



Christian Aid Week 10th-16th May

This newsletter would normally be giving details of forthcoming local events and at this time of year would be focusing on Christian Aid Week. However, this year cannot be normal. We have already had to cancel some of our local Lent Lunches and we are clearly unable to have our normal Christian Aid Week activities. Sadly, there will be no house-to-house collection, no standing on the street with collecting tins and no gathering for special services or meals. However, there are still plenty of opportunities in the virtual world for those with internet access, so Christian Aid has prepared material for a virtual Christian Aid Week and I would like to share some of this with you.

Christian Aid Week - daily live-streamed worship and daily quiz

Christian Aid will be live-streaming worship each day, and hosting a daily quiz to raise funds. I haven't got any more details yet but you will need to sign up using the links below if you wish to take part.

[Daily live-streamed worship](#)

[Daily quiz](#)

Alternatively, you may wish to **create your own virtual service, quiz or other event** and the following resources are available to help you:-

How to organise a virtual Christian Aid Week service

Order of service

Sermon notes

Prayers in the time of coronavirus

How to run your own virtual quiz

Organising your own virtual fundraiser

Just click on the link below, which brings up a heading *Coronavirus guidance for Christian Aid Week events and activities* and scroll down to the section *New resources for Christian Aid Week*

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/about-us/christian-aid-week/coronavirus-guidance>

Christian Aid and Covid-19

Covid-19 does not respect national boundaries and is spreading throughout the world. Christian Aid has experience of working in many of the poorer and less resilient countries and is already helping them prepare. Here is **an extract from a letter from Amanda Khozi Mukwashi, CEO of Christian Aid**:-

Our global response

As all of our thoughts are on the Covid-19 situation, we wanted to share an update on Christian Aid's response.

We are praying for all those affected by this new virus, both in Britain and overseas, for all those working on the frontline and for wisdom for our leaders.



Christian Aid and our partners already have experience of limiting the spread of infection during the Ebola crisis, and we will build on this experience to continue to stand together with communities living in poverty during this period. If infection rates start to develop as they are in Europe, then people in poorer countries will be hit even harder. Many are already living with reduced health resilience because of extreme poverty, or in overcrowded humanitarian camps and in countries which do not have the healthcare infrastructures needed to combat widespread disease. We will be working on the ground to help prepare communities to limit the impact of Covid-19. Please pray for us in this vital work, and support us where you can by making an online donation.

*With every blessing,
Amanda Khozi Mukwashi*

Making a donation

By supporting Christian Aid, you show your concern and support for our global neighbours and that support is now needed more than ever. The Coronavirus emergency has been highlighted in Amanda's letter but there will also be other emergencies caused by storms, floods and drought. If you wish to make a donation, please give via the website <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week> where possible or call 020 7523 2269 to donate by telephone. Please note, there is a delay in processing postal donations because of the Covid-19 virus.

Recent local events and annual accounts

Our **January Quiz** once again proved popular with over 50 participants. Special thanks go to Irene Selway who prepared all the questions and material and to Wimborne Methodist Church for hosting us. The total raised was just over £400 with an additional £50 from Gift Aid. Very many thanks to all who took part and contributed so generously.

We only managed two **Lent Lunches** before they had to be stopped, but these two alone raised £848 which increased to £1,000 when the Gift Aid was included. Many thanks to all who contributed - it is very encouraging to have this amazing level of support. Thanks again to Wimborne Methodist Church for hosting us and providing tea and coffee.

This is the time when we prepare our **Annual Accounts** and I would like to thank you all for your continued wonderful support over the past year during which you gave just under £8,650 with a further £1,030 from Gift Aid. It's really encouraging to be reminded of the level of commitment locally. Thank you.

We are looking forward to the time when we can actually meet you, our supporters, again in person. Meanwhile, please look at the Christian Aid website to see what is being achieved and consider signing up for the daily services and quiz.

Mike Lunt, telephone: 889487.