One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery.

Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.

Thank you for your gifts!

---------------------

I manage the finances for my family. I take great effort to double check bank statements and account balances, making sure that our money is being used just as we intended. I often carry that over into my practice of giving. I love to hear reports and stories of how my donations have been used.

I also know that giving can sometimes require gently letting go of some of this control. I find this often at practice in love offerings. When we collect love offerings for an individual, it might be for a specific purpose, but we might also trust them to use these resources in the best way that they need at that time.

When we give to One Great Hour of Sharing, it is, in fact, Our Love Offering to the World. We have plenty of reports and stories to track where our giving goes. And yet, the resources are dispersed in a way that allows global partners to utilize gifts in the way that they most need. Our trust and love for our partners, not acting out of control, is a beautiful expression of our faith.

There’s nothing wrong with double checking your financial statements. But I encourage you to join in giving to One Great Hour of Sharing to join in this great outpouring of love. Together, our gifts are a sign of God’s compassion, given freely and generously.

*The Rev. Rachel McDonald works for the National Ministries of the UCC as Generosity Officer, OCWM and Special Mission Offerings. The four Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ are One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund. Together they demonstrate a commitment to building a just world for all. To learn more, go to* [*https://www.ucc.org/smo*](https://www.ucc.org/smo)

---------------------

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a Special Mission Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports partners worldwide with ministries that fund health, education, and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and both international and domestic disaster response. Thank you for your support of this offering!

---------------------

*Prayer for worship or social media*

You provide for all of our needs, O God, even when we do not realize or recognize it. You are the source and we are the resource. You modeled generous giving when you freely offered us your Son, Jesus Christ. Nothing is too wonderful for you. Stir up in us the desire to give cheerfully from the great wellspring of gifts you have gifted to us. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.