

**First Presbyterian Church  
of Murray, Kentucky**

**2021**

**Alternative Christmas Gift Market**



**Catalog of Participating Organizations**



*In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" -Acts 20:35*

## Dear Members and Friends,

Since its inception in 2003, the Alternative Christmas Gift Market has become a beloved tradition for members of First Presbyterian Church of Murray. Simply put, it helps us remember the true meaning of the Christmas Season. Sponsored by our Outreach Committee, this annual opportunity to give an "alternative" gift that benefits God's world and His children has become a favorite way to shop for friends and relatives who already seem to have everything. Alternative gifts may be given in honor of or in memory of a loved one and offer a unique way to give a meaningful gift that gives twice. Truly!

Sincerely, your FPC Outreach Committee

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS SEASON

*With the Alternative Christmas Gift Market at First Presbyterian Church of Murray, Kentucky.*

This catalog describes each of the gift opportunities available for your consideration. Simply select your favorite choices, fill out your order form, and mail the completed form and your check to First Presbyterian Church.

You will be given a lovely gift card that was created by Brenda Marquardt, a former member of FPC Murray, to send to your gift recipient. This gift announcement card will let your friends, neighbors, teachers, or loved ones know that you have donated to a charity in their honor (or in memory of someone they love).

Please make your check payable to "First Presbyterian Church". Contributions to each particular charity will be added together and sent to the charity as one large amount. Your donation will be recorded on your Quarterly Statement from the church.

Please review this catalog to find the gifts of healing and hope that speak most to you. Giving to others less fortunate is an integral part of Christianity. As believers, we strive to be imitators of God and give to others as He has given to us. God has so richly blessed each of us. Let us give Him thanks by generously sharing our resources.



*Candle of Light gift card designed by  
by Brenda Marquardt*

*"God is light; in God there is  
no darkness at all."*

*1 John 1:5*

## 1. Need Line

**Cost: \$5.00**



Murray Calloway County  
Need Line

Need Line is a community organization that serves to feed the hungry, assist with basic needs, and provide a bridge to wellness and financial security through education, counseling, and advocacy for the citizens of Calloway County. Especially as natural gas and other utilities become more expensive this winter, donations to Need Line will be important in aiding local families who are suddenly unable to pay rent, utility, electric and gas bills. Gifts to this fund will allow Need Line staff to assist those in need so that they can focus on the true meaning of Christmas, instead of worrying about making ends meet. To learn more about Need Line, please visit: [www.needlinemcc.com/mission/](http://www.needlinemcc.com/mission/).

## 2. Soup for the Soul

**Cost: \$5.00**



The mission of Murray's Soup for the Soul is to "serve the hungry of our community by sharing the love of God through giving food for the body, kindness for the soul, and hope for the future." Originally relying on volunteer staff (including crews from First Presbyterian!) to cook and serve hot dinners,

Soup for the Soul has adapted to the pandemic by distributing bagged "to-go" meals each weekday evening. This organization also provides food sacks, delivered with books, during the summer Lunch and Literacy Program for schoolchildren and hosts the Community Thanksgiving dinner, with takeout or delivered meals this year. To learn more about Soup for the Soul, please visit: [www.soup4thesoul.org](http://www.soup4thesoul.org).

## 3. Lost But Loved (LBL) Animal Rescue

**Cost: \$5.00**



This organization rescues local shelter animals from euthanization by placing them in foster homes, here and as far away as Cape Girardeau and Nashville. The animals are fully vetted, spayed/neutered, and tested. They are treated for diseases such as parvo and heartworms. Bills for treatment can run as high as \$1,500. LBL also rescues abused and neglected horses, donkeys, pigs, birds, and other animals, returns them to health, finds foster homes, and then adopts them out. LBL educates the public on the importance of spaying/neutering pets, as well as the importance of ID tags and/or micro-chipping. They have rescued well-over 3,000 animals and they built and maintain the Dog Park in Murray. LBL offers the opportunity to plant trees in the Dog

Park in memory of a pet or a person. LBL works with the "Pilots and Paws" program to fly pets to their new home in other states. They rely completely on donations and do not receive any government funds or money from United Way. LBL consists of a small group of people who donate their time, homes, and weekends to help animals find forever homes. For more information, call Laura Jones at (270) 293-5180, email [lblrescue@hotmail.com](mailto:lblrescue@hotmail.com), or visit [www.lblrescue.com](http://www.lblrescue.com).

## 4. Laundry Love

**Cost: \$10.00**

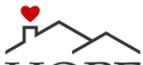


Laundry Love is an essential service and ministry provided by three churches in Murray who participate quarterly by hosting a night for the free use of washers and dryers for families and individuals in need. The Churches who participate are First Presbyterian, First Christian, and St. John's Episcopal. Unfortunately, Covid-19 has presented a threat to our volunteers and made it impossible for the churches to safely implement this as a community event. We are now donating money to the five Family Resource Centers in the Murray

Independent schools and the Calloway County schools. This money is distributed to families with school-age children who are deemed in need of these services. It is our hope to revisit the original plan when it is safe to be in close contact with those we serve.

## 5. HOPE Calloway

**Cost: \$10.00**



**HOPE CALLOWAY**

HOPE Calloway, newly formed in 2020, is a merger of two community organizations that focus on the issue of homelessness in Calloway County: Gentry House and MCC Homeless Coalition. The mission of HOPE Calloway is to show compassion to the homeless and underserved members of Calloway County by providing transitional housing, outreach services, prevention education, and emergency assistance. HOPE Calloway connects each client to individual, supportive coaching, to help address the root causes of homelessness and provide a path to long-term stability and success. According to HOPE Calloway's website, "Each organization brought unique strengths to the table, and one year later, HOPE Calloway was born. HOPE Calloway is the fruit of these organization's labor and is better equipped to serve the community together. The passion and drive from Gentry House and MCC Homeless Coalition live on in HOPE Calloway as we continue fighting the fight against homelessness in Calloway County." To learn more about HOPE Calloway, please, visit [www.hopecalloway.org](http://www.hopecalloway.org).

## 6. Main Street Youth Center

**Cost: \$10.00**



Located in Murray, the Main Street Youth Center is a community youth center open to children 7-18 years old, after school from 2:30-5:30 p.m. on MWF, and from 7-10 p.m. on Saturday nights. Its mission is to support and strengthen youth in body, mind, soul, and spirit. The children receive a meal each day of pizza, chips, and a drink. To meet their goal, MSYC offers recreational programs for children, including After School Outreach, Open Hours, Juvenile Community Service Hours, Dove Program, and Boys 2 Men. Their goal is to keep their doors open for the children. They serve 100 individual children a week. No longer a United Way agency, MSYC needs generous local contributions to continue its mission. Its staff are all volunteers. It also needs funds to add new and different games and play materials and replace others that wear out. Donations are also needed to buy healthy snacks. Prayers to keep the doors open are requested. For more information, call (270) 753-8336 or David Hudspeth at (270) 293-2137 email: [dh@murray-ky.net](mailto:dh@murray-ky.net).

## 2021 Alternative Christmas Gift Market Order Form

Organization Name	Price Per Gift	# Gifts Purchased	Total
<b>1. Need Line</b> ___ In Honor ___ In Memory of: _____	\$5		
<b>2. Soup for the Soul</b> ___ In Honor ___ In Memory of: _____	\$5		
<b>3. Lost But Loved</b> ___ In Honor ___ In Memory of: _____	\$5		
<b>4. Laundry Love</b> ___ In Honor ___ In Memory of: _____	\$10		
<b>5. HOPE Calloway</b> ___ In Honor ___ In Memory of: _____	\$10		
<b>6. Main Street Youth Center</b> ___ In Honor ___ In Memory of: _____	\$10		
<b>Please Make Checks Payable to First Presbyterian Church</b>	<b>Order Total</b>		<b>\$</b>

Using the enclosed envelope, please return your completed order form and check payment (made payable to First Presbyterian Church) by Sunday, December 19, 2021.

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Order Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church.**

**Thank you for supporting our 2021 Alternative Christmas Gift Market!**

*(To Be Completed by the Outreach Committee)*

**Payment Received** \_\_\_\_ **Check #** \_\_\_\_\_