

Sardis Presbyterian Church

ALTERNATIVE

GIFT MARKET

Giving that makes a real difference



2021 Catalog

ALLEGRO FOUNDATION



Your gift can help to improve the lives of children with intellectual disabilities, Down syndrome, orthopedic challenges (wheelchairs and walkers), spina bifida, cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, visual and hearing impairments, muscular dystrophy, children "at-risk", and children with cancer by providing free programs that combine movement instruction with educational and medical expertise,

*creating new techniques to teach children with disabilities. When Sardis embraced **Allegro's** mission with open arms in 2000, Allegro had only 8 students with disabilities in the program, which met weekly in the Fellowship Hall. Since 2000, that single program has blossomed into 54 programs serving more than 800 children with disabilities in Charlotte and surrounding communities.*

BLESSINGS FOR BAYONNAIS, HAITI



Your gift can help to improve the lives of our friends in the mountainous region of Bayonnais, Haiti, through the new coordinating group, Friends Empowering Haiti (formerly OFCB), which provides education, medical care and nutritious food to children and families. The poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti is located east of the island of Cuba in the West Indies.

*Gifts to the **School Fund** provide educational support for nearly 2,500 students who attend the school every day. This fund also provides a daily meal—often the only meal of the day for many of the children. The school also serves as a safe haven for children in crisis.*

*Gifts to the **Medical Clinic** provide care and support for over 2,600 patients every year. The clinic serves as one of the few within the region, where people travel near and far across the island of Haiti seeking treatments and medications.*

CARE RING



*Your gift to **Care Ring** will support the growth of its Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program for low-income, first-time mothers and their babies in Mecklenburg County. Through regular visits by a Registered Nurse from the NFP, the mothers are able to improve their pregnancy outcomes, learn essential parenting skills, and gain the ability to achieve self-sufficiency until their child is two years old.*

FAMILIES FORWARD CHARLOTTE



Your gift will help families in our community as they navigate the challenges of poverty; striving to achieve their financial, educational, employment, and family goals. **Families Forward Charlotte** provides individualized mentoring, educational opportunities, and essential support as the mentor walks alongside each family on their journey toward long-term stability and economic mobility.

LOAVES & FISHES



Your gift can help hungry children and families in our community. **Loaves and Fishes**, through a network of 41 emergency food pantries, provides nutritionally-balanced groceries to individuals and families across Mecklenburg County who are experiencing a short-term crisis. Of the over 80,000 people who were helped by Loaves and Fishes last year, 36% of them were children.

RAMA ROAD ELEMENTARY BACKPACK PROGRAM



Your gift will support the **Backpack Program** through Planting Seeds of Hope, our partnership with Rama Road Elementary School. This program provides a backpack filled by Second Harvest Foodbank with nutritious, ready-to-eat or easy-to-prepare foods on weekends and holidays for children at the school who are at risk of hunger. Often, this is their only source of food for the weekend.

HOW IT WORKS:

- Fill out the AGM order form and attach your check payable to Sardis Presbyterian Church. **Return on or before December 19.**
- Mail your completed order form and check to: Sardis Presbyterian Church, Attn: AGM, 6100 Sardis Rd., Charlotte, NC 28270.
- You may also order from the Alternative Gift Market online at www.sardis.org.
- If you desire an acknowledgement card(s) to notify a loved one or friend of your gift, please follow the instructions on the back page. **(PLEASE NOTE: The deadline for requesting acknowledgement cards is December 15.)**

Sardis Presbyterian Church Alternative Gift Market

Many people around the world are facing daily struggles, especially due to the Covid-19 virus. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to care for the sick, feed the hungry, and provide shelter for the homeless. The Sardis Alternative Gift Market gives us the opportunity to help alleviate the burdens of our neighbors, both near and far, during this critical time. You are invited to select one or more ways to give in the name of Christ. Your help is greatly needed and appreciated.

What is an Alternative Gift?

In the season of Advent, we are reminded of the birth of Jesus and the gifts of the Shepherds and the Magi to the Christ Child. Your Alternative Gift will empower individuals who are struggling, giving them the opportunity for a brighter future. Our gifts will help to lift people out of poverty, furnish nutritious meals, provide essential medical care and/or facilitate basic education for children in Charlotte and in Haiti. After purchasing an Alternative Gift, you may request an acknowledgement card to notify a loved one/friend of your gift. Please see below.

Acknowledgement Cards Available

Attractive cards are available for each of the ministries, if you wish to notify a friend or loved one of your gift(s). If you desire to receive acknowledgement cards, please indicate on the AGM Order Form the number of cards you desire for each ministry; and return your completed order form before December 15. Your acknowledgment cards will be placed in the mail to you no later than December 16. If you request more than five (5) cards, you will be contacted to arrange a pick-up from the church.



Sardis Presbyterian Church | 6100 Sardis Rd. | Charlotte, NC 28270
704.366.1854 | www.sardis.org