



news from
PWRDF
The Primate's World Relief
and Development Fund
The Anglican Church of Canada

FEBRUARY 2021

under the sun

WORKING TOWARDS A TRULY JUST, HEALTHY AND PEACEFUL WORLD

STEWARDSHIP



Left, the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, and Musu Taylor-Lewis of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, at the PWRDF National Gathering of 2019. Above, Josephine Mwikali Mutinda shows her stored maize in a granary at her home in Kathonzweni, Makueni County, Kenya in September 2020.

A WORD ON GIVING FROM ARCHBISHOP LINDA NICHOLLS

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the Earth..." The first words of the Bible tell us that God creates all that exists. God breathes into life everything that lives on the Earth and invites humankind to tend and care for it in mutual partnership. What an act of generosity and trust! Even when humankind fails to tend and care, God offers infinite opportunities to repent of our failures and try again, forgiving us repeatedly and always ready through the guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us afresh. The generosity and abundance we experience daily is a gift we have not earned or deserved. Have you noticed how generous gifts like this open our hearts in gratitude, a gratitude that wants to respond? Our best response is to let that same generosity overflow through us into the world so others will glimpse God through us. When we do that we set off a ripple of thankful generosity whose effects we may not see but they become one more light of God's love in a world of pain that is not yet the kingdom of God. Every act of generosity from the heart – freely given out of love – makes a world of difference.

SAME STORM, DIFFERENT BOATS

Being a good neighbour at home and in the world during a pandemic

By Musu Taylor-Lewis
*Director of Resources and Public
Engagement at the Canadian
Foodgrains Bank*

This is the first time in my memory that the whole world is experiencing the same challenge at the same time. Here in Canada, our governments have rightly stepped in with financial packages to keep the economy afloat. They've also protected food supply chains so we can depend on food being available in our neighbourhood grocery stores. Imagine though, living in a country where the government didn't have the financial ability to roll out emergency benefits like the CERB despite the need to protect community health. Imagine being a small-scale farmer in an isolated rural community. A stay-at-home order would likely mean you could not get seed or fertilizer to plant the crops your family depends on for food. The global pandemic of 2020 has exposed just how much inequality

exists across the globe. As I've heard it said, "we are all in the same storm, but not in the same boat." For too many people, COVID-19 means facing the real threat of hunger. The World Food Programme estimates an additional 260 million people will face uncertainty about how they will provide food for their families. They may need to sell off assets like a cow, goat or tools, eat fewer meals or survive on less nutritious food. Before the challenges of 2020, Josephine Mwikali Mutinda signed up for training on conservation agriculture offered in her rural community of Kathonzweni in Kenya. Funding for the training came through Canadian Foodgrains Bank, a partnership of 15 churches and church agencies that includes PWRDF. By applying the new farming method and participating in a cooperative savings group, Josephine made progress towards providing food reliably for her family. Unfortunately, that hard-earned stability was

threatened by COVID-19. When restrictions to movement were imposed to safeguard community health, Josephine and others in her community found their ability to grow and sell produce limited by mandated gathering sizes, interrupted markets and restricted travel. As in rural communities in many parts of the developing world, farmers in Kathonzweni struggled to access agricultural support services, access credit to buy things like fertilizer and seeds, and struggled to sell their produce due to closed or limited market opportunities. The situation facing people like Josephine was so urgent that the Foodgrains Bank entered into an emergency agreement with the Government of Canada to provide additional supports to farmers like her. Through the agreement, donations used to fund assistance to farmers in five countries in East Africa could be matched on a 3:1 basis.

See **TOWARDS EQUALITY** on page 3



A LEGACY OF LOVE

Personal fundraisers an inspiring idea!

By Christine Hills
Public Engagement Program Officer

PWRDF donors have always been generous when it comes to supporting our partners and programs. That support comes in many forms: prayer, reflection, advocacy, volunteering and fundraising. This generosity of spirit is especially apparent in times of great joy, celebration and thanksgiving. Weddings, anniversaries and birthdays are a few of the occasions when our supporters have remembered PWRDF. If you would like to create a personal fundraiser in honour of your special day, we can support you with logos and partner stories. We can even set up a unique online link to make it easier for your friends to donate.



A VOW TO REMEMBER Bishop's wedding gathers donations

Photo: Gisele McKnight

Archbishop David Edwards of the Diocese of Fredericton, defines stewardship as: "Sharing with fellow human beings our God given talents and skills. Stewardship is an ask, not a compulsion." His wife Debbie notes this is especially important during the pandemic. At their wedding on January 4, 2020, the couple asked people to donate to PWRDF and other charities in lieu of a wedding gift. As this was a second marriage for both, they had everything they needed and wanted. With more than 300 guests, they were pleased with people's generosity. It was a win-win situation. They recommended PWRDF for the work done locally and globally and appreciate the work done by PWRDF in partnership, with funds going where they are needed.



40TH FUN AND SING-ALONG FOR PWRDF

Marque Smith is a musician and long-time supporter of PWRDF. When he turned 40 three years ago, asking friends to donate to PWRDF in lieu of gifts was an easy decision. "I give to PWRDF because I want to help those who would benefit from this organization. I feel that I have abundance and I want to share it." Using Facebook, Marque set up a fundraising appeal and raised hundreds of dollars for PWRDF.

But Marque's generosity did not end there. He has leveraged his considerable musical talents on many occasions to hold concerts benefitting PWRDF, including a recent one that turned virtual due to the pandemic. Marque and his husband, the Rev. Canon Greg Smith (PWRDF Diocesan

Representative for the Diocese of Huron), were planning a Christmas concert at St Luke's, Cambridge. The goal was to raise funds for PWRDF's All Mothers and Children Count program, St. Jude Family Projects and Indigenous Programs. With COVID-19 restrictions in place, they quickly regrouped and did it on Facebook Live. Marque performed Advent and Christmas Carols with Steve Robinson and Rev. Steve Greene, and Greg Smith presented on the three PWRDF projects. Donations were gratefully received.

"We are called by God to be generous hearted," adds Marque. "PWRDF does wonderful work for countless people worldwide in adverse situations. ... They are a phenomenal organization."



Photo: Ronald S. Diamond

FAMILY CONNECTION Tenth anniversary honours Haiti and maternal health

PWRDF board member David Schulze and his wife Mahalia Verna planned to celebrate their 10th wedding anniversary with a big party. Then COVID-19 struck and they went virtual – gifts too.

David knew PWRDF had excellent partners that focus on capacity building and the impact on the ground. With Mahalia's long family history in Haiti, Partners In Health Haiti was the natural choice to be the beneficiary of anniversary gifts in lieu of presents.

"We are pleased and very touched to be able to report that since our first email, PWRDF received over \$3,000 from over two dozen of our friends and family. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts." The pair cited PWRDF's work in Saint Marc, Haiti, where Mahalia's mother Clara Lanier Verna was born and where her grandfather Clément Lanier practised medicine. David's father, Werner Schulze, was an obstetrician, so the couple were doubly pleased that the Partners In Health Haiti work has a focus on maternal health. The legacy continues.



GIFTS OF ABUNDANCE

There may not be a party – but I have so much

Hallowe'en means different things to different people but for Rev. Roslyn Macgregor, PWRDF Diocesan Representative for the Diocese of Montreal, it means it's birthday party time! But in the year of COVID there would be no party, no friends coming over to celebrate, no party hats. Instead, Macgregor invited friends to celebrate with her by keeping health clinics in East Africa safe from COVID-19. Macgregor had a great 74th birthday and quoted the words of a friend, words that she has lived by: "Don't be afraid to ask for help. You are offering people an opportunity to give and make a difference."

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS

By Mike Ziemerink
Donor Relations Officer

More and more, families want to acknowledge the death of a loved one with a gift to a favourite charity. A donation is a meaningful way to create a lasting impact. PWRDF receives gifts like this from Anglicans and others across Canada every month.

To support these gifts, PWRDF has an In Memoriam card program. The In Memoriam cards are sent to family members to notify them that a gift has been made in honour of their loved one.

You can also celebrate a special event in a loved one's life by making an In Honour gift. These gifts are great for the parent, aunt, uncle or

sibling who has everything. Once you've made your gift, PWRDF will send an In Honour card to the recipient letting them know of your gift. These cards can be used for a variety of occasions like birthdays, baptisms, confirmations, anniversaries, Mother's Day or to recognize your child's favourite teacher. What a great alternative to a mug or box of chocolates!

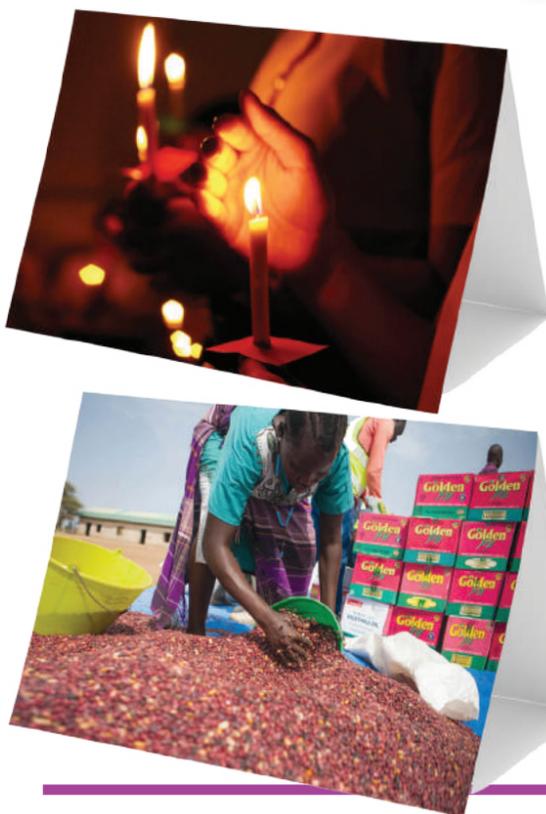
In Memoriam and In Honour cards can be requested in a number of different ways. When you make a gift on our website at pwrdf.org there is an option to make a tribute gift. Select 'I would like to dedicate this donation,' then fill in the details.

Once the gift is processed into our system, PWRDF will send the card directly to your intended

recipient. If you are making your donation over the phone or by mail, be sure to let us know that you're giving in honour or in memory of someone.

Parishes can also order In Honour or In Memoriam cards to have on hand. This way parishioners who want to make a tribute gift can do so – either on their own or through the collection plate – and receive a card from your parish representative right away. This is especially helpful at funerals or memorial services. Ask your PWRDF Parish Representative for more information or contact us directly at pwrdf@pwrdf.org.

"These cards are beautifully designed and easy to order," says Marianne McQuillan, Head of Donor Relations and Fundraising. "They are a great way to show love and support while also supporting a good cause."



AMCC COVID-19 EXTENSION UPDATE

PWRDF has been in close contact with our All Mothers and Children Count partners in Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Mozambique, where the Government of Canada has supported COVID-19 prevention measures with a 6:1 match.

At press time, donors had given more than \$90,000 to this program. To meet our commitment to Global Affairs Canada, we must raise \$330,000 by June 30, 2021.

In the rolling hills or *collines* of Burundi, the funding has allowed Village Health Works to continue serving remote rural populations while observing pandemic



protocols. Typically, moms and families would come to the clinics to receive child care and nutritional supplements, but this is not possible now.

Instead, VHW staff and volunteers are travelling to the communities. On a recent visit to Gashasha, the team reminded everyone about handwashing and physical distancing. One by one, women handed over their medical booklets and placed themselves and their child on the scales, says Lara Meguid

of VHW.

Women kept arriving throughout the morning, having covered quite a distance to get there.

"This saves me a lot of time and money," says Denise, 24, who had her first baby at the Kigutu clinic in January 2019.

"I was a little worried that the distribution would stop," says Janet, with five-month-old Wilson on her lap. "That you are coming here is so good. Keep coming to us."

TOWARDS EQUALITY

continued from page 1

PWRDF contributed donated funds to the emergency support, allowing local Kenyan partners to innovate in providing agriculture support services in Kathonzweni. Vegetable seeds were given to families and flexible loans were organized through village savings and loans groups so that farmers could continue to access credit for planting.

Our Canadian government has rightly taken steps to contribute to the global response to a global pandemic. Their assistance has helped communities protect their food supply chains so that people do not have to fear hunger. When Canada gives in this way it is representing the deeply held values and character of Canadians on the world stage.

As Paul explained to the church in Corinth: "Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality." (2 Corinthians 8: 13-14)

We are all in this storm together. When we problem solve together – despite the difficulties we face – we will not only get through the crisis faster, but perhaps we will start to build a more equal world. The pandemic has highlighted just how important it is to work toward equality across the globe. Let us all contribute to realizing that potential as individuals, communities and as a country during the pandemic – and after we've come through this storm, together.

PWRDF SHIFTS RIDE FOR REFUGE INTO HIGH GEAR

By Janice Biehn
Communications Coordinator

After the COVID-19 pandemic struck in March of 2020, nobody was sure how the Ride for Refuge was going to play out, but now with the Ride behind us, we are pleased to announce our most successful campaign ever!

Our original goal was to raise \$25,000 for our partner in Uganda, St. Jude Family Projects. Undaunted by the pandemic, the Ride organizers, Blue Sea Foundation, created a Freestyle category, allowing people the flexibility to choose their own activity. With two weeks left to go in the campaign, we had met the initial goal, then boosted it to \$30,000. We quickly blew past that target too and moved the finish line to \$35,000, then surpassed that as well, thanks to the overwhelming support for our participants across Canada. Our final target was \$40,000, and we are proud to say we exceeded that goal as well with \$43,000, our largest amount ever, more than doubling what was raised last year. Out of the 128 charities across Canada that participated this year, PWRDF finished 8th. With the ride freestyle option, 55 participants undertook all kinds of activities to raise funds while staying safe and socially distant.

From the traditional walking and cycling to reading Agatha Christie mysteries and knitting baby blankets, this year's participants really got creative. One of the biggest fundraisers was none other than the Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls,

who held two Facebook Live Hymn Sings, taking pledges and hymn requests raising nearly \$3,500. Some participants experienced the rugged beauty of Canada's wilderness. James Mesich, a former Youth Council member, hiked with his father for nine days on the Lake Superior Coastal Trail.

PWRDF Board member Cynthia Haines-Turner and PWRDF Diocesan Representative Mona Edwards hiked to the top of Gros Morne Mountain in Newfoundland. And PWRDF staffer Carolyn Vanderlip and her partner paddled their kayak on 11 different bodies of water in Ontario.

St. Jude Family Projects teaches sustainable agriculture techniques to mostly women and youth from rural Uganda and across Africa, improving livelihoods and food security while also protecting the environment.

St. Jude's founder, Josephine Kizza Aliddeki, is amazed with the success of this year's Ride for Refuge. "I am happy to hear the good news," she said before attending Praying with PWRDF on Zoom in October. "Thank you for such a great opportunity. We appreciate the support from PWRDF staff and Canadians so much."

Top to bottom: Primate Linda sings for refuge; Rev. Cam Gutjahr, Youth Council members Clare Urquhart and Jessica Steele cycle in Vancouver; Mona Edwards and Cynthia Haines-Turner hike Gros Morne Mountain in Newfoundland; volunteers walked together (but apart) in Niagara.



Thanks to you

ANGLICAN PARISHES ACROSS CANADA ARE GETTING INVOLVED WITH PWRDF – AND MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE!



BLESSING THE ANIMALS, COVID-STYLE

The Ministry of Leeds in the Diocese of Ontario held its St. Francis Day Blessing and Giving-Palooza on October 4. The five parishes of Leeds (Christ Church Athens, Holy Trinity Oak Leaf, St. Luke's Leeds, Parish of Kitley and Holy Trinity Lombardy) were invited to Holy Trinity Lombardy's parking lot to honour St. Francis of Assisi, who is known for his care for the poor and love of creation and all God's creatures. Many people brought their pet or a photo of their pet for a drive-through blessing, all done from a safe, physical distance. Thank you to all the volunteers who organized the event using pandemic protocols. Generous donors gave \$1,445 to PWRDF!

STRINGS ATTACHED!

The pandemic restrictions were not enough to keep the parish of St. James in Kentville, N.S. from holding its annual Longest Night concert to benefit PWRDF. This year's December 21 event went virtual and featured well known Nova Scotian harpists Ardyth and Jennifer. PWRDF Executive Director Will Postma even recorded a special virtual greeting to welcome everyone.

BEARING FRUIT FOR PWRDF

In October, St. Mary's Anglican Church in East Kelowna, B.C. (Diocese of Kootenay) celebrated Eucharist outside in an orchard belonging to Jo and Brian Meyers. Jo is a Warden at St. Mary's. Following the service, those who gathered were invited to select luscious apples, pears, plums and grapes to take home, and make a gift to PWRDF general funds. In total, \$282 was raised for PWRDF that afternoon. As Ruth Simpson, PWRDF Diocesan Representative for the Diocese of Kootenay notes, "One small congregation fundraiser for PWRDF, very Okanagan." Thanks to the Meyers for sharing their harvest with the community – and PWRDF!

WORKING TOGETHER TO BUY THE FARM

The parishes of St. Andrew in Langley and St. Dunstan's in Aldergrove in the Diocese of New Westminster, B.C., joined forces during Advent to "buy the whole farm" (\$570 on page 2 of this year's World of Gifts guide). Organizer Heather Clarke promoted the project each week during Zoom worship using the World of Gifts banner and buy the farm logo as her virtual backdrop. They also prayed for PWRDF and partners and created a model farm visual on St. Andrew's website. Cutouts of the items in the "whole farm" were added each week. During the first week they had already raised close to \$540. "There seems to be a lot of enthusiasm in both congregations, as far as I can tell in this distanced worship!" says Heather.

A BRUSH WITH GREATNESS

The Rev. Rhonda MacKay is a long-time member of the PWRDF Ottawa Working Group. She is also a budding artist, having taken up painting since retiring as Rector of St. Margaret's Vanier three years ago. The COVID-19 lockdown gave MacKay even more time to paint. The resulting 60 paintings were on display at Rhonda's Art Show that ran for a month this summer from her home. Rhonda was delighted to sell 45 pieces to friends and former parishioners. She split half of the total receipts between PWRDF and a local charity, Nelson House. A total of \$675 was given to PWRDF. Thank you Rhonda for putting your talent to such good use!

MORE WAYS TO GIVE

Did you know if you donate stock you avoid capital gains taxes? To donate stock directly to PWRDF instead of donating the same amount after the stock is sold means you don't have to pay taxes on the capital gains made if the stock has risen in value since first purchased. You will receive a charitable tax receipt from PWRDF for the market value of the securities. So if you are making a donation, please consider giving a gift of stock or securities as this provides an advantage to you the donor. The form to donate stocks or securities can be downloaded from our website at pwrdf.org/ways-to-give or call us at (416) 821-3345 or email us at pwrdf@pwrdf.org and we will send you the form or answer any questions you may have.

YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT PWRDF

YOUR GIFT CAN MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE. THANK YOU!

Donations can be made online at pwrdf.org/give-today or by filling out this form and mailing to the address below.

Name: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email address: _____

I have enclosed a one-time gift of
 \$40 \$80 \$125 \$500 other \$ _____

Please make cheque payable to PWRDF or provide credit card information.

Please circle credit card type: _____ Card #: _____
 Expiration Date: _____
  Signature: _____

OR
 I would like to make a monthly gift of \$ _____ by credit card (info at left)

I would like to make a monthly gift of \$ _____ by pre-authorized chequing to be withdrawn on
 1st of month 16th of month

Please enclose a personal cheque marked "Void."

OR
 To donate by phone, please call toll-free at 1-866-308-7973 or 416-822-9083 (Do not leave credit card information in a voice message.)



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Charitable number: 866 434640 RR0001 A-February-2021