

## Global Opportunities

### CREATING HOPE INTERNATIONAL

CHI focuses on supporting girls and women in Afghanistan through its partner, Afghan Institute for Learning. Both organizations are headed by a remarkable and brave Afghan woman, Dr. Sakena Yacoobi. Referred to as “The Mother of Education” in Afghanistan, Dr. Yacoobi has been building programs through holistic education & health for girls in Afghanistan for over 30 years. AIL serves 16 provinces in Afghanistan, providing quality education and health & legal services, with a great focus on peace, leadership and women’s rights programs that will impact future generations to enact real change within the country.

Following recent events, the current situation in Afghanistan has become a humanitarian crisis. The number of displaced Afghans, violence, & poverty are drastically rising. Children becoming orphans, families torn apart or on the run out of fear, child mortality rates are at their highest due to malnutrition, and no more easy access to healthcare—the consequences go on to be a heartbreaking nightmare of a life the Afghans are living through today.

The time is critical. AIL has continued all regular programs successfully—while also now providing humanitarian relief to thousands of families, women and children.  
[www.afghaninstituteoflearning.org](http://www.afghaninstituteoflearning.org)

### MISSIONVALE CARE CENTRE

The Missionvale Care Centre is an interdenominational non-profit organization operating in the extremely poor township of Missionvale in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. It was founded by Sister Ethel Normoyle, from humble beginnings, under a tree in 1988. It has grown into a center that provides love and care for the poor and destitute, with particular emphasis on those living with HIV/AIDS. It is at the heart of a sustainable and harmonious community with access to health, wellbeing and educational services delivered with love and care.

<https://www.missionvale.co.za/>

### FISTULA FOUNDATION

The Fistula Foundation believes that no woman should have to suffer a life of shame and isolation simply for trying to bring a child into the world. It is dedicated to raising awareness of and funding for obstetric fistula, a wrenching childbirth injury, in Africa and Asia. The Fistula Foundation does one thing, and it does it well — treat obstetric fistula. Few investments in human health can yield such a dramatic impact on a woman, her family and her community. Since 2009, it has delivered life-transforming surgeries at more than 150 sites in 33 countries across Africa and Asia. It is the global leader in the battle against obstetric fistula.

<https://fistulafoundation.org/>



### JOY OF GIVING 2021

The Joy of Giving is a Christmas tradition at First Palo Alto United Methodist Church, an opportunity to show Christ’s love to people in our local community and the world.

Through the Joy of Giving, you indicate to which listed organization(s) your financial gift should be allocated. Consider giving a gift in honor of someone on your Christmas list. This makes a very thoughtful gift. We will provide you a gift card you can personalize for gift-giving.

All gifts are tax deductible.

## JOY OF GIVING 2021

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please distribute my gift as follows.

### Opportunities at Our Doorstep

\_\_\_\_\_ Pastor's Discretionary Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Coding Collaboratives

\_\_\_\_\_ Ecumenical Hunger Program (EHP)

### Global Opportunities

\_\_\_\_\_ Creating Hope International

\_\_\_\_\_ Missionvale Care Centre

\_\_\_\_\_ Fistula Foundation

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total Amount**

Make check payable to  
**First United Methodist Church**  
and identify for "Joy of Giving"  
in the memo line. Mail to:  
625 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301

**This donation does not contribute to the operating church budget covered by your annual pledge.**



## Opportunities at Our Doorstep

### Pastor's Discretionary Fund

This fund allows our pastor to confidentially provide assistance to members and community members in need. COVID-19's economic and employment impact on those most vulnerable is starting to appear. The federal subsidies and eviction moratorium stopped the hemorrhaging, however, those benefits have ceased, and we project that we will receive more requests for assistance. Typical requests: temporary housing, toiletries, shoes, coats, diapers, clipper cards, food, school application fees, Christmas toys, backpacks, and funeral assistance. Your continued generosity keeps our church known as a friend to the poor.

### Coding Collaboratives

Coding Collaboratives is a group of students, parents, grandparents, professionals, and community supporters who work together for the good of teaching and inspiring our future technology professionals. Coding Collaboratives is open to students in the United States that are curious about technology. CC is driven by a belief that all students regardless of background or position can challenge themselves in a virtual classroom environment to have a functional knowledge of programming languages and understand the basics of computer security and project development. This is accomplished via a mentor, mentee relationship with stem professionals who have a strong interest in developing the minds of our youth. Each

student identifies and completes a project of their own choosing. Over the course of the semester, students engage in a combination of lectures and hands-on learning as mentors guide them towards project completion. Coding Collaboratives gives students in underserved communities an opportunity to engage in S.T.E.M. learning.

### Ecumenical Hunger Program

EHP is a non-profit organization located in East Palo Alto. EHP aids local families and individuals who are experiencing economic and personal hardship, helping them regain stability and independence. EHP's holiday food program is a special distribution of food items for the holidays. These boxes include everything that a family might need to make Christmas dinner with plenty of leftovers for the following week. EHP also provides personal care packages to families struggling to secure everyday essentials such as soap, shampoo and toilet paper. At Christmas, gift cards are given to teenagers, who often serve a caretaker role in their families who cannot afford childcare.

<http://www.ehpcares.org>



Neighbors Helping Neighbors  
Food, Clothing & So Much More!