



By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

Eight churches in Imperial are shopping and wrapping presents to make the Christmas of 68 families and individuals in Imperial a little brighter.

“The Gift” involves a team from local churches who “adopt” families, couples and individuals, then purchase presents that fit those in need.

The Nebraska Department of Social Services used to provide the names of needy families at Christmas, but is no longer able to do so.

Coordinator Amy Prior pulled together churches to supply names and to ensure that duplication didn't occur.

Prior said those participating in The Gift program include two businesses, two organizations, individuals, and the United Methodist, St. Patrick's Catholic, Zion Lutheran, Berean Fundamental, Lighthouse Fellowship, Imperial Bible, Crossroads Wesleyan and Christian Faith Outreach churches.

Prior said the churches are still accepting monetary donations and gift and gas cards to be given at the above-named churches.

She reminds the community that “the need continues throughout the year.” In the meantime, The Gift will “add a little extra at Christmas,” she said.