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. Food for TABLE is grown at the Giving Garden. TABLE currently has on average 800 local kids enrolled in their TABLE@Home program. Every week, with the help of our volunteers, these children receive bags filled with healthy, fresh food delivered directly to their homes.

During the month of November, University UMC will hold a Thanksgiving food collection for TABLE.

Through a global network of local organizations, Zoe Empowers provides a scalable and sustainable framework in which vulnerable youth-led African families are equipped to become safe and healthy, skilled for long-term success, and supported within their community. University UMC members John & Erika Lusk attended a mission trip with ZOE to Tanzania in October 2023. The Lusks invite you to attend a future trip with them to Africa with ZOE Empowers.

This year University UMC will provide \$9,000 through its budgeted giving to support the work of ZOE Empowers.

Other Ways to Get Involved

The Giving Garden

The Giving Garden is located at 531 Umstead Drive, Chapel Hill. The Giving Garden grows over 800 pounds of fresh produce each year for TABLE to distribute to hungry families in our area. Come volunteer at the garden!

Alternative Gifts

Honor your loved ones at Christmas with a donation to IFC, TABLE, Communiversity, Zoe Empowers or Habitat for Humanity. NEW this year- Medical Debt Relief sponsored by the University UMC Health Ministries Team. These missions care for our neighbors and help us to share the love of Christ. Look for our beautiful Alternative Gift Christmas cards this Advent season.

Wesley Foundation

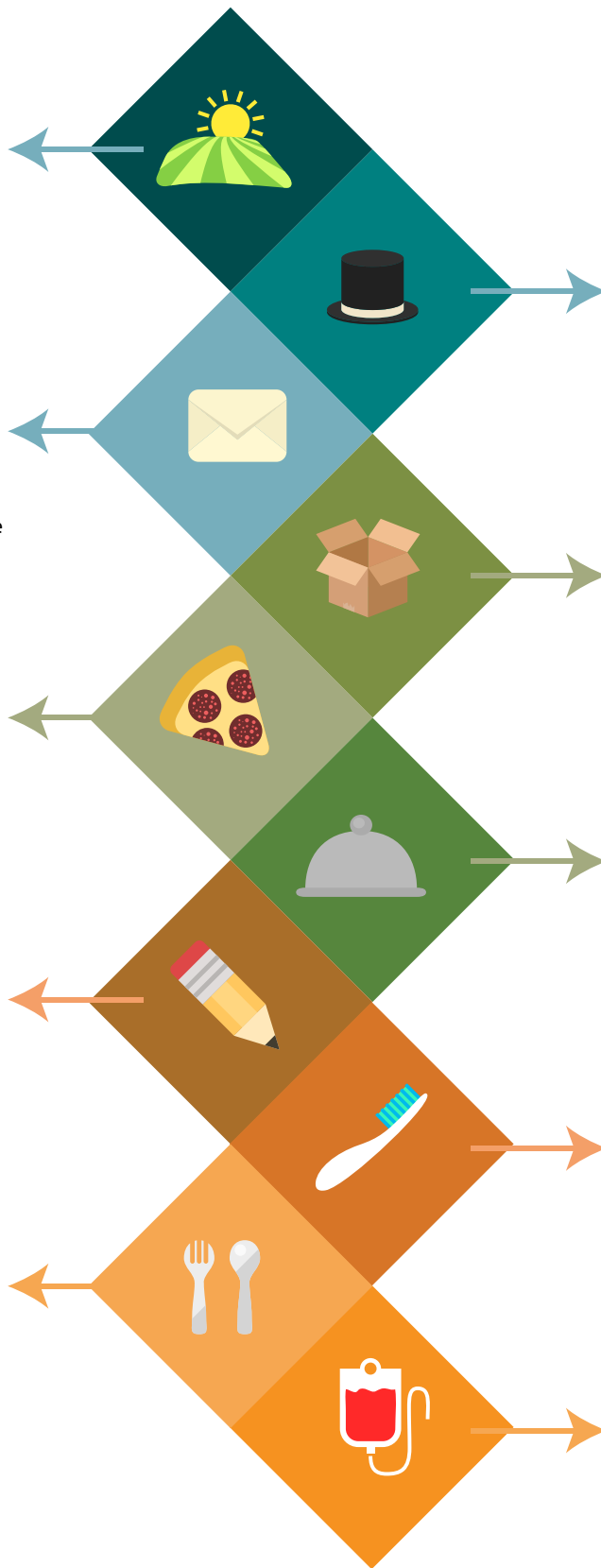
Sign up to purchase or cook an item for Wesley Fellowship Dinners. Volunteers are also needed to help prep and serve the food.

Northside Elementary

University UMC partners with our nearest elementary school, Northside Elementary, by providing children and their families with school supplies each August and gifts at Christmas through University UMC's Angel Tree.

Rise Against Hunger

Rise Against Hunger is an international relief organization distributing food and aid to the world's most vulnerable. Once a year, University UMC partners with its sister church Amity UMC to help in this mission by packing meals which will be sent all over the world.



Wear for All Clothing Closet

Volunteer at our sister congregation Amity UMC's Wear for All Clothing Closet on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 a.m.-noon. Volunteers will not need to do strenuous work or heavy lifting. Donate clothing, linens, blankets, and hygiene items for those in need.

Food for All Food Pantry

Assist at Amity UMC's Food for All Food Pantry, the 2nd & 4th Thursdays from 9:45 a.m.-noon. Current needs: Ziploc bags (gallons and quarts), spaghetti sauce, chicken noodle soup, spaghetti, canned fruit, peanut butter, canned pintos, canned black beans, vienna sausages, tuna salad kits, Chef Boyardee, crackers, cereal, boxed milk, canned chicken

Feed a Friend

Serve by bringing a meal to a fellow parishioner who may be going through a tough time. Do it by yourself or with the help of others. Takeout is totally welcomed – you don't have to cook!

Care Kits

Would you or your small group like to prepare items for our unhoused friends at University & Amity UMC? Current needs: snack bags, hygiene kits and women's hygiene kits

Blood Drives

The Health Ministries Team at University UMC hosts blood drives semi-annually. There has been a huge shortage of blood during the pandemic. Every donor helps save lives! The next drive will be in March.

Contact Pastor Lindsay (lcollins@universityumc.church) to learn more about these service opportunities. Bring non-monetary donations to the Place of Grace next to the church office.