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November 2024

Hello Friend!

As the holiday season approaches, we look forward to celebrating the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. While this year may have brought challenges for some, we find comfort in the hope and joy that Christmas brings. May this season be filled with peace, love, and the warmth of togetherness for you.

In this issue:

- Explore the gifts you and your church family can give to children and families in need this Christmas season.
- Find out who the top 'Global 6K for Water' and '30 Hour Famine' teams were for 2024.
- Read how Chosen is changing the narrative on child sponsorship.
- Explore the gifts you and your church family can give to children and families in need this Christmas season.
- Participate in the Canadian Resilient Pastor survey.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."
James 1:17



What Makes a Good Christmas Gift?

What makes a good Christmas gift? A gift that keeps on giving.

2023 was supposed to be a year of plenty in Honduras, but a severe drought turned the promise of a bountiful harvest into a devastating reality. The Lizama family, including farmer Kevin, his wife Reina, and their 8-year-old twin daughters, María José and María Fernanda, saw their hopes and dreams wither away along with their crops. Food insecurity became a daily struggle for the family, as the drought left them with little to eat.

Through World Vision, Reina received training including a mentorship program focused on entrepreneurship and business skills, as well as technical assistance for minor livestock. Kevin transformed his thinking with the **'Biblical Empowered Worldview'** training, a powerful perspective based on Scriptures about identity, responsibility, and accountability through which participants build trust and shift from dependency to action.

With the training received, and the delivery of seven laying hens and one rooster, Reina decided to make the most of these resources by starting a cake business. With each order, she managed to generate additional income for her household. **The hens have also played a crucial role in ensuring adequate nutrition for the girls.** "It's satisfying to see that a child has food on the table. For me, it's gratifying to see them have something to eat; it's the best satisfaction as a parent to provide food for his children," expresses Kevin.

Packed with potential, farm animals can boost a family's nutrition and income for years to come! Through the [2024 World Vision Gift Catalogue](#), join together as a church, family, Sunday School class, youth group or small group, and give a gift that keeps on giving.

GIVE AN ANIMAL



Top Five Global 6K for Water Teams for 2024!

Over 38 teams and 400 individuals participated in a Global 6K for Water walk, run or roll event in 2024, and over \$143,000 raised for clean water in 2024!

We would like to celebrate the Top Five Teams for 2024:

- Forest City Community Church, London, ON
- Brentwood Park Alliance Church, Burnaby, BC
- Parkdale United Church, Ottawa, ON
- Grace Chinese Gospel Church, North York, ON
- C3 Edmonton Church, Edmonton, AB

Thank you to every person who joined us in fundraising and donating to provide clean water! *Every step you took was one they didn't have to.*

Sign up for your 2025 event now! Or, to learn more about hosting a Global 6K, click the link below.

[SIGN UP TODAY!](#)



Top Five 30 Hour Famine Teams for 2024!

World Vision's 30 Hour Famine is about feeding your organization's hunger to live out their faith, witness to others and make a difference for children around the globe. Thank you to the 217 participants who sacrificed their comfort and raised nearly \$32,000 in 2024!

Top Five Teams for 2024:

- The Journey Church, Moncton, NB
- Ecole Secondaire Beaumont Composite High School, Beaumont, AB
- Grand Centre Alliance Youth, Cold Lake, AB
- Calgary Chinese Baptist Church, Lighthouse Community Church & Roots Church
- JB Group, Toronto, ON

PHOTO ABOVE:

Corrinne Hetherington, Youth Leader at Grand Centre Alliance Church said, "This is a photo of an object lesson we used during the last famine. The bottom reads, "Every 10 seconds a child under 5 dies from hunger related causes. This is one fingerprint for each of those children who died during the 30 Hour Famine. This is what 21,000 looks like." It was posted at the front of the church during Sunday service. We thanked the congregation for supporting our students and supporting children like these."

[LEARN MORE](#)



Chosen is Changing the Narrative of Child Sponsorship

On Sunday, October 22, 2024, Journey Church in Calgary partnered with World Vision for a Chosen Sunday. The following week, our Church Advisor Greg Baker, and pastors Jess & Davide flew to Kenya for an unforgettable experience.

"The Choosing Party in Mathare Valley was an experience like no other. Nothing moves you so deeply & inspires you so greatly than seeing these kids, who live in extreme poverty, get the opportunity to choose their sponsor. And once they choose you, you now carry the weight of a beautiful responsibility to speak into their lives, pray for them and bless them - and they will do the same in yours! Chosen is changing the narrative of child sponsorship, and will continue to do so for many years to come." Greg Baker, Church Advisor, Alberta

In total, 119 children chose their sponsors, impacting their lives, families, and community. Did you know that for every sponsored child, four others benefit from World Vision's transformative work? This means nearly 500 children in Mathare Valley will be positively impacted. Thank you, Journey Church!

If you would like more information about having a Chosen experience at your church, please click the box below.

[TELL ME MORE](#)



Why World Vision?

Our mission

We're on a mission to help families and communities **break through poverty**—for good! How? By being laser-focused on three areas: disaster relief, transformational development and advocacy.

Our approach

We stand by the belief that if we have the means to help, we have the responsibility to act. World Vision is an international partnership of Christians whose mission is to follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in **working with the poor and oppressed** to promote human transformation, seek justice and bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom of God.

We don't just provide short-term fixes like delivering food, clean water, providing healthcare and education. We also collaborate and partner with local leaders in communities to address the root causes behind the challenges they face and find sustainable solutions to overcome them.

Our impact

In 2023, we reached over **16.5 million girls, boys and adults through 280 programs**, helping them and their communities gain independence. The impact we've had in the lives of the world's most vulnerable girls and boys is one of the reasons we're rated among the [top 10 international impact charities in Canada](#) year after year.

LEARN MORE



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

2024 World Vision Gift Catalogue

Give a gift. CHANGE A LIFE.

Providing a gift for a child in another country is amazing. Providing livestock to a family so they can feed their child and generate income to lift themselves out of poverty ... even better! **The gift of a goat or a chicken is a gift that keeps on giving.**

Want a supply of gift catalogues for your church family? Send us an email at churches@worldvision.ca and we'll be happy to send those out to you.

ONLINE GIFT CATALOGUE

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- 2025
- Jan 25-26: [Youth Worker Conference \(Saskatoon\)](#)
- Jan 31-Feb 1: [Youth Worker Conference \(Abbotsford\)](#)
- Feb. 22: [Today's Teen Conference](#)

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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