

This newsletter gives details of forthcoming events in Wimborne. Please show it to anyone who might be interested and email me with details of any others who would like to receive a copy.

As you might expect, all our local events are on hold at present and this gives me an opportunity to feature Christian Aid's wider work, which is driven by the belief that every person is made in the image of God, with inherent dignity and worth.

Our oneness has been emphasised by the coronavirus which is affecting everyone, but the impact is greatest in the poorest countries where there is only basic healthcare and people are already facing increasing hardship through the changing climate. Working with and through local partner organisations enables Christian Aid to reach those most vulnerable.

A) Responding to the Coronavirus epidemic

Christian Aid is responding to coronavirus outbreaks in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, working together with partners and faith leaders to inform people about the risks, offering vital hygiene training, equipping health facilities with supplies, and providing food packages to the most marginalised families.



Latin America and the Caribbean (adapted from the Christian Aid website)

Coronavirus is having a devastating effect on communities across Latin America and the Caribbean. By the end of May there had been over 835,000 confirmed cases and over 46,830 people had died from the illness. The implications of the lockdown were having serious consequences in terms of people's livelihoods and their health and safety.

Our partners in Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador and Haiti are helping women at risk of increased domestic violence during lockdown. We are providing online counselling to women who have survived sexual violence, and we've provided survivors of domestic and sexual violence with protective masks and hand sanitiser. Similar work is happening in Guatemala, where lockdown has left many vulnerable women at further risk. Our partner there is also helping to transport women to safe refuges.

In Bogotá, Colombia, we are providing emergency funding and food to communities who are unable to earn a living as waste recyclers during the lockdown. In El Salvador, thanks to

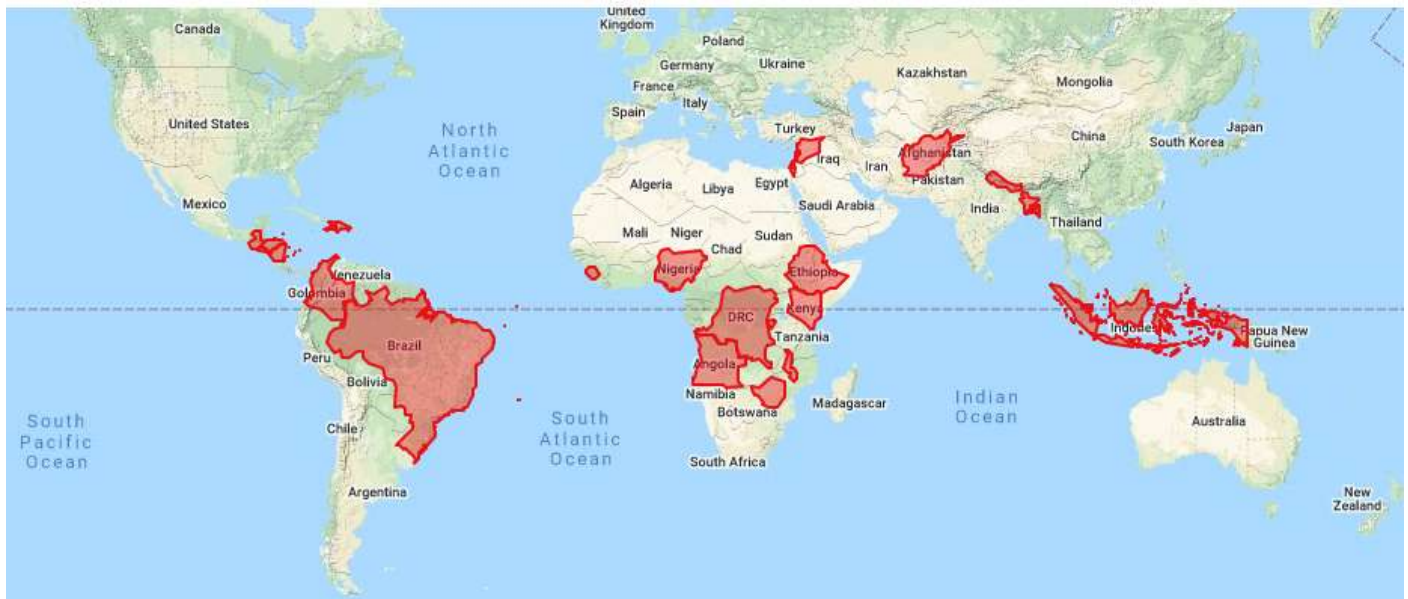
support from Irish Aid, we are providing grain to over 200 families in one of the poorest areas of the country.

Our partners across Latin America are working with local communities to raise awareness of coronavirus and educate people about their human rights. We are continuing to build hand washing points and raise awareness on the importance of physical distancing.

Similar support is being given in many other countries too as shown on this map in red.

More details are available on the website - just click on this link

https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/coronavirus-emergency-appeal-v2?utm_expid=.qM_b1lteQXKMFdZSDT9wrA.1&utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.christianaid.org.uk%2Fget-involved%2Fcampaigns



B) Working to relieve poverty

Christian Aid believes that poverty in a world of plenty is a scandal and is working to bring about a fairer, more just world. Although progress in tackling poverty has been made on many fronts, too many people – especially women and girls – are still being left behind. There is a growing gap between those who hold the world’s wealth and those who are struggling to get by. As a result, there are still millions of people living in extreme poverty without their basic rights fulfilled.

Christian Aid is working in many countries to tackle poverty and is part of a global movement campaigning for a more just world. The website has details of many of the projects and campaigns and the 2020 Autumn Harvest Appeal features Angela, a coffee farmer in Nicaragua. The following has been adapted from the appeal poster.

Angela’s coffee farm used to provide a good living for her family, but now she’s facing a crisis. The changing climate in Nicaragua means her coffee harvests are shrinking every year. At the same time, coffee prices have fallen globally. Angela is worried: ‘It will be a total disaster and failure for us because, as farmers, growing crops is how we survive. Where will we get our incomes?’

Nicaragua is the second poorest country in Latin America. It is also one of the countries most affected by climate change. Some 80% of the population depend on agriculture for survival. Many grow coffee as their main source of income and as the climate crisis continues their future looks more and more uncertain. But there is hope. With the support of Christian Aid's local partner, Soppexcca, Angela's community is coming together as a local cooperative to share resources and knowledge and to protect their livelihoods. One of the main changes is a shift from coffee production to climate-resistant cocoa. Angela can now looking forward to the future with hope: 'The income from the cocoa crop is very important. It means we can buy clothes, medicines and food.'

Her daughter Johaira added: 'All of us in the family were involved with the project. We all know it's very important for the family income. I am proud of my mum growing cocoa. She is an inspiration.'



Cocoa has given Angela and her daughters Ariana and Johaira hope for the future

You can read Angela's story in full at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/autumn-appeal/angelas-story>

C) Donations

If you would like to give to the Autumn Appeal you can donate in the following ways:-

a) on the website:- <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/autumn-appeal>

b) by bank transfer to:- Wimborne Area Christian Aid,
account number: 90854395 sort code: 20-96-96,
It would help if you could put "Autumn 20" in the reference field

c) by cheque made out to Christian Aid and sent to our local treasurer
Mr P Verver, 27 Julians Road, Wimborne, BH21 1EF
Please mark the envelope "Christian Aid"

D) Local Plans

We are hoping to be able to have some events around Christmas, in particular the music and carols outside Waitrose and the Christmas Eve lunch in Church House. Watch this space for more details.

Thank you once again for all your support for Christian Aid, and please get in touch if you would like more details of any of these events and activities.

Mike Lunt, telephone: 889487.