

HISTORY

In May 2005, Worldwide Gifts welcomed visitors to a new location on the Pillsbury Plaza, making possible more space and better accessibility for the sale of items made by natives of mission areas around the world. The new location is the former Norwegian Bay Books and Gifts store. The former WWG location was the Idris Jones building.



The Worldwide Gifts store was established in Southern California in 1982 as a ministry of the Pacific Southwest region of the American Baptist Churches USA. Each summer a second store was located at Green Lake Conference Center. After the 1994 closing of the California store, the mission project was brought to Green Lake and renamed Worldwide Gifts of Green Lake.

Worldwide Gifts of Green Lake exists to provide financial support for persons involved in cottage industries within developing countries. The profits from all sales benefits mission work worldwide, and whenever possible, items are purchased directly from American Baptist Missions or other Christian organizations.



It is our desire to bring hope and self-sufficiency to our extended family around the world. As you purchase a special gift for yourself or a friend, remember that it will also bring the opportunity to experience a better life to many international crafters.



WORLDWIDE GIFTS OF GREEN LAKE
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OF GREEN LAKE

**A Gift That
Reaches
Around the
World**

“Praise the
Lord all nations
everywhere,
Praise Him all
the peoples of the
earth.”
Pslam 117:1



Located at
Green Lake
Conference Center
Green Lake,
Wisconsin
USA



GREEN LAKE
CONFERENCE CENTER
WWW.GLCC.ORG
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CRAFTS MINISTRY MISSION

Many of the crafts offered for sale at Worldwide Gifts are products of organizations dedicated to changing the lives of young women involved in the multi-million dollar sex industry in countries like Cambodia and Thailand.

All proceeds from sales at Worldwide Gifts go to benefit mission projects around the world.

Providing spiritual development, health care, education, and financial stipends to set up a home cottage business in the manufacture of craft items offers a different option for these women, many of whom have suffered since their early teens as victims in the prison of prostitution.

Some of the freedom from prostitution projects include Tamar Center in PaHaya, Thailand; Nightlight in Bangkok, Thailand; New Life Center in Chiang Mai, Thailand; House of Hope in Cambodia, the Tamar Foundation, Philippines, and Freeset in India.

Worldwide Gifts sends between \$10-25,000 yearly to mission projects at home and around the world.

Among those countries receiving donations are India, to build a church for the Banjara gypsies who are no longer permitted to be nomads; Burma, medical supplies



for KBC Health Care Clinic, a seminary for faculty support and building rooms and buying a truck.

WWG also supported a Burmese seminary student here in the US so she can be a leader in women's work when she returns to Burma; Thailand, the House of Love, home care for HIV mothers and children, the



New Life Center, RAHAB, Flowers of Compassion from woman at the Charoen Krung Maitrichit Baptist Church in Bangkok.

Other countries receiving support include Philippines, Bulgaria, Malaysia, Jordan, Laos, Nepal, Nicaragua, Burma, Costa Rica, Cambodia, Ghana, Russia, Ukraine, Bolivia, Chile, South Africa, Okinawa, Congo, Zimbabwe, and the Ivory Coast.



Home mission projects include the Milwaukee Christian Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Rainbow Acres, an Arizona resident facility for the mentally challenged.



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers donate time and talent to the operation of Worldwide Gifts.

If you ask Ardis Mitchell (right) why she has spent the last decade of her retirement years as a volunteer at Worldwide Gifts, she will tell you that she finds the work of sorting and tagging the unique items, learning about the cottage industries around the world, and selling them to the visitors who come to the store very rewarding. She is especially devoted to the cause of the store's proceeds going to help so many needy people.

Ardis is just one of many Worldwide Gifts volunteers who come to Green Lake Conference Center from many parts of the United States to support projects around the world.

Among other faithful longtime volunteers are Elaine Donica, Peggy Stafford, Polly Marshall, Phyllis Thompson and JoAnn Blair.

