



Frequently Asked Questions

What is Light the World?

Light the World is the annual Christmas initiative of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It invites everyone to celebrate the birth and life of Jesus Christ and to follow His example of caring for and serving others.

What is the Giving Machine Initiative?

The Giving Machine Initiative is part of Light the World. These innovative machines provide a simple, fun, and memorable way for people to give to those in need—whether in their community or around the world.

What makes this Initiative unique?

Instead of purchasing candy or snacks from a vending machine, people buy goods and services to support those in need. It's a machine that enables a person to give—rather than receive.

What items are available?

Items vary by city, but a typical machine includes food, clean water, clothing, shelter, healthcare, education support, hygiene kits, bedding, job and career training, and even livestock such as chickens, goats, pigs, and beehives.

Where are these machines located?

In 2025, machines will be operating in 126 cities across 21 countries on six continents. The specific locations will be announced on November 12, 2025, during the global press event and on [GivingMachine.org](https://givingmachine.org).

Where does my donation go?

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints covers all operating costs, ensuring that 100 percent of each donation goes directly to the participating nonprofit organizations. The Church does not receive any financial benefit from this program.

Besides transferring 100% of donations to the nonprofits, the Church supplies each with a detailed list of purchased items, and the organization has twelve months to fulfill those orders. Nonprofits can use up to ten percent of their Giving Machine receipts for overhead costs, but most choose not to use any.

How much has been contributed through Giving Machines?

Since 2017, nearly \$50 million has been donated through the Giving Machine Initiative.

For additional ways to do good and lift others, click [here](#) or visit [GivingMachine.org](https://givingmachine.org)