



# St. Martin's 2025 Mustard Seed Market

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed,  
which a man took and planted in his field.

The Market is an opportunity for holiday shoppers to honor friends and family with gifts that can transform lives in developing nations and in our Kalamazoo community. As our social safety net is weakened, these agencies provide aid that is especially urgent at this time. The Market runs through December 31. A card describing each gift is included with your purchase.

“Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch on its branches.”

Matthew 13:32

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## Adopt a Friend for Live of SW Michigan

Adopt a Friend for Life rescues homeless, stray, and abandoned cats and dogs, as well as assisting families with animals that need to be re-homed. They offer an alternative to placement in animal control shelters by placing the animals in a loving foster home environment until they can be placed for adoption into permanent homes. While in their care, medical and veterinary services are provided to assure proper pet health.

Because one of their basic foundational philosophies is the elimination of pet over-population, they provide 100% spay/neuter for all animals in their care before adoption is finalized. Another function of the organization is to provide education for pet owners and adoption homes to address various problems associated with sharing life with a 4-footed companion. They strive to enrich the human-animal bond by “building lifelong friendships, 4 paws at a time.”



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## Clean Water for the World

Clean Water for the World is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support work that provides and promotes access to clean water. This nonprofit was born out of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and for many years built water purifiers (UV-light systems paired with filters) that clean up to five gallons per minute using electricity or solar power. This past year, the organization has transitioned away from building and maintaining units to facilitating a grant awarding process. CWWF has learned through its community partnerships that folks in need of clean water have needs that can vary and may not always be met by how CWWF operated. CWWF believes that this strategy will enable working more holistically and collaborating with communities. All funds raised will be allocated through a Board-driven grant review process. Through this new grant awarding process CWWF aims to meet their partners where they need CWWF and provide financial support for their needs to implement a range of projects that provide access to clean water.



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## Community Homeworks

Community Homeworks of Kalamazoo helps people maintain safe, sustainable homes by providing no-cost critical home repairs, home maintenance classes, and (new this year) a tool lending library. This means that the construction team responds with expertise and compassion when a furnace malfunctions or a leaky pipe causes significant damage. It means homeowners can attend free hands-on workshops so they can learn skills related to routine maintenance. Folks can also simply borrow tools to complete a project. These programs are about empowering people by helping them thrive in a safe home environment. As such, this non-profit on Bryant Street in the Edison Neighborhood addresses economic equity and the need to build generational wealth. Your gift to Community Homeworks will improve the life and trajectory of vulnerable homeowners in Kalamazoo County. In the words of TS Eliot, "Home is where One Starts from."

Please visit [www.communityhomeworks.org](http://www.communityhomeworks.org) for additional information.



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## Diapers: North and South

Diapers are a staple needed by all families with small children. St. Stephen's Ministry Hub began in Plainwell four years ago after the church closed and serves families in Allegan County. The Plainwell location is currently giving out 6,500 diapers a month. Funding is through individual donations, local Episcopal churches, and grants. Diapers, Etc., is a ministry of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Portage, begun in 2015, that provides diapers to families primarily in south Kalamazoo County who are struggling to get by. They currently serve 35-40 families with 3,600-3,800 diapers distributed monthly. Funding is through local grants and donations. Donations to this ministry will be split between the two ministry projects.



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## El Concilio

El Concilio is a non-profit organization based in Kalamazoo, Michigan, dedicated to supporting Latinx individuals and families in achieving self-sufficiency and economic well-being. They provide bilingual services, community resource navigation, educational and youth programs, and cultural events that celebrate Latinx heritage and foster belonging. With over 40 years of experience, they serve as a bridge between community members and the systems they may find difficult to access due to language, social, or cultural barriers. Their mission is to enable and promote the prosperity of the Latinx community, and their vision is a thriving Latinx community equipped to preserve distinct cultural identities while participating fully in the broader community. Through their Resource Office, Preschool, and Youth Programs they work to empower individuals, strengthen families, and build connections that create lasting impact across Southwest Michigan.



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## Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes

Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes is the largest charitable food distribution system in Kalamazoo County. KLF works hard to reduce hunger through six programs and community-wide advocacy efforts. Through a network of pantries, county-wide home deliveries, mobile food distributions, school-based programs, and targeted outreach, KLF provides food assistance to thousands of individuals each month. KLF also works closely with other social service agencies to make sure they connect their clients, especially children, with the food resources that they need. Your gift will allow Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes to feed hungry people and engage our community in the fight to end hunger.



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## Laundry Love: a New Interfaith Ministry

Laundry Love is a national program serving people struggling with financial insecurity to regularly have clean clothes. Being able to have fresh, clean clothes opens opportunities for people to spend funds they typically use to wash and dry their clothes on other bills, food, and necessities. Clean clothes increase confidence, self-esteem and assist in building relationship with others. The approach to healing through loving one another extravagantly in a laundromat is innovative, and because the laundromat is a place that many people are familiar with, there is a common connection right up front! The program will cost about \$14,000 plus in-kind donations of snacks, etc. Grants and donations are being sought. We are working with Deacon Trish Harris who started a successful and transformative Laundry Love in Battle Creek 3 years ago. Our Laundry Love will be staffed by volunteers from St. Martin's, the Congregation of Moses, Temple B'nai Israel, and members of the Muslim community. Please help support this new interfaith ministry, and help build the Beloved Community.



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## Open Doors Kalamazoo

Open Doors Residence Community provides affordable homes for individuals and families who can't afford or are not eligible for market housing. Residents pay a monthly program fee which includes housing, all or most utilities, and personal support and assistance. Open Doors also provides a short-term residential program, where unhoused adults have a place to live while they seek and find employment, save for future housing, and address personal obstacles to stability.

Their homeownership program creates nondiscriminatory and fair opportunities for homeownership, closing the wealth gap for families in our community. Open Doors staff develops one-on-one relationships with their residents, helping them overcome barriers to affordable housing. Open Doors serves over 60 unhoused adults each year; provides permanent affordable housing to over 100 low-income households; helps over 63% of guests find employment; and uses over 80% of donated funds directly for service.



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## Ministry with Community

Ministry with Community provides two daily meals, daytime shelter, and an array of basic and intensive services to those experiencing homelessness, poverty, substance abuse, mental illness, and other challenges. Free laundry, showers, meals, secure storage, drop-in social work, employment assistance, and more are available to anyone. These services are provided in a safe environment of dignity, hope, trust, and unconditional acceptance where all people are respected and valued.



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## OutFront Kalamazoo

OutFront Kalamazoo is a non-profit resource and community center that serves the LGBTQIA+ community of Kalamazoo County and surrounding areas.

(Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, gender non-conforming, and more.). They provide programs, services, and resources to this community, such as peer support groups, social events, educational resources, free gender-affirming products, housing and mental health navigation, and more. Every June, they host Kalamazoo Pride, a festival that celebrates the joy, visibility, and strength of the LGBTQIA+ community. Their mission is to create a just, inclusive, and supportive environment for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and expressions.



**OUTFRONT**  
KALAMAZOO

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## Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota is home to the Oglala Lakota people. Despite the challenges of high mortality rates, depression, alcoholism, drug abuse, malnutrition, and diabetes, Pine Ridge is a place of great opportunity. St. Martin's parishioners have participated in service/learning mission trips to Pine Ridge with Re-Member, an independent, nonprofit organization that has worked with the Oglala Lakota people since 1998. "The generous support of donors assists us in growing and distributing fresh produce from our community gardens and providing winter heating assistance in the form of firewood, and emergency utility payments to those in need. Each year, we purchase tens of thousands of dollars in materials for our quality-of-life projects that include beds for children, insulating trailer homes with skirting, and installing wheelchair ramps for the elderly and disabled. Be a part of building a better today and tomorrow for Pine Ridge!" Learn more at [www.re-member.org](http://www.re-member.org)



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## Refugee Resettlement Program

St. Martin's has been active in the refugee resettlement program since 2013. We have sponsored an individual from Congo, an individual from South Sudan, and one family of seven from Syria. All have become U.S. citizens, Yea! Funds currently are needed to assist with food, clothing, gasoline, insurance, groceries, utility assistance, and fees for extracurricular school activities for the children. Please consider assisting this work with a gift of any amount.



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## St. Martin's India Ministry

St. Martin of Tours has had a relationship with the Diocese of Durgapur in West Bengal, India since 2010. We have visited our friends in India eight times and have seen the incredible work being done there amongst the poorest of the poor – the “untouchable caste” (Dalits), tribal villagers, and children whose families are being shunned because of leprosy. Your gift will support ongoing Diocesan projects: Child Development After-School Centers; direct support of anti-human trafficking through Safe Houses, education, and intervention; cataract surgery at the Good Shepherd Eye Clinic; and providing scholarships to send children in Purulia to St. Peter's School.



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## YWCA Kalamazoo

As the longest-standing YWCA in Michigan, YWCA Kalamazoo is firmly committed to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. They provide essential service to the most historically marginalized and underserved members of Kalamazoo County. As Kalamazoo County's sole provider of comprehensive emergency services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking, they operate a 24-hour crisis line and housing program. Their dedicated staff offers ongoing counseling services, case management, legal advocacy, and forensic nurse examinations. YWCA's Dreamery provides high-quality, trauma-informed early learning. They offer innovative care with income-based tuition assistance, serving families who would otherwise face impossible choices between work and childcare. Their Women and Infant Supportive Health (WISH) program addresses critical maternal health disparities. Certified Community Health Workers visit families weekly throughout pregnancy and the child's first year, providing support, education, and resources. Beyond direct services, they lead community-wide systems change, policy initiatives, and cross-sector partnerships that promote race and gender equity.

