



Alternative Gifts Directory



Prepared By and For the
First Congregational Church of Dunbarton, NH
November, 2008



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Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of our Alternative Giving Directory. This project was developed to promote awareness of the multitude of alternative gift options available, and to help members and friends of the Dunbarton Congregational Church simplify their holiday gift giving.

We all know people who have everything they need or have limited space for new "stuff". We want to honor their presence in our lives with a gift, but want that gift to have more meaning than something we picked up at the local store.

Maybe you've already given an elderly family member a gift of an animal from Heifer Project. Or maybe you've thought about it, but didn't feel that was the right gift either. This directory strives to give you more choices. The websites included fit into at least one of these four categories:

1. Donations in honor of someone (Heifer Project, CWS Tools of Hope, etc.)
2. Purchases that generate a donation to a cause (PinkRibbonStore.com, etc.)
3. Fair Trade and Eco-Friendly gifts (SERRV catalog, fair trade coffee, etc.)
4. Informational sites (Consumers Union, Marine Seafood Council, etc.)

The list below represents only a portion of the many web sites and organizations that offer alternative gifts and/or Fair trade or Eco-friendly products. We hope to make this an annual project. If you know of a site or organization that you feel should be included, please contact a member of the Missions Committee.

Don't forget: The Missions Committee will have Heifer Project cards available at church during December, and our Fair Trade coffee makes an excellent hostess or office grab bag gift! And keep this directory handy throughout the year for all those special occasions.

*Nancy Lang, Chair
Missions Committee
First Congregational Church of Dunbarton*

Disclaimer

The information in this directory is provided for informational purposes only. Web addresses are valid as of the date of compilation (November 29, 2008). Web sites do frequently change, and we can not be responsible for the content of any page listed here. The *First Congregational Church of Dunbarton* and the *Missions At The Edges* team that compiled this directory have received no incentives to include any of the listed sites. This directory represents only a portion of the many such sites available on the Web. Inclusion of a site does not constitute an endorsement.

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(Alphabetical Listing)

[Alternative Gift Registry](http://www.alternativegiftregistry.org/) (<http://www.alternativegiftregistry.org/>) More of a gift registry for weddings or showers than actual gift ideas.

American Cancer Society (<http://www.cancer.org/>) Dedicated to helping persons who face cancer. Supports research, patient services, early detection, treatment and education.

American Heart Association (<http://www.americanheart.org/>) Promotes a heart-healthy lifestyle.

American Red Cross (<http://www.redcross.org/>) Provides disaster relief within the United States and support for US military personnel around the world.

Church World Services (<http://www.churchworldservice.org/>) CWS's Best Gifts catalog offers an assortment of projects and price ranges, from a \$10 blanket, rabbit, or soccer ball to a \$1000 gift of a water pump and community hygiene training.

[Consumers Union site](http://www.greenerchoices.org/eco-labels/eco-home.cfm) (<http://www.greenerchoices.org/eco-labels/eco-home.cfm>) Information on what those labels really mean.

[EcologyFund.com - save, protect, preserve wilderness and rainforest for free!](http://ecologyfund.com)
(<http://ecologyfund.com>) A click to donate site, offers links to environmentally friendly shopping sites and accepts online donations.

Eco-Friendly Fair Trade Gifts (www.garudainternational.com) Fair Trade Gifts from around the world. Large selection of fair trade clothes, household items, unique gifts, chocolate, coffee, teas and gift baskets.

[Fair Trade Certified | Transfair USA | Welcome](http://www.transfairusa.org/) (<http://www.transfairusa.org/>) Information on the Fair Trade Certification process and a where to buy directory.

Fair Trade Gifts (www.fairtradequilts.com) Handmade, Fairly Traded gifts. Guatemalan quilts & ceramics, embroidered bedspreads from Nepal, India & Bangladesh, and exotic Kuchi tapestries & jewelry. Fair Trade Federation Member.

Fair Trade Unique Gifts (eco-friendly.novica.com) National Geographic presents Novica Artisan designed jewelry & gifts.

[FSC: Startpage -Forest Stewardship Council](http://www.fsc.org/) (<http://www.fsc.org/>) The Forest Stewardship Council promotes the responsible management of forests.

GreaterGood Network/CharityUSA (<http://shop.thehungersite.com/>) Shop where it matters. Fair trade items from around the world, gifts that generate a donation with purchase, and direct donations to various charitable endeavors. Part of CharityUSA.com and GreaterGood Network. (Enter the store from any of the 6 click to donate sites, and your purchase will support that site's program.)

<http://shop.thehungersite.com/> Purchases help feed the hungry.

<http://shop.thebreastcancersite.com/> Purchases provide mammograms for low income women.

<http://shop.thechildhealthsite.com/> Purchases provide health care for children.

<http://shop.theliteracysite.com/> Purchases help give books to children.

<http://shop.therainforestsitesite.com/> Purchases help protect the rainforests.

<http://shop.theanimalrescuesite.com/> Purchases help animals in shelters.

Heifer Project International (<http://www.heifer.org/>) Gifts of animals and training to improve the lives of others. Online ordering available.

Marine Seafood Council (www.msc.org) Provides a list of seafood from sustainable, environmentally friendly sources.

National Public Radio (<http://shop.npr.org/>) Purchases support NPR programming.

RedJellyfish.com (<http://www.redjellyfish.com/>) A click to donate site that also offers environmental posters for sale.

The Salvation Army (<http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/>) Shop one of their Thrift Stores or drop some cash in one of the red kettles.

SERRV International (<http://www.serrv.org/>) Fair trade items from around the world. Online ordering available.

[Simplify the Holidays | Simplify the Holidays Brochure](#)

(<http://www.newdream.org/holiday/brochure.php>) Ways to simplify the holidays.

[Survive to 5 Home](http://www.savethechildren.org/programs/health/child-survival/survive-to-5/) (<http://www.savethechildren.org/programs/health/child-survival/survive-to-5/>) Save the Children's campaign to help children survive to the age of 5. Accepts online donations and offers ways to take action.

World Wildlife Fund (<http://www.worldwildlife.org/>) Purchase gifts or a symbolic adoption of any of 90+ endangered or threatened species. Accepts online donations, and offers an "adoption of the month" club and animal adoption gift cards.

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