



## Church World Service Blanket Appeal - Mother's Day, May 12

Motherhood is a special undertaking. It's a labor of love . . . a never ending job with invaluable rewards.

When your mother first became a mother, she most probably felt many of the same emotions echoed by first-time mothers everywhere: excited, yet nervous for the new adventure ahead. She was no doubt confident in her ability to provide her daughter or son with the same feelings of comfort and peace she felt, as a child, from her own mother. When covering her child with a warm blanket while he or she slept, or snuggling together in a blanket on the couch, she knew that her child felt safe, loved and comforted.

Just like you with your mother, neighbors around the world deserve to feel that same sense of safety, warmth, love and comfort.

On Sundays May 5 and May 12, you have the opportunity to give the gift of a blanket to someone in need. Church World Service blankets provide comfort as well as protection from harsh weather for refugees, the homeless, and victims of national disasters throughout the world. The simple gesture of giving a blanket to someone in need is an act of compassion with enormous significance. Each person wrapped in a blanket is enveloped in a sense of warmth, safety and love. It's a priceless feeling – just like a mother's touch!

Mother's Day Blanket Gift Cards are available to acknowledge your gifts. In addition, for each \$10 blanket purchased, you may fill out a "honor heart" with the name of an important woman in your life (mother, grandmother, wife, daughter, granddaughter, sister, ...). The hearts are pinned on our blanket in the sanctuary. By Mother's Day help us completely cover the blanket with love!

If you are not able to attend a church service, and wish to purchase blankets, just send your check (made out to First Congregational Church, with note "for blankets") to the church office, with a note listing the names of the important women (or men) in your life that you wish to honor, and "honor hearts" will be prepared and pinned to our sanctuary blanket. Donations will be accepted anytime in May.

When difficult times happen, a kind and loving response can make all the difference. CWS Blankets give a kind, loving and tangible response to someone facing a difficult time, reminding them that they are not alone, helping our most vulnerable neighbors around the world feel safe and keep warm. When our neighbors are in need, the gift of a blanket goes a long way!

**Happy Mother's Day!**