



Let love flow.



Thank You!



The 2021 Mission Impact Report highlights the distribution and outcomes of the [One Great Hour of Sharing offering](#), identifying how your contributions were used throughout the year. The report includes stories about the people and places that benefited from your compassion and generosity. You *Let Love Flow*, and the stories reflect the impact of these financial resources.

In 2021, as the global community, including the United States, and our churches continued to struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic for the second year, the United Church of Christ received \$1.7 million for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, which was 110% of what was projected. By contrast, in 2020, the offering was severely impacted by the outbreak of COVID-19 and the resulting closure of churches. The offering total was 55% of what was projected for the year. Although less than in prior years, the gifts received in 2021 pointed to a recovery of the offering and were used to *Let Love Flow*, assisting families and communities around the world in rebuilding their lives and restoring hope. This ministry is made possible with your support. Your generosity ensures that, even amid crisis and uncertainty, the transforming power of God's love working in us and through us will continue to change the lives of the most vulnerable among us.

Deadly wildfires, hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, and wars left people homeless, families grieving the loss of loved ones, and entire communities awaiting assistance for long-term disaster recovery. Refugees and asylum seekers were left in limbo, languishing at borders waiting for welcome, with close to 100 million displaced globally. Many have been displaced by economic conditions, war, drought, famine, and climate change. The United Church of Christ offered

hope as we stood in solidarity and mutuality with communities as they responded to crises.

Through Wider Church Ministries, the United Church of Christ fulfills its commitment to respond to a variety of global and domestic concerns by providing advocacy, sustainable development resources, long-term disaster recovery support, and assistance for [refugees and asylum seekers](#), working in collaboration with our partners locally and globally. This year, we are including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to connect your giving to the global impacts highlighted in the goals. Our work together contributes to a global partnership committed to taking action to achieve the 17 SDGs — “a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.” The addition of the SDGs to the stories in this report allows us to better understand our missional impact through expansive global metrics.

With your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, we can be present for the long term as we partner with churches and organizations in the US and around the world to walk with families as they rebuild their homes and lives following disaster and crisis. Whether you are a new or long-time supporter, every gift allowed us to *Let Love Flow* in 2021.

Thank you for your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing as, together, we build a just world for all.

With Gratitude and Hope,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Georgia Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson

AGM, Wider Church Ministries and Co-Executive Global Ministries

Love Hopes

The ACT Palestine Forum reported in a visit to Gaza that the period between May 10 and May 21, 2021, saw the gravest escalation in hostilities between Palestine and Israel since 2014. Worsened by the already poor humanitarian situation, war severely disrupted the supply of basic services. The destruction or damage of homes and infrastructure left thousands of Palestinians in Gaza without shelter.

The scenes were beyond imagination. Residents in Gaza report witnessing the war's worst and most intense strikes. Individuals and families lost loved ones and their homes; some are now homeless, having moved to live with family members or in school shelters. Entire families were lost to the violence.

Yet all was not lost.

Families and people affected by enormous loss survived. The Gaza population insists they want to lead everyday lives like other people in the world.

UCC and Disciples of Christ partner (through Global Ministries), the Department of Service for Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) of the Middle East Council of Churches, is part of the ACT Alliance response and provides cash assistance, job creation, health aid, and minor home damage rehabilitation. Dr. Issa said people appreciate all the support extended to them and they are thankful to ACT Alliance and its members. The UCC is a member of ACT Alliance.

One of the continued challenges is that many youth and children of colleagues opted to leave, migrating because they do not see a future in Gaza.

"This puts on our shoulders a big load to always stand in solidarity and work hand in hand in Gaza to keep the hope alive for a better future," said George E. Stephan, ACT Palestine Forum Member.

Gifts from the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering support DSPR and ACT.



Love is Clean Water

Christian Care was formed in 1967 by the Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC). Christian Care is a part of the ZCC's call to witness the presence of God among people burdened by oppression, poverty, ill health, and lack of freedom or knowledge to make sustainable life-supporting choices. Christian Care provides relief and development work across the country and has strategically positioned itself to respond effectively and efficiently to people's needs throughout the country.

Providing water, sanitation, hygiene, and education services remains a significant challenge in Zimbabwe. The service level ratio of the water and sanitation infrastructure continues to decline. Sporadic incidences of water-borne diseases such as typhoid, cholera, and bilharzia

occur in urban and rural areas. Poor sanitation and hygiene make the situation more challenging. Poor waste and sewage disposal are serious concerns in and around urban areas.

There is inadequate knowledge at the community level to address the water sanitation and hygiene-related challenges. The underlying causes of the problems include, but are not limited to, a reduced water table leading to inaccessible clean water, the continual breakdown of borehole technology, contamination of water through illegal mining activities, poor drainage systems in urban areas, excessive pressure on sewage systems, and aging infrastructure.

In 2021, boreholes at a local school were not fully functioning for over a year. The renovation of the boreholes came from OGHS support for Zimbabwe through the Global Ministries Africa Office.

“Christian Care was able to complete this project with OGHS funds,” said Rev. Marco Cable. “Now the school children have access to water.”



Love Endures

In Indonesia, the Evangelical Christian Church of Timor (GMIT) continues to serve in the midst of significant challenge and change. GMIT prides itself on developing thoughtful programs at Synod, presbytery, and congregational levels that are informed by contextual developments and data. However, three major disasters (the first wave of COVID, the Seroja Cyclone, and the second COVID wave) challenged the church's ability to plan.

Having endured the initial wave of the COVID virus and with vaccinations slowly rolling out across Indonesia, GMIT held its second post-quadrennial assembly in mid-March 2021. Yet even before a month passed, large areas served by GMIT were hit hard by the Seroja Cyclone, which was triggered, in part, by rising ocean temperatures—a sign of creation's balance further askew. Synod staff not only had to implement emergency response to the nearly 75% of GMIT's presbyteries (38/52) that suffered from the cyclone's impact, they were also expected to keep their "regular" Synod programs afloat.

GMIT benefited from access to professional disaster response organizations that offered support. Yet, it had neither the resources nor readily available personnel to sustain the full-time disaster response still needed by many of its congregations. Even as many staff managed to balance their work and emotional well-being, GMIT faced a second, more severe wave of COVID infections as new variants swept across Indonesia.

Sustained lockdowns do not work in this community due to social-cultural habits that are difficult to break and because of individual and structural poverty. Many of GMIT's members need daily wages to survive, making the poorest people also the most vulnerable to the virus. Many live in areas with weak or non-existent internet access or do not have a choice whether to use meager cash resources to purchase the data needed for online access to school for their children or worship.

Against all odds, marked by ongoing disasters, GMIT's witness to a deep faith and hope persists. ***Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off*** (Proverbs 23:18).

Surely there is. "Wherever we may find ourselves around the globe, may we join together, again and again, to strengthen our faith, revel in its stamina, and rest on its assurance that God is with us, no matter what, now and in the future," wrote the Rev. Gultom in a message to encourage the staff of GMIT.

Love is Being a Good Neighbor

In August 2020, rains from Tropical Storm Isaias poured up to four feet of water into dozens of homes in Philadelphia's Eastwick neighborhood. Homeowners did not receive federal assistance to rebuild, leaving many struggling with unmet flood recovery needs.

Just when the frustrated residents were about to give up, the efforts of Southeastern Pennsylvania Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (SEPA VOAD) gained traction.

Karl Jones, UCC Disaster Coordinator for the Pennsylvania Southeastern Conference, a SEPA-VOAD member, gave leadership. Judy Moore, a UCC Partner in Service volunteer, was tasked with scheduling volunteer work teams. Later, a second UCC Partner in Service volunteer, Jaye Herrick, was enlisted as a construction manager. The UCC has additionally contributed funds to replace ruined walls, floors, and appliances through your support.

A team from Shenkel United Church of Christ in Pottstown, Pa., was the first work team to deploy in July 2021. Since then, more than 40 teams totaling more than 120 individuals from the UCC and beyond have served.

Volunteer housing is available at Salt and Light, a Philadelphia congregation of the UCC and the Presbyterian Church USA. More volunteers are needed to complete the work. The goal is to restore 45 homes in Eastwick.

When we help our neighbor during the storms of life, love reigns.

Love Asks, What do you Need?

The United Church of Christ is committed to walking alongside beleaguered Haitian communities as they rise to the day's challenges.

A powerful 7.2 magnitude earthquake and a subsequent tropical storm hit Haiti in August 2021. Generous contributions to the United Church of Christ from congregations and members surpassed the UCC's initial \$100,000 goal.

UCC mission partners identified health, safety, access to clean water, housing, and psycho-social support as urgent needs. The UCC promptly dispatched several grants to help meet those needs.

As a result of the disaster, one local health center saw daily visits rise from 30 to 200 people. Funds were allocated to boost capacity and ensure access to clean water. The needs in mobile clinics, staffed by interdisciplinary teams of doctors, nurses, social workers, and community organizers, also increased. The area received medicines and supplies, and schools and mobile clinics provided psycho-social support to children.

Community organizing and knowledgeable residents addressed water needs by performing repairs. Often, this involved coordination with local municipal leadership.

Through the support received by mission partners, buildings and other infrastructure are being stabilized. The UCC continues to support long-term recovery, especially repairing and rebuilding homes.





Love Empowers

The United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) often provides extensive disaster relief and rehabilitation after severe storms. Super Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 was one of the strongest typhoons ever recorded. It landed as a devastating category 5 typhoon in the Eastern Visayas region. In response, OGHS contributed more than \$1 million in hurricane relief and rehabilitation, much of it implemented by UCCP.

In 2020, Typhoon Vongfong (Ambo) made landfall, crossing the country from the east to the west coast with hurling winds that destroyed houses and agriculture in the area. Heavy rains and wind caused flooding and power outages. Local authorities asked large churches like the UCCP to assist with housing people.

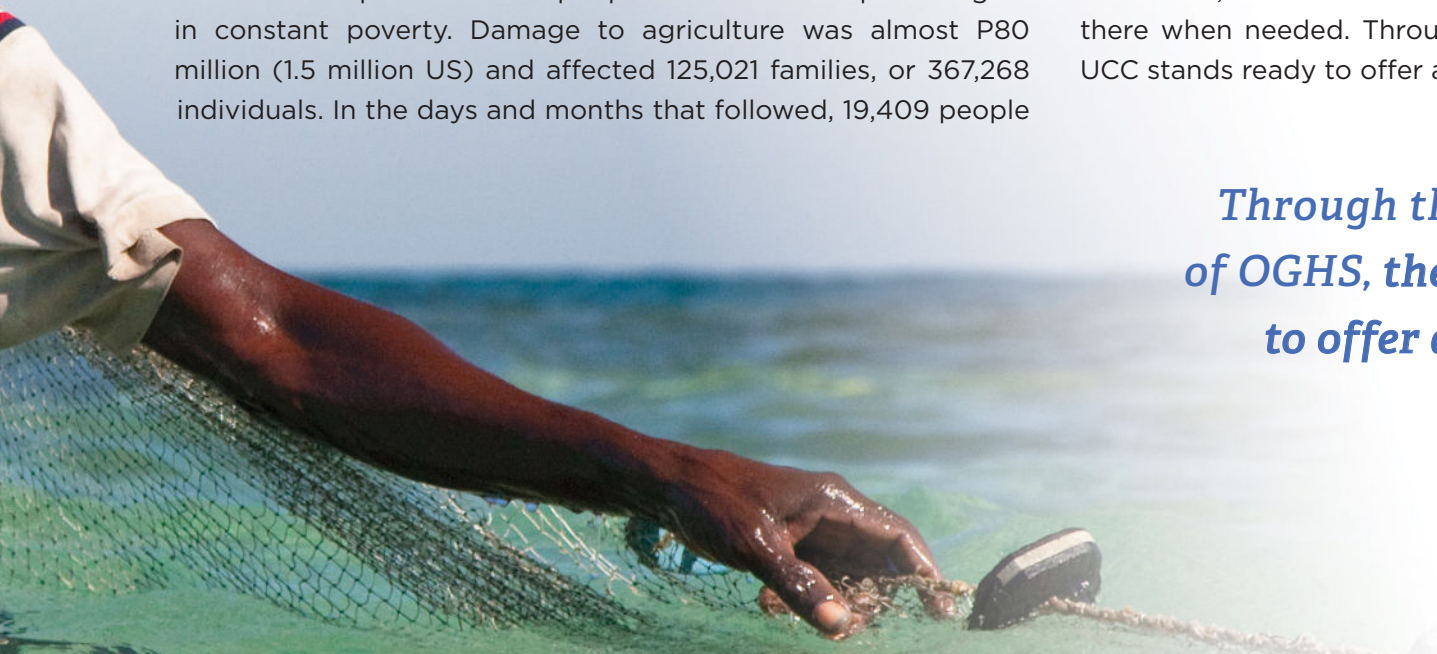
These storms put millions of people in this disaster-prone region in constant poverty. Damage to agriculture was almost P80 million (1.5 million US) and affected 125,021 families, or 367,268 individuals. In the days and months that followed, 19,409 people

were displaced and served inside 41 evacuation centers. The damage included 10,747 partially damaged houses and 2,545 completely destroyed homes.

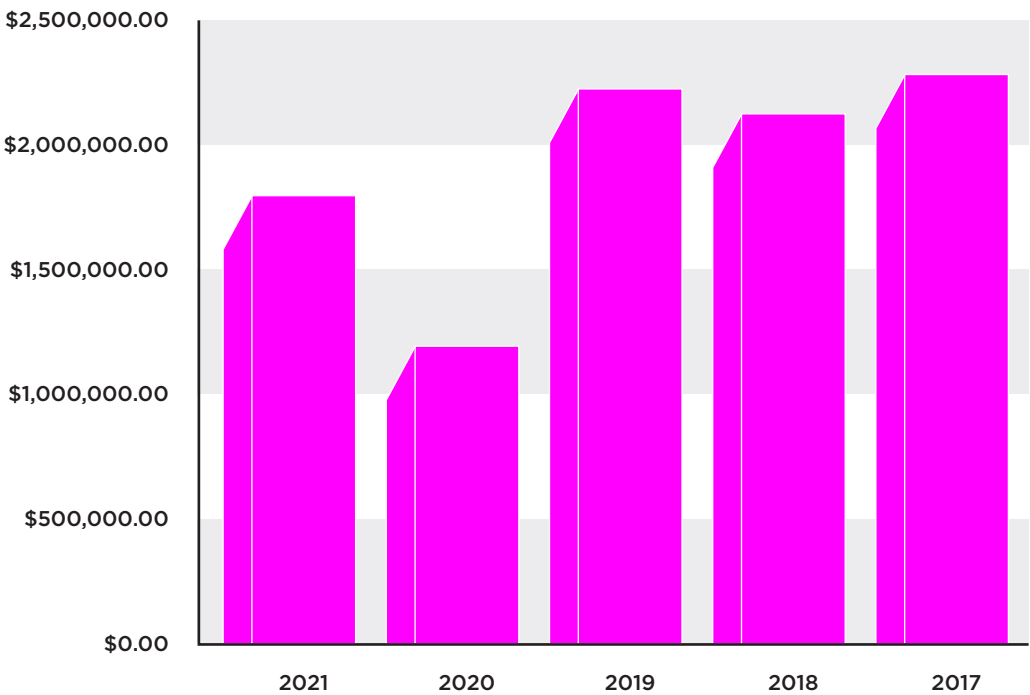
The empowerment of survivors became the primary goal of the UCCP. They educated survivors about Disaster Risk Reduction Management (DRRM) and provided adequate shelter, food security, and psycho-social intervention to begin the trauma healing process. The UCCP also offered medical and dental care, culturally sensitive hygiene products, and livelihood initiatives that contributed to their immediate recovery and long-term rehabilitation.

The Philippines continues to withstand severe annual storms. The UCCP, a United Church of Christ partner, continues to be there when needed. Through the steady support of OGHS, the UCC stands ready to offer a helping hand.

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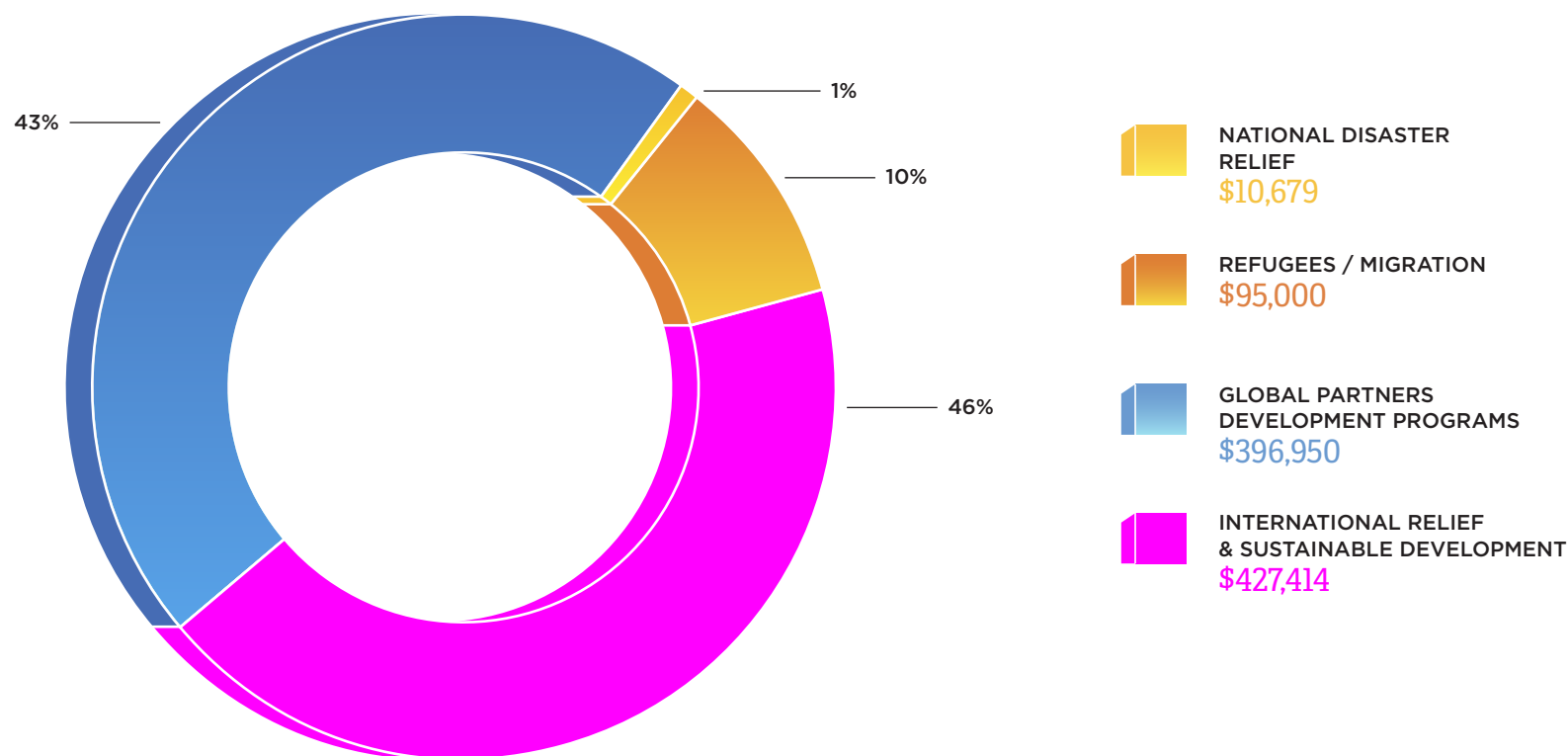
OGHS Offering | 2017-2021



Funds collected from the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Special Offering (and other special appeals) support individuals and communities working in solidarity with local and over 90 global partners. Long-term, multi-level partners include Church World Service (CWS), Action for Churches Together (ACT) Alliance, Growing Hope Globally, Bread for the World, Heifer International, and World Council of Churches (WCC).



2021 OGHS Dollars at Work



In 2021, the UCC Wider Church Ministries distributed a total of \$930,043 with most of the funds supporting International Relief and Sustainable Development (46% or \$427,414); development programs of global partners through our 5 Global Ministries area offices (43% or \$396,950); Refugees/Migration (10% or \$95,000), and National Disasters (1% or \$10,679).

Additional OGHS data is available in the [UCC 2021 Statistical Profile Special Report \(pp. 73-74\)](#).

Top 50 Givers | Per Capita

CHURCH	CONFERENCE	LOCATION
Lahuioikalani Kaanapali Cong UCC	Hawaii	Honokowai, HI
First Congregational UCC	Vermont	Randolph Center, VT
Congregational UCC	Wisconsin	Conrath, WI
Shalom United Church of Christ	Southern New England	New Haven, CT
First United Church of Arvada UCC	Rocky Mountain	Arvada, CO
Shalom United Church of Christ	Pacific Northwest	Spokane, WA
Skyland Community UCC	California, Nevada Northern	Los Gatos, CA
Eastgate Congregational UCC	Pacific Northwest	
First Congregational UCC	Wisconsin	Baraboo, WI
First Congregational Church of East Troy UCC	Wisconsin	East Troy, WI
Federated UCC	Illinois	Paxton, IL
Church of the Foothills UCC	California, Nevada Southern	Santa Ana, CA
Saint Paul's UCC	Minnesota	Delano, MN
United Church of Christ	Wisconsin	McFarland, WI
Fairview Community Church	California, Nevada Southern	Costa Mesa, CA
Deering Community Church UCC	New Hampshire	Deering, NH
Christ Congregational UCC	Rocky Mountain	
United Church of Christ	Central Pacific	Lake Oswego, OR
Saint Paul's Verdilla UCC	Penn Central	Selinsgrove, PA
United Church in University Place	Pacific Northwest	University Place, WA
Seaside Community UCC	California, Nevada Southern	Torrance, CA
Oxford Congregational Church UCC	Maine	Oxford, ME
Rolling Hills Congregational UCC	Kansas-Oklahoma	Salina, KS
First United Church UCC	Southeast	Belvidere, TN
Ladera Community Church	California, Nevada Northern	Portola Valley, CA

CHURCH	CONFERENCE	LOCATION
Magnolia UCC	Pacific Northwest	Seattle, WA
Plymouth UCC	Michigan	Grand Rapids, MI
Saint Mark's UCC	New York	Queens, NY
Congregational Church UCC	Pacific Northwest	Mercer Island, WA
UCC Congregational of the Dalles	Central Pacific	The Dalles, OR
First United Church of Christ	Penn West	Manor, PA
Peace Congregational Church	Southeast	Clemson, SC
Winthrop Congregational UCC	Maine	Winthrop, ME
Pleasant Hill Community Church UCC	Southeast	Pleasant Hill, TN
First Congregational UCC	Illinois	Crystal Lake, IL
Waiokeola Congregational Church UCC	Hawaii	Honolulu, HI
First Congregational Church of Los Guilicos	California, Nevada Northern	Kenwood, CA
Saint Paul's UCC	Rocky Mountain	Laramie, WY
United Christian Parish	Central Atlantic	Reston, VA
Myerstown UCC	Penn Central	Myerstown, PA
The First Church in Jaffrey UCC	New Hampshire	Jaffrey, NH
Center Harbor Congregational Church UCC	New Hampshire	Center Harbor, NH
Mashpee Congregational Church UCC	Southern New England	Mashpee, MA
Saint John/Stolpe UCC	Missouri Mid-South	Hermann, MO
United Church of Paducah	Indiana-Kentucky	Paducah, KY
Zion-Saint Paul UCC	Missouri Mid-South	Hermann, MO
Hoolehua Congregational UCC	Hawaii	Hoolehua, HI
United Church of Copenhagen	New York	Copenhagen, NY
Northshore UCC	Pacific Northwest	Woodinville, WA
Cocoa Beach Community Church UCC	Florida	Cocoa Beach, FL

Top 50 Givers | Dollars

CHURCH	CONFERENCE	LOCATION
First Church of Christ Congregational, Glastonbury	Southern New England	Glastonbury, CT
First Congregational UCC	Illinois	Crystal Lake, IL
First Congregational UCC	Wisconsin	Eau Claire, WI
First United Church of Arvada UCC	Rocky Mountain	Arvada, CO
Plymouth UCC	Michigan	Grand Rapids, MI
First Congregational UCC	Wisconsin	Baraboo, WI
United Church of Christ	Wisconsin	McFarland, WI
Neighborhood Church UCC	California, Nevada Southern	Palos Verdes Estates, CA
Waikeola Congregational Church UCC	Hawaii	Honolulu, HI
First Congregational Church of Palo Alto UCC	California, Nevada Northern	Palo Alto, CA
Pleasant Hill Community Church UCC	Southeast	Pleasant Hill, TN
Skyland Community UCC	California, Nevada Northern	Los Gatos CA
United Church of Christ	Central Pacific	Lake Oswego, OR
The Congregational Church, UCC	Iowa	Iowa City, IA
Mountain Rise UCC	New York	Fairport, NY
Peace UCC	California, Nevada Northern	Santa Cruz, CA
The Good Shepherd UCC	Southwest	Sahuarita, AZ
Church of the Foothills UCC	California, Nevada Southern	Santa Ana, CA
First-Plymouth Congregational UCC	Nebraska	Lincoln, NE
First Congregational Church of Old Lyme	Southern New England	Old Lyme, CT
Claremont UCC	California, Nevada Southern	Claremont, CA
Trinity UCC	Penn Central	East Petersburg, PA
Central Congregational UCC	Southeast	Atlanta, GA
University Congregational UCC	Pacific Northwest	Seattle, WA

CHURCH	CONFERENCE	LOCATION
First Parish UCC	Maine	Brunswick, ME
First United Church of Christ	Minnesota	Northfield, MN
Myerstown UCC	Penn Central	Myerstown, PA
Mission Hills UCC	California, Nevada Southern	San Diego, CA
First Church in Windsor, UCC	Southern New England	Windsor, CT
United Church of Santa Fe UCC	Southwest	Santa Fe, NM
Little River UCC	Central Atlantic	Annandale, VA
The Community Church of Sebastopol, UCC	California, Nevada Northern	Sebastopol, CA
The Congregational Church of Middlebury, UCC	Vermont	Middlebury, VT
Old South Church UCC	Southern New England	Boston, MA
First Congregational UCC	Wisconsin	Oconomowoc, WI
Magnolia UCC	Pacific Northwest	Seattle, WA
Emmanuel UCC	Penn Central	Hanover, PA
Plymouth Congregational UCC	Iowa	Des Moines, IA
Central Congregational UCC	Southern New England	Providence, RI
Macalester Plymouth United Church	Minnesota	Saint Paul, MN
United Church of Christ in New Brighton	Minnesota	New Brighton, MN
Cocoa Beach Community Church UCC	Florida	Cocoa Beach, FL
First Congregational UCC	Wisconsin	Sheboygan, WI
David's UCC	Heartland	Kettering, OH
Charlotte Congregational Church UCC	Vermont	Charlotte, VT
Robbinsdale Parkway UCC	Minnesota	Robbinsdale, MN
First Congregational UCC	Wisconsin	Madison, WI
United Church of Christ at Valley Forge	Pennsylvania Southeast	Wayne, PA
UCC - Congregational	Iowa	Grinnell, IA
First Congregational UCC	Rocky Mountain	Greeley, CO



Thank you for your gifts to the OGHS Offering!


Your support helps bring the fullness of life to some of the most vulnerable people in the world.

Would you consider extending your generosity by offering recurring gifts as a monthly donor to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Special Offering?

[DONATE TODAY AT SUPPORT.UCC.ORG](https://support.ucc.org)

Your monthly gift to OGHS multiplies your impact. Your donations provide safety to refugee families. Your gifts aid victims of flooding and hurricanes and helps them rebuild. Your contribution restores and builds hope for individuals, families, and communities when they need it most and for the long term.

SUPPORT ALL THE [UCC SPECIAL OFFERINGS](#) and become a [5 for 5](#) church.

A young child with dark skin is sitting in a white plastic tub, being washed by an adult whose hands are visible. Water is being poured over the child's head, creating a spray of droplets. The child's face is wet, and water is running down their chest. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green foliage. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**“Nobody hungry, nobody thirsty,
shade from the sun, shelter from the wind,
For the Compassionate One guides them,
takes them to the best springs.”**

- Isaiah 49:10



ucc.org/oghs