



Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

Consistory Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Natalie Kapeluck Nixon – Director

PO Box 869

Carnegie, PA 15106

412-279-1076

uocyouth@aol.com

March 14, 2019

Dear Reverend Fathers, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Glory to Jesus Christ!



The **Great Lent Giveaway (GLG)** is designed to give our youth the opportunity to do good works for others during Great Lent. In addition to doing good works, they learn more about their faith and devote additional time to learning, prayer and fasting during this season of preparation for Pascha. The GLG is a joint project with the Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League. With the blessing of our Hierarchs, the GLG of 2019 will benefit Heifer International.

This year we are asking that all youth of our church support this effort by helping to raise funds/collecting for and raise awareness through the Great Lent Giveaway about the work of Heifer International. This year we have a goal in raising \$2000.00. Each Jr UOL and parish youth group will have the ability to choose how their monies are donated toward Heifer International by utilizing the GLG Donor Form.

You will find in this packet a suggested outline for conducting the GLG. We encourage you to construct a program using the full program materials, as well as your own ideas, to make the GLG more than just a fundraising effort. A program that is carried out throughout Great Lent will help the youth of your parish to more fully understand the importance and beauty of almsgiving during fasting periods.

This year we are producing a series of videos that you may share with your youth to help deepen their faith during Great Lent and participate in the GLG. The videos will refer you to a resource that may be used to further the learning. The GLG program may be used any time throughout the year, not just during Great Lent. Please modify it for your needs.

In an effort to reduce consumption of resources and live as better caretakers of our Lord's creation, the full program is available online.

You may download the organizational session at www.uocyouth.org. The organizational session includes: *Great Lent Giveaway How To and Opening Discussion: What is Heifer International and Who are they?*, and *Fundraising Ideas*. Posters are also available for download.

Please send us with any questions at uocyouth@aol.com or by phone at 412-977-2010.

In Christ's Love,
Natalie Kapeluck Nixon
Director



Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League of the United States of America

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

"DEDICATED TO OUR CHURCH - DEVOTED TO ITS YOUTH"

Alexis Naumenko President 2018-2019

7 Home Rd, Hatboro, PA 19040

215-290-787

alexisnaumenko20@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

V. Rev. John Haluszczak

2828 Wohleber St

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

otetsivan@gmail.com

412-322-8496

ADVISOR

Fr John Charest

5107 N. Mango Ave. #1

Chicago, IL 60630-4664

847-910-7120

Frjohn.charest@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Cyril Sheptak

300 East Pearl St.

Butler, PA 16001

724-284-1265

Cyrilsheptak@gmail.com

RECORDING/CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Natalie Hrytsay

970 County Line Rd.

Philadelphia, PA 19116

267-266-4366

Hry26nat@gmail.com

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Madeline Zetick

711 Upsal Rd.

Rydal, Pa 19046

267-406-8231

zetickm@gmail.com

TREASURER

Anna Swindle

108 McKenna Ave

Pittsburgh, PA 15205

901-220-9204

Annaswindle1227@gmail.com

Dear UOL Chapter Presidents and Advisors,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Every year the Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League along with the Consistory Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, organize the Great Lent Giveaway. This is a program that reaches out and donates to organizations benefiting many causes. For the 2019 Great Lent Giveaway, it has been decided that the money we raise will go to the Heifer International and more specifically to buy animals beneficial to third-world villages. Heifer International's mission is to make sustainable living environments around the world including food and clean water.

This year's goal is to raise \$2000 to purchase animals such as goats, cows or water buffalo, which Heifer International will send directly to their destination in countries in need. Please send all donations to the Jr. UOL Financial Secretary, Madeline Zetick, whose information is located on the left side of the letter. You may also bring the money to the convention this summer at All Saints Camp in Emlenton, PA.

Each week during Great Lent a video will be posted with a Jr. National Executive Board member explaining a topic from past GLG curriculums and how it relates to the Heifer International and Great Lent. Please reference these videos when sharing about Great Lent and encourage the members of your chapters to watch them. I hope your chapter joins us in this Lenten charity, during this holy time before Pascha. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Yours in Christ,
Madeline Zetick



GREAT LENT GIVEAWAY

How To.....

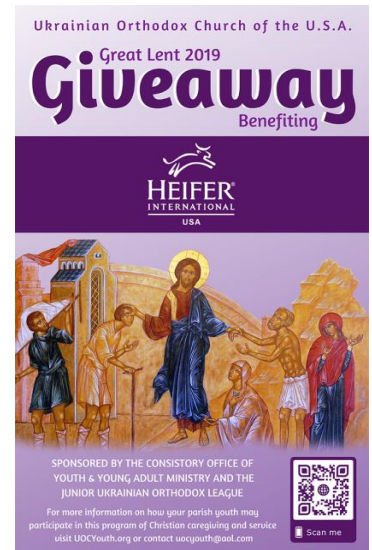
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and the
Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA

2019

Benefiting Heifer International

Objective: To instill in our youth the true meaning of Great Lent by:

1. Providing for youth a better understanding of quality of life in various parts of the world
2. Learning more about their faith
3. Discovering Christian Compassion and Christ's Unconditional Love
4. Devoting more time to prayer



GLG Project: Collecting funds, raising awareness for Heifer International and deepen our faith during Great Lent.

Steps for initiating and sustaining the Great Lent Giveaway throughout Great Lent – this program may be divided into several sessions or one retreat:

1. Each Wednesday of Great Lent, a new video about the GLG will be provided for viewing on the Consistory YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwihD09km_DSGuP62nclZrw
We will then provide a correlating youth session that you may choose to use from <https://www.uocyouth.org/greatlentgiveaway.html>
2. At your first gathering/meeting discuss the Great Lent Giveaway. See the attached outline for your first discussion. At this gathering you will want to decide how you will raise your funds.
3. Have the youth present their ideas for collection of the items. Take time to discuss all of the proposals. Ask them to decide, based upon the presented plans, on a game plan as to how you will accomplish your goals.

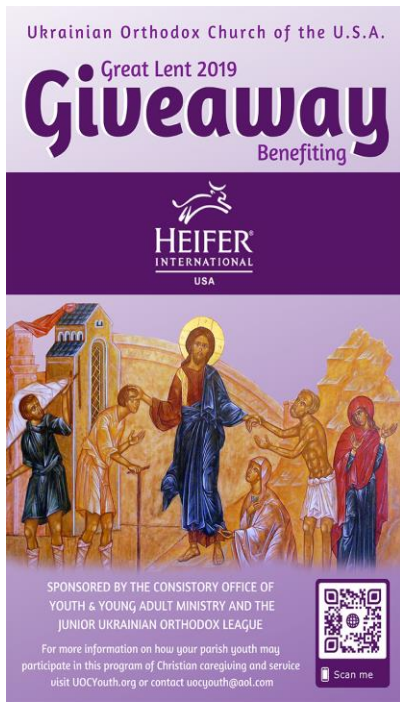
Establish with the participants a regular time to gather and to utilize the provided curriculum to learn more about Heifer International and our call to give alms during Great Lent.

4. Discuss progress with the collection.
5. Collect and forward the donations to the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry or the National Jr. UOL Financial Secretary. For questions contact the GLG Coordinator or OYM Office.

Great Lent Giveaway
Office of Youth Ministry
PO Box 869
Carnegie, PA 15106
uocyouth@aol.com

Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League
Maddie Zetick – GLG Coordinator
zetickm@gmail.com
Contact for Address

6. Wrap up the project and have a celebration event with the youth on St. Thomas Sunday – you may continue collecting funds until July 20, 2019 or bring them to the Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention/UOC Centennial Celebration at All Saints Camp August 1 – 4, 2019. Funds MUST be submitted no later than August 4th.



Great Lent Giveaway 2019 Outline for Initial Discussion

Needed Items:

- Video from Heifer International
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDIedFMSN64>
- Great Lent Giveaway Video
- Notecards
- Pens, markers
- Poster board
- Photos of goats, cows, chickens, lamas, rabbits (you can find photos on the Heifer International website)
- Copy of Great Lent Giveaway Poster
- Crafting paper

Preparation

- For younger children: print enough animal photos for each child to have one. Make duplicates of the same animal so children will be able to find others “like” them. If possible, glue the animals to a craft stick, like a puppet.
 - For older youth and teens: print the words animals, family, sustainable, community, poverty, training, hope, gift on the notecards. Depending on how many youth you have you may need to print some of the words more than once. Each participant should receive a card.
1. Begin your gathering in Prayer. Being that Great Lent has begun you could choose to have your first discussion following one of the weekday services. If choosing the weekend, perhaps plan to cook a lenten meal together. This is a great way to teach our youth a possibly families, how simple it is to prepare a lenten meal.

Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian

Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of laziness, faint-heartedness, lust of power, and idle talk. But rather, grant unto me, thy servant, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love. Yes Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother for blessed are you to the ages of ages. Amen.

2. Take a moment to discuss the purpose of the Great Lent Giveaway (GLG). Show the video from Maddie Zetick, JR UOL Coordinator of the GLG. Ask the participants, “*What is Great Lent preparing us for?*” *Pascha* “*The Church in its wisdom always provides us with tools in our journey to Christ to help us along the way. Many tools are given to us during Great Lent on our journey to Pascha – can you name them?*” *Increased Prayer, Additional Divine Services, Fasting, Almsgiving/Christian Love and Charity. For younger children, you could play a game such as Snowman (a type of Hangman) to learn the lenten "tools".*

Pass out your animals and/or notecards.

For young children: [Explain you will be watching a video. They should raise their animal in the air whenever they see or hear the name of their animal being said.](#)

For youth/teens: [Ask them to pay attention to the video. Take note how their word is related to the work of Heifer International.](#)

At this point show the video from Heifer International noted above. HI provides many interesting and education videos. You may choose one or more in addition to show the youth. They may be found at <https://www.youtube.com/user/HeiferInternational>.

After the video

For Younger Children: *Ask them what they think the video was about.* Based on their answers discuss the work of Heifer International. *Ask them how helping others in this way would make God happy? Why should we take care of animals and people with less than us?*

Have the group slip into smaller groups. Have them present their word to the group and discuss how it relates to Heifer international. *Ask them to discuss how these words relate to our relationship with Christ and His Church. How can we be better disciples of Christ by helping others?* After 10 minutes, ask the small groups to present their words and thoughts to the larger group.

Ask the larger group what their thoughts are concerning what they watched. How is the video relevant to the Great Lent Giveaway? Ask the group if they can think of any thing from scripture that reminds them of how we are supposed to care for others. Some answer might include:

- Good Samaritan – Luke 10:25 - 37
- Matthew 25:31-46
- Genesis 2: 15 – 20
- Loaves and Fishes Matthew 15: 29 39

If the participants are unable to come up with an example choose one of the above. Have someone read the passages. Then ask how this pertains to caring for others as a Christian servant.

3. *Let's discuss how we are going to participate in the GLG this year!* Wrap up the discussion by moving into the final points of the “*GLG How To*”. Encourage the youth to take on leadership roles, making publicity, organizing any fundraising event, creating items to sell, or coordinating blanket collection. Even young children may take on a simple task.
4. Have the youth create a display about the Great Lent Giveaway and Heifer International. This will be put in your parish hall to help raise awareness and help with the fundraising.
5. Complete the session in prayer. Perhaps the meeting could be held prior to a lenten service and the youth could pray together in this way.

Taking it Home – Continuing the Journey

Each week a new video connected to the Great Lent Giveaway and deepening our faith during the fast will be posted on the UOC of USA Youtube channel. Have your youth watch the videos together or ask them to watch the video at home. Have them discuss what they learned and how it applies to their journey to Pascha. How can they live what they learned?

Each video will reference a session that you can use with your youth to further the discussion.

Note

There are many resources on the Heifer International website for your use <https://www.heifer.org/>