

Please copy or edit, and include these notices in your weekly bulletin or newsletter. More information is available on: <u>https://christmasappeal.org.nz/</u>or to go directly to the resources prepared for churches: <u>https://cws.org.nz/get-</u> <u>involved/give/christmas-appeal/</u>

You may like to include the message of endorsement from your church leader(s).

Church Notices (Shorter)

Let Hope Flow this Christmas

This Christmas could you help someone living on the frontline of the climate crisis? Christian World Service is inviting you to support families dealing with severe water shortages, rising sea levels, and facing more intense natural disasters – to share the gift of water. The annual Christmas Appeal was first launched in 1945 and is supported by our church. Together we share God's love for the world and our concern for our neighbours near and far.

Please pray for people living on the frontline of climate change and share what you can so they can build rainwater tanks and grow food for a sustainable future. Your Christmas gift will Let Hope Flow this Christmas. Please make your donation in the envelope provided or online at: <u>https://cws.org.nz/christmas-appeal/</u>

Church Notices (Longer)

Let Hope Flow this Christmas

"And the life was the light of all people." John 1:4b

Christian World Service invites you to pray and support people living on the frontline of the climate crisis. In coastal Fiji and on the flood plains of Pakistan people are struggling with too much water. While in places like Nicaragua and the West Bank, families do not have enough.

Many people are facing an uncertain future because of the changing climate. Your gift of love to the 2022 Christmas Appeal will help them take the next step to deal with the challenges they face. Caleb and others affected by HIV and AIDS will be able to build water tanks to catch the rain in southwest Uganda! A woman like Kelly will be able to manage limited water to grow



more food for her family in Nicaragua. With your Christmas gift, you could help a family become more resilient in the climate crisis they have not created.

New Zealanders have supported the annual Christmas Appeal since 1945 as a way of standing with people who need water, food and justice. **Please give generously in the envelope provided or <u>donate</u> online. Thank you.**

When you share your love for your neighbour this Christmas, who will you help?

Sunday by Sunday Notices

These notices can be used each Sunday and on Christmas Day – or if you are focusing on the Christmas Appeal on One Sunday, choose the one that matches. The images are available as slides on the website – or you can download a cover image for your bulletin or order of service.



Advent One - Facing the Climate Challenge with Hope 27 November

In the Pacific people are dealing with rising sea levels, water shortages and more dangerous cyclones and drought. They are doing what they can to prepare their communities in the face of the climate crisis.

Our partner the Pacific Conference of Churches has been advocating for action to stop global warming in vulnerable villages and in the global arena. It is standing alongside communities facing relocation and fostering greater resilience. PCC encourages people to be champions not victims. It provides young people opportunities to care for creation and find ways to express their hope for the future. "We are not drowning, we are fighting" is a message from our neighbours in the Pacific.



Advent Two - Facing the Climate Challenge with Peace 4 December

In the Middle East, temperatures and tensions are rising. The climate crisis adds to the conflict that is depriving people of their land and right to water. Omar (not pictured) worries about having enough water for her family and animals on the West Bank, in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. She and her husband have to purchase water because the authorities will not let them dig new wells, install rainwater tanks, repair leaky pipes or extend water infrastructure to other homes.

The Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees has had some success in negotiating water improvements with funds donated from overseas partners including CWS. In Gaza the water poverty is much worse. DSPR provides practical help to meet the urgent needs of Palestinian and other refugee families.



Advent Three - Facing the Climate Challenge with Joy 11 December

Parents are finding it much harder to feed their families on the frontline of the climate crisis. Seasons are changing and there may be too much or too little rain for them to grow the food they need. Many CWS partners are helping families adapt to the changing growing conditions by learning agro-ecological or regenerative approaches, improving irrigation and growing new foods.

In Nicaragua Kelly was glad to receive food and water filters from CEPAD, the National Council of Protestant Churches, after Hurricane Julia in October.

CEPAD is supporting Community Development Committees in 42 villages to improve the livelihoods of families, improve community services and prepare themselves in case of disaster.



Advent Four - Facing the Climate Challenge with Love 18 December

In September Luqman (not pictured) was marooned by the flood waters that covered one third of Pakistan. Like so many others on the frontline of the climate crisis, he has not contributed to this catastrophe. Months later some communities are still dealing with flooding and many more are trying to rebuild homes and livelihoods.

Community World Service Asia has sent Mobile Health Clinics and is distributing cash transfers to families with no resources. It wants to teach people to build new houses designed to keep them above flood levels depending on funding. As well as this practical help, Community World Service trains other organisations to put the beneficiaries at the heart of all humanitarian response to make sure they get the help they want and need. Like CWS, it is part of the ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together) which responds to humanitarian situations throughout the world.



Christmas Day – Facing the Climate Challenge in Christ 25 December

Thirteen-year-old Caleb stands with his grandmother at the centre of this year's Christmas Appeal. In southwest Uganda where they live, the land is getting drier. Caleb has lost his parents to AIDS and his sister to typhoid. But they live in hope. Every night they pray for a new rainwater tank which would give them clean water to drink clean and save long walks carrying heavy loads. Caleb will be able to go to school more often.

In this climate crisis, we are supporting partners like the Centre for Community Solidarity with our gifts and our prayers. It has organised a network of 25 villages associations made up of caregivers to children affected by HIV and AIDS. Members learn about hygiene and discuss ways to improve their livelihoods. Most important of all is a saving scheme to build families their own tanks, half of which is funded through CWS.

Let Hope Flow this Christmas. Support the 2022 <u>Christmas Appeal</u> with your gift today.

"The Centre for Community Solidarity unreservedly thanks CWS and the lovely, generous and compassionate people from New Zealand for non-stop support to the vulnerable communities in Isingiro living in water stressed conditions hit hard by climate change."