

St. John's Christmas Outreach Opportunities



Sharing Tree

Share Christmas blessings
with a Midland child or family in need.

*Pick a tag from the tree in our church narthex.

- ❖ **Greens tags** remain the same. Purchase items on tag & bring to church by **Dec 3**.
- ❖ **New red tags** are for online shopping; folks may shop until **Dec 22** using red tags.

Please see Suzanne DiPiazza if you have questions: suzanne@sjec-midland.org, 631-2260

United Way of Midland County's Sharing Tree program helps the community fill holiday wishes for Midland neighbors in need. Now, as Sharing Tree enters its 27th year, United Way offers the option to shop online through the Sharing Tree Impact Store. Items such as gas cards, grocery gift cards, utility vouchers, transportation tickets, household items, clothing, toys, books and local entertainment tickets are available through this quick, easy and secure shopping option.

***Red-tag shoppers** can visit the mobile-friendly Sharing Tree Impact Store www.sharingtreemidland.com to fulfill Christmas wishes now through Dec. 22. **Green-tag shoppers** should bring gifts to church by Dec. 3.

ERD Gifts For Life

This is the third year St. John's is coordinating an annual parish contribution to **ERD** as a Christmas greeting to each other and others whom we love, honor or admire. Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) is the international relief and development agency of the National Episcopal Church. This year's "Gifts For Life" focus will be on gardens, animals and community health workers to provide nutrition and a source of income for poor families; and health care for children. **By Nov. 20, make a contribution to send a Parish Gift to families in need and sign our Church Community Christmas Card to each other. Write your check to: Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD), memo designation: Gifts for Life.**

Place your check in the Offering Plate or give to an usher. Your contribution is tax deductible.

Our goal in 2017 is a contribution of \$3,500 to fund 20 family gardens, 25 flocks of chickens and training for 5 community health care workers.



Epiphany Blessings Bags

Now through Dec 31, St. John's is collecting new or gently used socks, gloves, and warm hats to include in Epiphany Blessing Bags. In year one of what we hope will be an annual Epiphany tradition for us, this year's donations will be distributed through Saginaw's Hearth Home and other Great Lakes Bay Health Centers. These clinics see many homeless persons who lack these items. We aim to collect 150 sets (a Sesquicentennial challenge)! Bags will be distributed after the Epiphany, so **please bring donations to the labeled box in our narthex the prior Sunday, Dec. 31.** Questions? Contact Suzanne: suzanne@sjec-midland.org, 631-2260.