

In-Kind Offering

for the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly

June 16-17, 2006

Each year the Social Ministry committee coordinates an in-kind offering to be collected at the Synod Assembly. This year we are encouraging congregations to participate in two offerings: one a direct service and the other advocacy oriented. If you have any questions about either of these offerings, please contact Rev. Rebecca Gordon at 815-653-3832 or pastorgordon@wonderwave.net.

Thank you for your participation!

#1 Food Boxes for families of 4 for 3 days to be distributed through Lutheran Social Services to people affected by the Gulf Coast hurricanes

Please make up completed boxes of each of the following items:

1 hand can-opener	3-4 cans canned fruit
1 box cereal	3-4 cans soup
2-3 cans beans	2 cans Spam
1 med. canister oatmeal	6-7 cans vegetables
2 boxes breakfast bars	1-2 boxes pasta
4-5 cans tuna or chicken	1 bag rice
1 jar peanut butter	1 jar jelly
1-2 46 oz. jugs of juice OR 10 pack juice boxes	Snacks-cookies, crackers, puddings
Extras-Mac & Cheese, rice mixes, cans Chef Boyardee	

*Note: Large Vietnamese & Buddhist communities were affected in certain Gulf areas—
Extra items for these communities can include Jasmine/Thai rice, soy sauce, noodles, canned sardines/kippers*

Please make up completed, taped boxes with each item rather than individual loose items. We'd like to fill an entire semi-truck. Our goal is 600 boxes.

If each congregation can fill 3-4 boxes we'll meet our goal!

#2 Bread for the World Offering of Letters

Congregations are encouraged to organize letter writing to Senator Dick Durbin, member of the Senate Budget Appropriations Committee, as advocates for the Bread for the World ONE campaign. *These letters can come from anyone of any age!* Please see the ONE flyer and sample letter. Congregations can handwrite letters beforehand in their churches as well as write them at the display table in Centennial Hall during the synod assembly. For questions about letter writing, please contact Carol Wahlstrom at 815-488-3021 or wahlstrom@mchsi.com

***There will be a Social Ministry display table in the lobby of Centennial Hall where you will find more information & letter writing materials.
There will be a semi-truck in the parking lot at Centennial Hall. Volunteers will be present to help you load food boxes onto the truck.***



At the 2006 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly you'll be able to add your voice to the ONE CAMPAIGN by signing the declaration and participating in an Offering of Letters to our legislators.

What is the ONE CAMPAIGN?

A new effort by Americans to rally Americans – ONE by ONE – to fight global AIDS and extreme poverty. The ONE Campaign is a partner with the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, an international effort to fight extreme poverty. The ELCA, Bread for the World, DATA and many other organizations support the ONE Campaign.

What are its goals?

To convince the United States' political leaders to give an additional ONE percent of the U.S. budget to meeting the basic needs of the world's poorest - education, health, clean water, food, and care for orphans.

Why should I get involved?

God calls Lutherans, and we reaffirm that call in our affirmation of baptism, "to strive for justice and peace in all the earth."

The world continues to have a massive amount of poverty:

- Nearly 800 million people do not get enough food, and about 500 million people are chronically malnourished. A third of children are malnourished.
- Of the world's 23 million people living with HIV/AIDS more than 93% live in developing countries.
- More than 840 million adults are illiterate - 538 million of them are women.
- In developing countries 160 million pre-school children are underweight.
- 1.2 billion people live without access to safe drinking water.
- 700 million people in Africa survive on less than a dollar a day.

At this moment it is within our power to give the world's poorest the tools that they require to lift themselves out of poverty. With proper medicines, education and infrastructure 8 million people can be saved from death due to their poverty. **Now is a key time for the fight to end poverty. It can be ended in our lifetime.**

SAMPLE LETTER:

Senator Dick Durbin, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has a key voice in designating funds from the Federal Budget for hunger.

Senator Dick Durbin
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Durbin,

Poverty-focused development assistance strengthens communities around the world and helps poor people overcome poverty, hunger and disease. The fact that 500,000 Africans now have access to HIV drugs, in part due to U.S. funding, shows that U.S. aid makes a difference.

Thanks to that aid, fewer children will become orphaned. However, there is still so much to do to meet the Millennium Development Goals. Please increase poverty-focused development assistance by \$5 billion for 2007 to help the United States do its part in meeting the Millennium Development Goals. If we increase our nation's assistance by this amount each year, we will be able to achieve an additional 1% of the U.S. budget dedicated to poverty reduction by 2010 and meet the promise of doubling aid.

Sincerely,
Your Name
Your Address