

Simple Gifts for Christmas

For as little as \$15, you can buy a gift of hope for our neighbours in Stratford or around the world on behalf of someone on your gift list, and a beautiful St. James Christmas card with a message to tell your friend or family member what you have given on their behalf.

Building Community \$15

L'Arche Stratford and Community Living providing shared homes and supported independent living for people with developmental disabilities.

Safe Shelter, New Hope \$20

Stratford/Perth Shelterlink providing homeless or at-risk youth food, shelter, community referrals and support to help them make good choices, stay in school, find employment or attend counselling.

Caring for the Sick \$20

Jean Aitcheson's Medical Mission Depot in Stratford, supporting interdenominational, faith-based volunteer missions that provide medical care and project work in impoverished Latin American countries.

Healing and Renewal \$20

Anglican Healing Fund response to the ongoing legacy of the residential schools: programs for healing, education, and recovery of Indigenous languages and cultures.

Improving Lives in Nicaragua \$30

Stratford-based COMMIT team, providing medical clinics, clean water and sanitation, eco-friendly stoves, sustainable vegetable gardens, and educational and social support in an impoverished region.

Saving Young Lives \$30

Anglican Indigenous Ministries program providing trained suicide prevention counsellors in First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities.

Clean Water to Save Lives \$50

An Aquabox will be sent on your behalf to purify water in an area struck by disaster – enough to supply a family of five with safe, clean drinking water for up to a year.

The full amount of your purchase goes to the organization or program chosen and is included in your tax-deductible givings to St. James.

Purchasing Simple Gifts

Once again St. James Outreach Committee is offering parishioners a way to not only to please friends and relatives with a beautiful Christmas card but at the same time to make an important contribution to a charity. We again are doing it by phone or email. This is how it works:

- Information about the charities we are supporting and pictures of the different cards are posted on the St. James' website (<https://www.stjamesstratford.ca/simple-gifts>). Each card design is numbered to make ordering easier.

There also is a display board at the back of the church with samples of the cards with their numbers, and information about the charities will be available there as well.

- Select a charity and select a Christmas card design for you to send to your friend or family member. A card detailing this charity will be inserted into the Christmas card.
- Contact Lori Colbeck (519-271-1142 or lady_jane@wightman.ca) to place your order stating:
 - A. your selected charity (charities) and your selected card(s) by number
 - B. your name, address and phone number.
- Lori or another Outreach Committee members will deliver your cards to your home.

Payment is by cheque ONLY payable to St. James Anglican Church with 'Simple Gifts' in the memo line. You may give your cheque to the person who delivers your cards, or take it to the St. James office by Wednesday, December 21.