



Mennonite
Central
Committee



Find
goats and
chickens on
page 4!

2023 Christmas Giving Guide

Gifts of comfort & joy

This issue of Christmas Giving is a supplement to *A Common Place*.

Choose gifts that *change lives*

Why choose gifts through MCC?

Sometimes the best gifts are ones that you can't simply pull off a shelf. This Christmas, we invite you to explore all the ways that you can share gifts of comfort and joy for the world.

What gifts may delight your loved ones the most? Which ones will inspire your family to see the change that we each can spark across the globe?

May the selections here give you new ways to show those most important to you how much joy it can bring to make a difference together.

Every generous act of *giving*,
with every perfect gift, is from
above, coming down from the
Father of lights.

James 1:17 NRSV



New this year!

Give
every gift
in the guide*

\$733

*Excludes
give big options



\$25

Clean water
close to
home

Imagine walking hours for the water you need for drinking, cooking or cleaning. This gift brings water closer to home for more people like Benedicte Masamba, who helps oversee this clean water source in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



\$100

Wells

A new well is cause for delight for communities like this one in Ethiopia's Amhara region. Around the world, wells provide a needed alternative to often-contaminated water sources like springs or streams. This gift helps improve the lives and health of families and even whole communities.

Give big

Full cost of a well = \$6,000



Chickens

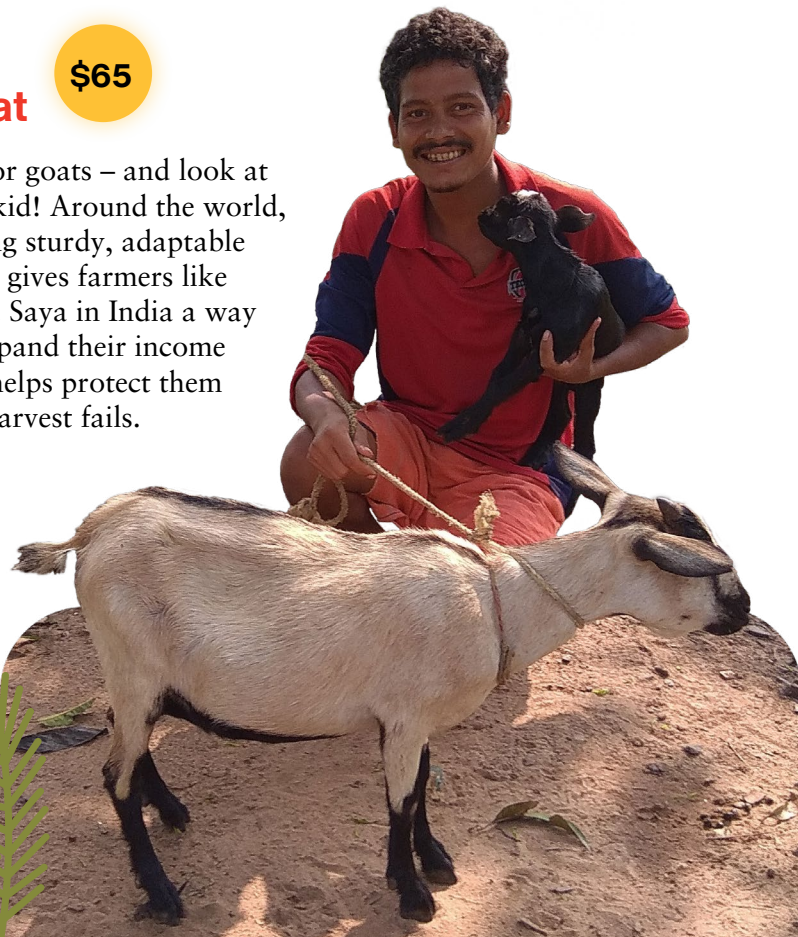
\$10

Fund a flock. This gift helps farmers establish a small flock of chickens, providing a ready source of eggs and meat. As the birds reproduce, so do the earnings.

Goat

\$65

Go for goats – and look at that kid! Around the world, raising sturdy, adaptable goats gives farmers like Sama Saya in India a way to expand their income and helps protect them if a harvest fails.



Rabbit

\$25

A fast-growing gift, rabbits can be raised in small spaces and provide a valuable source of income and protein in places like the Gaza Strip. And rabbits like this one in Uganda diversify farms, helping families adapt to the impacts of climate change.



Give big

Farmyard

\$269

The gift of two goats, two rabbits, two pigs, plus chickens and ducks, provides a head start for multiple families, boosting income and opportunity.

Ducks

\$15

How often can you give a gift that quacks? Ducks like these that Ruzina Begum is raising in Bangladesh are high egg producers and are resistant to disease. A gift of \$15 covers the cost of 10 ducklings.





Bicycle

\$78

A perfect fit for the cyclists in your life. In agricultural projects from Bangladesh to Malawi to Uganda, the gift of a bicycle gives lead farmers like Michael Snate or project staff a way to travel to connect with and advise other farmers or to attend trainings.

Eco-friendly stove

\$15

This gift honors women and the planet. By cooking faster and using some 60% less firewood than the traditional method of cooking over an open fire, these stoves save trees and mean less time gathering firewood for women like Margaret Biton in Malawi.



A gift of hope

Invest in a brighter future today.

A gift of hope is used where it's needed most around the world, making a difference for children like Brsha Hembrom and Afia Baski. Through an MCC-supported multilingual education project in Bangladesh, they have a chance to start learning in their own Indigenous language, easing their transition to government schools, where instruction is in Bengali.

This is just one way that your gifts help local partners forge creative initiatives tailored to their communities.



Generosity resource

Download this fun activity to teach children about generosity! Use the QR code to get your free PDF.



\$30

Healthy families

This gift helps farmers like Kung Sony in Cambodia grow more nutritious and diverse food, including the wood apple, papaya, banana and mango that she is cutting for her children Visana Tyka, Visana Somneang and Visana Dawieng, as well as neighbor Maly Somaa.



\$12

Music lessons

Give a gift of music, tradition and culture. Through an afterschool music program in Palestine, youth like Sara Ghabbash from Aida Refugee Camp are learning to play the oud and other musical instruments traditional to Palestinian culture.



\$16

Meals at school

School lunches and breakfasts offer a valuable boost to student health and nutrition at schools like this one in South Sudan, and raise student attendance rates. Students whose bellies are full have a better chance of concentrating on lessons and staying in school.



Keeping girls in school

\$50

This gift helps ensure that girls like Trina Hagidok of Bangladesh have access to education. In Bangladesh, as in other countries, parents who cannot afford the cost of educating all their children may decide to keep daughters out of school. This gift provides education for all.





\$65

Emergency food

Like a covered dish you can send across the globe, this gift provides needed sustenance for families such as Malaya and Maly (last names not used for security reasons) in Ukraine. In the midst of war, the couple, shown with their 4-year-old Nikol, relies on an MCC partner for food packages and cooked meals.

Plant a garden

Help families grow more food in sustainable ways and improve their soil. In this project in El Salvador, farmers like Manuel de Jesus Elias and Maria Magdalena Perez exchange seeds and build seed banks, helping restore biodiversity and preserve Indigenous crops.

\$45



\$150

Sewing machine

Give people like Rejoice Alojo a chance to stitch their way to a brighter future. A graduate of an MCC-supported program in South Sudan, Alojo sews clothes for women in her tailoring shop, earning money that provides food, medicine, clothing and school fees for her children.



"This is a great opportunity for us to teach giving to our grandchildren."

Wilf and Pearl Pauls of British Columbia gave each of their eight grandchildren a book and a chance to pick a \$25 gift from MCC's Christmas Giving Guide. "No one missed a larger gift and the parents (our adult kids) were so grateful for what had just happened."





Place
your order
today!



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MAIL

Select gifts on the enclosed envelope, and indicate the quantity of giving cards that you want to send to your loved ones, highlighting the gifts you've chosen (see card image below).

PHONE

Call toll-free
888.563.4676 to talk to an MCC representative.
Call by Dec. 4 to order printed giving cards and inserts that you can send to your loved ones.

ONLINE

Go to **mcc.org/christmas** to choose your gifts.

Piglet

\$32

Give the gift of a winsome snout and the potential of handsome earnings. Raising pigs generates income that helps people like Mary Ilero in Uganda start new businesses, raise more animals and even improve homes and farms.

