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## January 2025

Hello Friend!

We all know that feeling after a big Christmas dinner, right? You're stuffed, maybe a little uncomfortable, and you vow to eat lighter tomorrow. But for many people around the world, especially those living in refugee camps and other difficult situations, the holidays weren't about overeating. They were about worrying where their next meal would come from.

In this issue, we're going to talk about the serious problem of hunger facing millions of people. And guess what? Your church youth group can actually make a difference! We'll explore how you can participate in a "30 Hour Famine" to raise awareness and funds to help those in need.

**In this issue:**

- Discover how World Vision fights hunger and makes a difference.
- See how World Vision food packets sustain families like Abu Ali's in refugee camps.
- Join the 30 Hour Famine and impact lives alongside youth groups nationwide.

- Register your youth & leaders for the inspiring Today's Teens Conference in February.
- Shape the future of ministry: Participate in the Resilient Pastor Survey.

"But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?" 1 John 3:17



## Global Hunger Affects Over 9% of the World's Population

*Global hunger rose sharply from 2019 to 2021 and persisted at the same level to 2023, affecting over 9 percent of the world population in 2023.*

According to the United Nations 2024 edition of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report, between 713 and 757 million people faced hunger in 2023— **one out of 11 people in the world, and one out of every five in Africa.**

The report also states, "*Apart from hunger, 2.33 billion people experienced moderate or severe food insecurity and 900 million people faced severe food insecurity. Over 3.1 billion people could not afford a healthy diet. Many children under five suffer from malnutrition. Exclusive breastfeeding has improved, but more effort is needed to meet the malnutrition targets by 2030.*"

### With your support, here is how World Vision is making a difference:

- Every month, 2.8 million people receive food assistance from World Vision—more than the population of Vancouver.
- Nearly 10 lives are saved every day through our food assistance programs.
- In 2023, World Vision and the World Food Programme (WFP) distributed 67,690 metric tons of food and provided food assistance to 1,950,835 people. World Vision also partnered with the WFP to provide food to more than 5,000 people displaced by the conflict in Sudan. WV has been the WFP's largest non-governmental partner for over 18 years.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## When Nothing Becomes Everything

Abu Ali\*, a Syrian refugee, has spent the past 13 years of his life navigating the constant uncertainty of displacement. Forced to flee his home countless times, he endured his last displacement in 2019, escaping a storm of bombs. Now, he and his family reside in a makeshift tent, a fragile shelter from the harsh elements.

Life in the camp is a constant struggle. Abu Ali takes on any work he can find, from farming to construction, to provide for his family. However, the constant threat of hunger looms large. Food insecurity is a daily reality for families like Abu Ali's, leaving them constantly worried about their next meal.

For Abu Ali and other families, these food parcels are not a luxury, but a lifeline. They represent a fragile stability, a bare minimum to survive. "These baskets aren't life-changing," Abu Ali reflects, "but they hold us together. They keep us going."

Living through such challenging conditions, Abu Ali deeply appreciates the support provided. "Thank you from the depths of my heart, and I hope this project continues to support all the people in the camps," he says.

\*Name changed to protect his identity. In the photo, Abu is feeding his youngest child RUTF (Ready-to-use therapeutic food).

### 30 Hour Famine: A Small Sacrifice with Massive Impact

Imagine a world where hunger isn't a daily struggle. **That's the world we can create, together.** 258 million people shouldn't have to wonder where their next meal will come from.

The **30 Hour Famine** is your chance to make a real difference. It's a small sacrifice with a massive impact. Look what The Journey Church youth in Moncton, NB achieved in 2024 - they raised a whopping \$8,855! Your youth group can be next.

Join the movement to end hunger, one meal at a time. Are you ready to be the change?



[LEARN MORE](#)



As a valued supporter, we invite you to join us virtually for our **Annual General Meeting** where we will celebrate the impact of the work we have achieved together and hear about our plans for the future.

**World Vision Canada 2025 AGM**  
Sunday, January 26  
12:45 PM – 4:30 PM EST

We are so grateful to be able to call you a partner in the work we do, and we hope you will be greatly encouraged by what you hear.

[REGISTER](#)



### Today's Teens Conference - Feb. 22, 2025, Brampton, ON

You are a youth worker, called to lead the next generation to follow Jesus. You step into their chaotic worlds, not just as a guide but as a bridge-builder. Through your presence, prayer, and guidance, you connect their everyday realities to the transformative power of Jesus.

**Today's Teens Conference 2025** exists to encourage and equip you for this vital mission. Keynote speakers include: Ken Shigematsu, Cheryl Nembhard, Hakeem Bradley, and Kaitlyn Cey. We'll see you there! Register below.

[REGISTER TODAY](#)



### Participate in the Resilient Church Leader Survey!

World Vision Canada and Barna Group are partnering on an important and ambitious global research project, and we want to hear from you! If you are a church leader (part-time, full-time, or volunteer), we invite you to complete a survey so that we can better understand your perspectives, experiences, challenges, and stories.

**Have your voice heard** during this brief anonymous survey (15 min). This survey will result in a report that will be made available to you in the future to support your leadership in the years to come.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### 2025 Events You Won't Want to Miss:

- Jan 25-26: [Youth Worker Conference](#) (Saskatoon, SK)
- Jan 31-Feb 1: [Youth Worker Conference](#) (Abbotsford, BC)
- Feb 22: [Today's Teens Conference](#) (Brampton, ON)
- Mar 3-6: [Lead Pastors Retreat](#) (Keats Island, BC)
- Mar 13: [Ambrose Pastor's Conference](#) (Calgary, AB)
- Jun 3-4: [ARC Conference 2025](#) (Edmonton, AB)

*Save the dates and share with your colleagues!*



## PRAY WITH US

World Vision empowers children worldwide through faith-based programs tailored to their specific needs. Please **pray** for their spiritual leaders and the children they guide.

P.S. May we pray for you? Please **EMAIL** us your personal prayer requests and the Church Team would be blessed to pray specifically for you.



Many blessings, **Chris Schroeder**  
*Your World Vision Church Advisor*

If you have any questions or would like to connect with me directly, please **email** or book a virtual coffee on my **calendar**.

World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organization working to create lasting change in the lives of children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, World Vision is dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

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