In-Kind Offering – Offering of Letters

Northern Illinois Synod Assembly
June 14-15, 2019

breadforthe**world**
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

By changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, we provide help and opportunity at home and far beyond where we live. We can end hunger in our time. But churches and charities can't do it all. Our government must also do its part. With the stroke of a pen, policies are made that redirect millions of dollars and affect millions of lives. By making our voices heard in Congress, we make our nation's laws fairer and more compassionate. We leverage big changes for people in our country and around the world who struggle with hunger.

Offering of Letters

Bread for the World's annual Offering of Letters campaign engages churches, campuses, and other faith communities in writing letters to Congress. Each year, for the focus of the campaign, we choose specific legislation or a legislative emphasis that can make a real difference to people struggling with hunger and poverty.

People write letters, usually as a group, and present them as an offering to God before mailing them to Congress. Hundreds of Offerings of Letters are held each year, resulting in tens of thousands of letters to Congress. Supported with prayer, these letters are a bold witness to God's justice and mercy. They have, and continue to have, a significant impact on the decisions made in Congress.

The Social Ministry Committee invites you to conduct an Offering of Letters at your congregation and bring them to the Synod Assembly for this year's In-Kind Offering. The letters can either be hand written by individuals or a signed copy of the sample letter addressed to your District Rep and our Illinois Senators. Find more details at www.bread.org.

In addition, Assembly members will be invited to sign letters at the Assembly All letters will be distributed in packets to appropriate legislators. Our emphasis is Advocacy – striving for peace and justice.

Sample In-Kind Offering Letter

Date

Dear Sen. _____, *or* Dear Rep. _____,

As Congress works on the fiscal year 2019 budget and spending bills, I ask you to invest in and protect key programs that will reduce hunger and poverty.

Our country and the world have made progress against hunger and poverty in recent decades. I want you to continue to invest in programs like SNAP and tax credits for low-income workers. Continued funding for programs that reduce hunger and poverty around the world are also important to me.

My faith calls me to urge you to make public investments that will move us toward the end of hunger.

Sincerely,
[your name]
[your address]
[city, state, ZIP]

Note: For the most current version of this sample letter, updated as legislation moves in Congress, visit - www.bread.org/ol

LOCAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:
Easily find your district representative by typing in your address at this website:
https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative

For example, here are the Rockford representatives:

Rep. Cheri Bustos	*Rep. Adam Kinzinger*
17th District	*16th District*
119 N. Church St.	*725 N. Lyford Road*
Suite 207 & 208	*Suite #3*
Rockford, IL 61101	*Rockford, IL 61107*

ILLINOIS SENATORS:

Senator Dick Durbin	*Senator Tammy Duckworth*
230 S. Dearborn Street	*230 S. Dearborn Street*
Suite #3892	*Suite #3900*
Chicago, IL 60604	*Chicago, IL 60604*

*Note: Each person should write three letters: one to their District Representative and one to each Senator.

Questions contact: Pr. Robin Caldwell (pastorrobincaldwell@gmail.com)
Pr. Kenn Storck (kennstorck@gmail.com)

Thank you for your effort in striving for justice and peace.