

Get Creative with *Gifts for Life*

Here are some fun ideas for fellowship and other ways your community can support Episcopal Relief & Development through our [Gifts for Life](#) program:

- Organize a read-a-thon, dance-a-thon or walk-a-thon. Collect pledges from family friends for each mile or hour of your activity.
- Organize a weekend car wash and use the proceeds to purchase [Gifts for Life](#).
- Arrange a silent auction for your church and community members. Ask members of your congregation to donate items that can be put up for bidding.
- Have your adult or children's Sunday school class host and make an inexpensive dinner with an admission charge. Decide together what [Gifts for Life](#) selections to purchase with the proceeds.
- Encourage your children to write letters to family members, friends, classmates and club or team members to raise money to purchase a special gift. Have them mention that the gift will make a difference for children in need.
- Sponsor a church or neighborhood garage sale. Gather gently used books, crafts, clothes and household goods to sell, and use the money you raise to purchase items from the [Gifts for Life](#) catalog.
- Hold a wine-tasting event and use the proceeds to purchase clean water or other basic needs for a family or community. [Click here](#) to learn how St. Paul's Episcopal, Franklin, TN, hosted a "Wedding at Cana" event.
- Instead of going out to dinner with friends, hold a potluck and put the money saved into a basket. Then go through the [Gifts for Life](#) catalog as a group and choose items based on the amount collected.
- Hold a Game Night and ask people to make a donation in order to participate. The group can then decide together what gifts to purchase with the collected funds.
- "Get the Warden's Goat:" Raise enough money to buy a goat in honor of your church's warden. In the same way, you can "get the priest's goat," the treasurer's, the auditor's or whoever you choose.



- Instead of holding a regular family, office or group gift exchange, pool the funds that would have been spent and choose [Gifts for Life](#) as a group, or give gifts to everyone based on their various interests. For example:
 - * For your child's teacher: [Nurture & Nourish the Earliest Learners](#) or [Educate Children Orphaned by AIDS](#)
 - * For new parents or grandparents: [Care for Moms & Newborns](#)
 - * For an avid gardener: [Seeds, Tools & Training, Fruit Trees](#) or a [Family Garden](#)
 - * For a farmer: a [Cow, Pig](#) or [Flock of Chickens](#)
 - * For someone in health care: [Disaster Relief Kits](#)
 - * In honor of a baptism: [Clean Water](#)
 - * For campers: [Mosquito Nets](#)
 - * For a banker, accountant or church treasurer: [Micro-credit Loans for Women](#)

Ideas contributed by Barb Hagen, former Ministry Partner of the Diocese of Montana. Find out how you can become a Ministry Partner by emailing us at engagement@episcopalrelief.org.