1 PICK A TAG FROM THE TREE

The tags have names of children from various agencies in our local area and across North Carolina. Each tag's color corresponds to a particular agency:

RED = CommWell Health

BLUE= Healing Transitions

ORANGE = Refuge 4 Refugees

PURPLE=Mama Moses

If your budget allows for one gift, look for a blue or purple tag.

Tags are grouped by family, so you have an opportunity to invite others to join you in this experience! Talk to your friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc. about combining efforts to provide for an entire family. You will still find individual tags, but there is a great need to cover whole families as well.

2 TAKE A PICTURE OF THE TAG

This ensures that if a tag is lost, you still have a record of the wish list and child identification. We have records that match the child's name to the family and agency, so if you are able to fulfill the wishlist and put the child's name on the front, we are able to get the gift where it belongs even if the tag is lost.

3 GO SHOPPING

St. Nick assembles the gifts for each family using large landscape bags. Please keep that in mind when you are shopping. A giant dollhouse might be on your own child's wish list, but large gifts make the logistics difficult for St. Nicholas. Bikes are an exception, but please, only purchase if specifically requested on your tag. The gift ideas are guidelines given by the parents. They are not requirements. Sometimes they don't seem to make sense. That's ok. Maybe the family really needs work pants for the dad. Sometimes the requests seem expensive. That's ok. It's totally reasonable to give a gift card that could be used towards the gift. Sometimes the requests seem like a hard no. That's ok. Select a general age-appropriate gift instead. We do our best to make sure everything is accurate. But, please, never gift a live animal!

4 WRITE A CHECK

If you would like to support St. Nicholas with a financial donation instead of shopping for gifts, we welcome donations by check or online any time of year (click for the donate page). Make sure you note “St. Nicholas Ministry” on the memo line of any donation.

The St. Nicholas Ministry does not receive operating funds from the church. Donated funds go towards purchasing discounted needs throughout the year such as coats, school supplies, and toiletries. The remaining balance is spent on grocery gift cards for the families of CommWell Health.

5 TO WRAP OR NOT TO WRAP

Only gifts for Healing Transitions and Mama Moses remain unwrapped. They get chosen and wrapped by the parent at a special event. Bring these items unwrapped and unlabeled, with price tags removed, to church. Tags for these agencies will state “do not wrap this gift.” All other agencies receive wrapped and ready gifts and their tag will state, “Please, wrap this gift.” Gifts for one child may include multiple items which can each be beautifully wrapped, just make sure they are all in one final package (that would fit in a landscape bag) with the child’s name label securely and visibly placed on the outside. The final package can be a gift bag with several wrapped gifts inside or a reused Amazon box. It is just important that each child receives one outer package with their name on it. Bikes should be labeled with the child’s name and “gift 1 of 2” if appropriate. The helmet can be wrapped and labeled with the name and “gift 2 of 2.”

6 BRING YOUR GIFT

Bring your gift to St. Paul's on St. Nicholas Sunday at the 9 or 11:15 a.m. service. Please only leave your gift under the tree early if you are unable to attend one of these two services. Keep your gift with you in your seat. St. Nicholas arrives after the homily, during the time we have announcements at each service. You are invited to the altar to meet him, put your gift in the big red bag, and receive a chocolate coin for your efforts.

St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Learn more on our
St. Nicholas webpage: