



# Christmas —2020—

**TRINITY CHURCH**  
Christmas Project Ideas



## How do I use this booklet?

You'll find a list of ideas and organizations to help spur your thinking for a way that you and your family, friends, or group could bless the spiritually lost and/or physically forgotten in the Greater Lansing area this season. Use one of these ideas, help one of your neighbors, contact one of the organizations for alternative need requests, or do what God brings to mind!

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Jesus said that when we feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, or visit the sick or those in prison, we are caring for HIM.

*Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. Matthew 25:40*

We understand the concerns with serving others during a pandemic, so we encourage you to find a project that fits your comfort level of participation. We have several contactless ways to show the love of Jesus to the Lansing area. Thank you for helping us bless our community as the Body of Christ this Christmas season!

Like and follow us on Instagram and Facebook:



@trinitywired



Trinity Church

Be sure to tag us in your social media posts during your project and use the hashtag: **#lovelansing**.

# Project Ideas



Help pay for a stranger's groceries.



Provide a meal for Saddleback BBQ employees who have served throughout COVID by providing food to SummerPlace and Gardner.



Bless some of Trinity's Elderly/Shut-in folks by meeting a practical need and/or sending a note of encouragement.



Serve an individual or family a meal or fill their freezer and/or pantry with groceries.



Adopt a widow - develop a lasting relationship with one of Trinity's widows.



Collect new or gently used, basic tools such as hammers, tape measures, screw drivers, and pliers. Fill six toolboxes to be delivered to refugee families.



Pay for and pump gas at a local gas station.



Do yardwork or shovel snow for a widow, a single mom, or a family who is struggling.



Spend a Saturday morning sprucing up the yard of someone you know who could use the encouragement. Bring a few tools along and do any small, outdoor repairs you could do while you're there.

# Project Ideas



Deliver goodie bags filled with treats and small gifts to the hard-working *Health Care Heroes* at a local hospital or Urgent Care who are dealing with COVID. Consider including protein bars, a water bottle, lip balm, unscented hand lotion, hand sanitizer, candy, gum, a deck of cards or a small game, a gift card for Starbucks, or other items in the bag.



Create a dozen blessing bags to deliver to one of the homeless shelters. Include items such as Meijer gift cards, new underwear or socks, snacks, winter gloves, hats or ear muffs, wipes, toothbrush and toothpaste, bandaids. a note of encouragement expressing Jesus' love for them and anything else you think of.



Deliver two weeks of homemade freezer meals, a week of carryout food, or a basket containing two weeks worth of groceries to a family facing illness or unemployment. Tuck in some notes of encouragement. Tell the family you'll pray for them and check in on them later - then do it.



Encourage the hard-working staff at your favorite nonprofit agency by dropping off some treats, small gifts, and notes of appreciation to them, recognizing they serve our community all year long.

# Project Ideas



Take a care package to a teacher or several teachers. Include items such as coffee mugs and gourmet coffee or tea, chocolates, bath bombs, a restaurant gift card, hand sanitizer and lotion, ear buds and a quality microphone, or notes of encouragement.



Provide a lunch or dinner for the staff at a small organization, or in one department of a larger one. Make it homemade or cater it. Include a bag of Christmas cookies for each worker to take home.



Provide Amazon gift cards for a single parent to use to buy Christmas gifts for his or her kids. Give him or her one large gift card or a separate one to shop for each child. Include a special gift card for the single parent to pick out something for himself/herself. Tuck in a note of encouragement for him/her and a few Christmas decorations for their home.



Buy one family in need winter coats, boots, hats, and mittens for every family member. Talk to the parent or caregiver and get sizes and color preferences. Deliver as early as possible so they can get the most use out of them this winter!

# Project Ideas



Create a holiday movie night kit for a widow, a single person who lives alone, a family who needs to feel loved, or for the women and children at the City Rescue Mission's Maplewood Center. Pack some good, wholesome DVDs, microwave popcorn, 2-liters of pop, and candies into a gift basket. If you're providing for one person or for a family, add a cozy fleece throw or two. For the Mission, add enough warm, colorful fleece socks to give a pair to each guest to keep her feet warm while she watches movies. Write out a Christmas card with prayers for 2021 and slip that into your basket, too!



Adopt a family – Provide Christmas for a family in need. Either shop for the parent and caregiver, or give the parent or caregiver gift cards to purchase gifts for the children. If you purchase gifts, wrap them up and deliver them close to Christmas. If you give gift cards, add festive wrapping paper, tape, and bows to drop off to the family so that the shopper can do his or her own wrapping. Toss in a gas card and a gift card for Biggby to make it easier for the parent to get out and shop!



Create a care package for an international student staying in student housing for the Christmas season. Be creative! Include books, DVDs, snacks, gift cards, gloves and hat, a fleece throw, hot chocolate mix and a big mug. If you are familiar with the country the student is from, include something that reflects that country's holiday traditions – shop online or at World Market.

## Aria Nursing and Rehab Center

[arianursingandrehab.com](http://arianursingandrehab.com)



Aria, a Trinity local outreach partner, is a nursing and rehab center with the largest number of Medicaid beds in South Lansing. Trinity has served Aria through Love Lansing and during our *Health Care Heroes* project. Some Aria residents are part of our Coffee Club!



**Contact:**

Main Office  
517.393.5680

## Beekman Center

[lansingschools.net/schools/specialty-schools/beekman-center](http://lansingschools.net/schools/specialty-schools/beekman-center)



The Beekman Center serves students of all ages with moderate to severe cognitive and other impairments. The young adult program provides life skills, job training, and transition planning for students with moderate to severe impairments from ages 18-26. Trinity has hosted several proms for Beekman students and has served the school during Love Lansing events.



**Contact:**

Rob Ellis, Principal  
[rob.ellis@lansingschools.net](mailto:rob.ellis@lansingschools.net)  
517.755.1170

## Celebrate Recovery Inside: Women's Jail



Trinity was just invited to start a Bible study at the Ingham County Jail. CR is taking the lead, providing trained leaders to work with the women attending. These women need to know the hope and encouragement Christ has for them and may need practical support as well.



Write encouraging postcards to the women at Ingham County Women's Jail.



### Contact:

Christy Maniscalco, CR Coordinator  
christy.maniscalco@wearetrinity.com  
517.272.3844

## Endeavor House endeavorhouseministries.com



Endeavor House is a Christ-centered residential housing program designed to help men and women find freedom from drug and alcohol addiction through a relationship with Jesus Christ. They have a close relationship with Trinity and with our Celebrate Recovery Ministry.



### Contact:

Michael Keenoy: 517-285-1270  
Dave Sincox: 517-230-0348  
endeavorhouse@outlook.com

## EVE (End Violent Encounters)

eveinc.org



EVE provides supportive services including shelter and counseling to survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, and elder abuse. Trinity has performed service projects for EVE in the past, and a number of EVE residents have attended our weekend gatherings.



**Contact:**  
517.372.5572

## Firecracker Foundation

thefirecrackerfoundation.org



The Firecracker Foundation is a nonprofit social services agency that provides holistic healing services to child survivors of sexual trauma and their families in the tricounty area of Mid-Michigan.



**Contact:**  
517.742.7224

## Gardner International Magnet School

[lansingschools.net/schools/academies/gardner-academy](https://lansingschools.net/schools/academies/gardner-academy)



Gardner is the public school for internationals, making its population about 60 percent children from refugee families from many nations. Its population is also 100 percent eligible for free and reduced lunch. Gardner's mission is *to provide students with excellent instruction in a caring and collaborative environment that empowers them to be global citizens. Students will be innovative, independent, confident, compassionate and collaborative learners.*



### Contact:

Ariel Rodriguez-Pena, Principal  
[ariel.rodriguez-pena@lansingschools.net](mailto:ariel.rodriguez-pena@lansingschools.net)  
517.755.1120

## Give-A-Kid Projects

[givekidprojects.org](https://givekidprojects.org)



Give-a-Kid has several outreach opportunities throughout the year. They are currently working on Give-a-Kid a Christmas, which will likely provide more than 500 area kids with a special Christmas this year. The goal is to provide each child with a new outfit, pair of pajamas, warm blanket, and a few fun items from their wish list. You can help by adopting a family, or purchasing items from their Amazon Wishlist which can be found through the Give-a-Kid Projects website, then ship directly to their building.



### Contact:

Carrie Currin or Brenda Dooley  
[gakp@givekidprojects.org](mailto:gakp@givekidprojects.org)  
517.694.1230

## Greater Lansing Food Bank

[greaterlansingfoodbank.org](http://greaterlansingfoodbank.org)



Simply put, the Greater Lansing Food bank feeds people. They make certain that everyone in our community has access to nutritious food through local food pantries.



**Contact:**

517.908.3680

[glfb@greaterlansingfoodbank.org](mailto:glfb@greaterlansingfoodbank.org)

## Hannah's House

[hannahshouselansing.org](http://hannahshouselansing.org)



Hannah's House provides homeless expectant mothers with food, shelter, and an opportunity to gain the strength and skills they need to raise their children as God would have them do, or to follow an adoption plan if they choose to. Women live free of charge at Hannah's House for up to six months following the birth of their babies and leave with a promising new life ahead of them. A Trinity member chairs the Hannah's House board and others help with household repairs.



**Contact:**

Saundra Lawson, Exec. Dir.

517.331.1415

517.482.5856 (house)

## His Healing Hands



His Healing Hands Ministry includes both a free or reduced cost medical clinic and outreach for Christ to children in a number of Lansing's low-income housing areas, including SummerPlace. Dr. Eleanore Kue has been a recipient of God's hope and wants to share her hope with the hurting. Trinity volunteers have helped Dr. Kue work with children as well as make repairs and paint in the clinic.



**Contact:**

Dr. Eleanore Kue (Koo-way)  
517.303.3595  
eleanorekue@hotmail.com

## Lansing City Rescue Mission

[bearescuer.org](http://bearescuer.org)



The City Rescue Mission of Lansing is the largest shelter in Michigan's capital area. CRM provides shelter to 140 women, children, and men every night and serves about 100,000 meals every year. This Christian ministry exists to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our community.



**Contact:**

Mark Criss, Exec. Dir.  
517.485.0145

## Loaves and Fishes

[loavesandfisheslansing.org](http://loavesandfisheslansing.org)



Loaves and Fishes was founded in response to the critical need for shelter in our Lansing community. This ministry seeks to love, serve, and empower the homeless poor without judgment, as Christ does.



**Contact:**  
517.482.2099

## Medilodge of Capital Area

[medilodgeofcapitalarea.com](http://medilodgeofcapitalarea.com)



Medilodge of Capital Area is a nursing and rehab facility in South Lansing. We have served them through Love Lansing: Christmas. They especially love seeing our Children's Choir perform there!



**Contact:**  
517.272.4029

## Pregnancy Services

[pregnancylansing.com](http://pregnancylansing.com)



Pregnancy Services provides a number of services to women facing an unplanned pregnancy, including free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, and counseling concerning the options of abortion, adoption, or parenting. Pregnancy Services also provides new parents with parent training, cribs, and infant clothing.



### Contact:

517.484.1882

[sharedpregnancy@msn.com](mailto:sharedpregnancy@msn.com)

## Project Angel Tree

[prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/  
angel-tree-christmas](http://prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/angel-tree-christmas)



Trinity's Celebrate Recovery Program has participated in Angel Tree for the past two years. This Prison Fellowship program allows church attenders to provide Christmas gifts for prisoners to give to their children and also connects families to CR and/or to a church.



### Contact:

Christy Maniscalco, CR Coordinator

[christy.maniscalco@wearetrinity.com](mailto:christy.maniscalco@wearetrinity.com)

517.272.3844

## Refugee Development Center

refugeedevelopmentcenter.org



The RDC mission is to cultivate a welcoming, thriving community that collaborates with refugees and newcomers through education, engagement, and support. RDC offers programs for youth and adults that range from crisis mental health support to literacy to job skills training. RDC works actively with both Gardner and SummerPlace and was instrumental in helping Principal Ariel Rodriguez-Pena during his first years in the U.S.



### Contact:

Erika Brown-Binion, Director  
517.999.5090  
ebrown@rdclansing.org

## Shared Pregnancy

sharedpregnancy.org



Shared Pregnancy is committed to help any woman with an unexpected or challenging pregnancy. Their trained staff provides up-to-date information about pregnancy, abortion procedures, adoption, and community referrals. Their services are free, confidential, and evidenced-based. Trinity has worked with Shared Pregnancy a number of times over the years.



### Contact:

517.648.4519

## Sparrow's Nest (Christian Services)

sparrows-nest.org



Sparrow's Nest seeks to make homeless moms into homeowners. Their four-part strategy includes surrounding the family with the ongoing support of a trained church ministry team, providing training and mentoring in life skills, encouraging accountability and goal setting, and offering the opportunity to complete the program and earn a home they can afford to own. Numerous Sparrow's Nest moms have attended Trinity and been a part of our ministries.



### Contact:

Michael Welch 517.394.5413  
Shawn Cox 517.881.1858

## St. Luke's Lutheran

knowingjesus.org/home



St. Luke's Lutheran Christ Center in Lansing is running a fall and winter coat bank.



### Contact:

517.482.2252

## St. Vincent Catholic Charities

stvcc.org



The mission of St. Vincent Catholic Charities is to share the love of Christ by performing corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Services include foster care, a children's home, refugee resettlement, an immigration law clinic, and a marriage program called *A Lasting Promise*.



### Contact:

Veronika Parsamova - Refugee services  
parsamv@stvcc.org  
Sara Pettit 810.730.8357

## SummerPlace Townhomes



SummerPlace is a Trinity local outreach partner. This low-income housing complex almost exclusively houses refugees, so many of the children attend Gardner. Trinity literally has the key to the community center, the manager has welcomed us so openly! Trinity has run homework help and a youth soccer club with SummerPlace kids.



### Contact:

Ray Neatfeld, Manager  
Diego, Assistant Manager, 517.803.5712  
517.393.3820 (office)

## The House of Promise

thehouseofpromise.com



Did you know that one in three women in our society has been sexually abused at some time in their lives? The House of Promise provides survivors of sex abuse and sex trafficking a place to heal. Through the unconditional love of Jesus, plus training, counseling, and skill building, the girls and women who live here can rebuild their lives and reintegrate into society.



**Contact:**

Shari Montgomery, Exec. Dir.  
517.282.9924

## Trinity Church Widows



Trinity's widows and older single women can often use help with yardwork, simple housing repairs, and just reminding them they are loved by Jesus and by us!



**Contact:**

Kathy Vanderlaan  
517.272.3825  
kathy.vanderlaan@wearetrinity.com