

Church Bulletin blurbs for Neighbors holiday program
Pick your favorite, or rotate them!

Holly was so excited to see two sleds among the gifts she received from the Holiday Gift Program at Neighbors Inc. She said that her kids have been sliding down the hill in the backyard on their snowpants, and they will be thrilled to have real sleds!

Neighbors Inc. needs your help to provide hundreds of families like Holly's with a warm and joyous Christmas this year. Please consider adopting a family—you get to shop for specific children or seniors and find the perfect gifts for them. For more info, please email holiday@neighborsmn.org or call 651-306-2152.

Tim is fourteen years old, and loves to run. He received new running gear from the family who adopted him through the Neighbors' Holiday Gift Program. I ran into his mom a few weeks after Christmas and she said he is so grateful for the gear. When he first tried on the running pants, he said they were too heavy. Like a typical mom, she told him to try them out and see. He went running on the icy January streets and slipped and fell twice. When he got home he said, "Those pants saved my life!"

Tim and his mom (and hundreds of other kids and seniors) are counting on you to help them have a merry Christmas this year. Maybe the pants you donate could save the life, or at least the backside, of a stubborn-but-ultimately-very-grateful teenager! Please consider adopting a family—you get to shop for specific children or seniors and find the perfect gifts for them. For more info, please email holiday@neighborsmn.org or call 651-306-2152.

"Remember: if Christmas isn't found in your heart, you won't find it under a tree." —Charlotte Carpenter
Struggling to get into the Christmas spirit? Consider giving that joyous Christmas feeling to someone else, and you may just find it within yourself, too. Last Christmas, **721** households received presents through the Holiday Gift Program at Neighbors Inc. People like you donated all of those gifts of clothing and toys to seniors and families in need of a little extra holiday help. For more info, please email holiday@neighborsmn.org or call 651-306-2152.

It doesn't take a Grinch to steal Christmas! Job loss. Chronic or unexpected medical problems. Car accidents. There are many reasons that folks apply for the Holiday Gift Program at Neighbors Inc. But you can make their Christmas merry, letting them know that someone cares and wants their children to have warm clothing and fun toys. Please email holiday@neighborsmn.org or call 651-306-2152 if you are interested in adopting a family/senior. Also, if you or someone you know has been "grinched," and you need help this season, please apply at Neighbors!

When Jennifer picked up her gifts from the Neighbors' Holiday Gift Program, she was so grateful. She said that she'd been struggling with work lately, and her son asked her "Are we gonna have a Christmas this year?" She told him that she would try, but she really didn't know how she was going to do it. Then she heard about the Holiday Gift Program at Neighbors. She is so grateful for the gifts, and so excited to be able to give her son the Christmas he didn't think they'd be able to have.

This valuable program happens because of the giving spirit of elves like you. Please consider adopting a family—you get to shop for specific children or seniors and find the perfect gifts for them. For more info, please email holiday@neighborsmn.org or call 651-306-2152.

Do you need a little extra help this Christmas season? Or maybe you have a friend who is struggling with the extra financial burden of providing Christmas gifts for their children? Perhaps you know a senior that really needs to be blessed by knowing that someone is thinking of them this holiday season. Please apply for the Holiday Gift Program at Neighbors Inc. To apply, visit the lower level of Neighbors, and bring your photo ID, recent utility bill (as a form of address verification), and knowledge of your monthly income and expenses. The program is open to seniors 65+ **and** families with children who live in South Saint Paul, West Saint Paul, Inver Grove Heights, Mendota, Mendota Heights, Lilydale, and Sunfish Lake. Applications are accepted Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. to 4 p.m. from October 22 to December 6. (Closed on Fridays and on Thanksgiving.) The Neighbors Food Shelf will also be including some special seasonal holiday items on its shelves in November and December—don't hesitate to come in if you need a little help! More information can be found on the Neighbors website at www.neighborsmn.org.

James came in to Neighbors a few weeks after Christmas because he had something he wanted to show me. It was a video of his family Christmas. James takes care of his young granddaughter, Patty. In the video, James is wearing a Santa outfit, and his granddaughter is opening up each gift. The gifts all came from a kind family that had “adopted” James and Patty through the Neighbors’ Holiday Gift Program. James had not “peeked” at what she would be getting, and he was just as excited and grateful to see what was in each package as Patty was. Even though the family who adopted them had never met them, they got just the right gifts. It was so fun to see the video and share in their Christmas joy. Please consider adopting a family like James and Patty—you get to shop for specific children or seniors and find the perfect gifts for them. For more info, please email holiday@neighborsmn.org or call 651-306-2152.