

**Fundraising Letter**  
**Helping Hands Benefit Auction**  
**First English Lutheran Church/Aid Association for Lutherans**

“Joining Hands to Touch Lives”

Dear Friend:

We would like you to consider joining your community in supporting a local charitable event.

The Helping Hands Benefit Auction is held annually to raise funds for charitable organizations through the efforts of local Lutheran congregations and Aid Association for Lutherans, which provides matching fund support.

This year five Lutheran congregations, Trinity, Zion, Grace, Good Shepherd and First English—are working together to raise funds through this event. Auction proceeds will be used to assist three local organizations—the Domestic Abuse Shelter, LEAVEN (Limited Emergency Assistance Valley Ecumenical Network), and AIM (Addiction Intervention Ministry)—and two international organizations—the Red Cross and Lutheran World Relief.

Previous contributions have benefited such local organizations as St. Joseph’s Food Pantry, the Salvation Army, the Emergency Shelter, and the Community Clothes Closet. In addition, donations have been used to reinforce international initiatives, such as the effort to avert famine in Ethiopia in 1985.

This year is a special one for the auction because it’s our 10th anniversary, and our goal is to raise \$17,000. Meeting this objective would help us cross the \$100,000 mark in total donations raised since the auction’s beginning in 1985—with your support we know we can do it!

While many of the items and services to be auctioned come to us from participating congregations, we also need community support to make this project a success.

We respectfully request your support for this year’s auction, which will be held at First English Lutheran Church beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, 1994. If you feel that you can help us with a tax-deductible donation of services or merchandise, please indicate accordingly on the enclosed reply card and return it to us before May 15, 1994.

You can also indicate on the reply card if you would like to be contacted about having your donation picked up.

Thank you for your consideration!

Cordially,

(signature)