

# Take It Further • Take It Further • Take It Further • Take It Further

## Pray

Prayer is a moment with God. We pray with our bodies, hearts, minds, and souls. As one way to connect with God and the work of your church, you may use the prayers below on your own or with others.

### Let us pray for ourselves:

Creating God,  
help us to distinguish between our wants and needs,  
between what our society promotes as necessary  
and what we need to live happy and healthy lives.  
Let us acknowledge that our abundance  
may be connected to others' discomfort.  
May we find ways to challenge  
the fundamental structures of our society  
that demand the latest styles,  
the best quality, and the greatest quantity.  
May we find ways to live gently on this Earth  
and give thanks for all Creation. Amen.

Through our churches we are connected  
to people all over the world and within our own  
communities.

### Let us pray for global partners:

Labouring God,  
we give thanks for those  
who work to change their communities,  
who struggle for basic needs and righteous justice.  
May they find the courage to lift their voices  
in the midst of stiff opposition,  
and may their voices be received  
as the cries of Jesus who calls for justice. Amen.

### Let us pray for the world's leaders:

Listening God,  
may our leaders  
and those who are in positions of power  
hear your call and the cries of others  
through our voices raised in protest.  
Help them to make changes that are required  
to create a new and just world  
for all who walk the path of life.  
Amen.

## Act

We have inherited this Earth as a place to enjoy God's gift of Creation in all of its natural splendour and keep it safe for the next generation.

Celebrate this gift by going outside to run, walk, or cycle. As you do, reflect on the millions of people who walk many kilometres a day to take animals to pasture, collect water, or gather firewood. Walking or riding is not only a way to protect the environment; for millions, it is the only way to do the work.

We acknowledge that the Earth is not a gift given to us alone. We acknowledge that we are consuming resources faster than they are being regenerated and we are destroying the very assets upon which life depends. Forests are disappearing, soils are eroding, and water tables are falling. The climate is changing. The most vulnerable to these changes are those who contribute the least to the causes: people living in poverty. Calculate your ecological footprint and find ways to reduce your global impact both as individuals and as a community.

For ideas visit the following websites:

- ▶▶ [www.earthday.net/footprint/index.asp](http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.asp)
- ▶▶ [www.oneplanetliving.org](http://www.oneplanetliving.org)
- ▶▶ [www.ourclimate.ca/main/index.php](http://www.ourclimate.ca/main/index.php)
- ▶▶ [www.faith-commongood.net](http://www.faith-commongood.net)

### We can alter our consumption

- ▶▶ Choose to buy items second-hand when you are able and to recycle items no longer needed.
- ▶▶ Before you purchase something new, reflect on whether it is a need or a want. See if you might meet the need another way. Purchase communally, rent, or borrow. Be creative!
- ▶▶ Let your choices and actions be known by your community and its leaders. Write letters, attend events, and arrange meetings.
- ▶▶ Learn about investments and choose wisely. Use your shareholders' power to seek change.
- ▶▶ Re-Energize — sign the KAIROS pledge to reduce our personal and national dependence on fossil fuel. [www.kairoscanada.org](http://www.kairoscanada.org)

## Give

### Give some of your time

- ▶▶ Learn about the people you share the world with through your church's connections.
- ▶▶ Visit the website listed below and share the good news stories of partnership.
- ▶▶ Share these stories with the children of your local church. Use the resources that accompany this calendar.

### Give some of your heart

- ▶▶ Find ways to share these stories with your community.
- ▶▶ Share with others how they can be connected to global partners' work.

### Give some of your resources

#### Adults

- ▶▶ Become a monthly donor for your denomination's development and relief work.
- ▶▶ Plan and run a fundraiser that educates people about your church's work.
- ▶▶ Examine how your local church supports the international work of the church. Are there ways you might work together?

#### Children

- ▶▶ Set aside some of your own money to help care for creation.
- ▶▶ Plan and run a fundraiser (bake sale, spaghetti dinner) that educates people about your church's work and enables them to contribute to the work financially.
- ▶▶ Use the calendar on the other side to think about development work and find ways to give money.

Learn more about Caring for Creation work at [www.pwrdf.org](http://www.pwrdf.org)

## Care for Creation Story

PWRDF global partners are helping people around the world find long-term sustainable solutions to poverty and ecological degradation. Here is one way PWRDF partners are making a difference.

### Countering Drought by Using Solar Energy

More than two billion people worldwide depend primarily on wood for their energy needs. Domestic cooking accounts for 60 percent of wood burning in developing countries, and as much as 90 percent in some areas. Biomass burning leads to deforestation and contributes up to 40 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. It also poses a major health threat for women doing the cooking.

In sub-Saharan Africa, deforestation leads to loss of animal habitats, erosion, and reduced rainfall. The end result is drought. To counter this threat, solar cooking is being introduced in the Anglican Diocese of Masasi, Tanzania, through a joint Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF)—Roman Catholic program.

The solar oven is simple, just an insulated box with a glass top surrounded by four outward panels. It works by the greenhouse effect: light enters through the glass and is absorbed and reflected by the foil-covered walls as infrared radiation (in other words, heat). The glass blocks the infrared, so the heat stays in the box, where it cooks food like a crockpot—slowly but steadily, as long as the sun shines. Meat cooks in four hours; rice and bread are ready in three hours.

Solar cooking is a win/win proposition: trees are saved, the effects of deforestation are eliminated, money for charcoal and the time gathering wood are saved, and importantly, women's lungs are saved.

**THE PRIMATE'S WORLD RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**  
**The Anglican Church of Canada**  
80 Hayden Street  
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 3G2  
Phone: 416-924-9192 or 1-866-308-7973  
Fax: 416-924-3483  
Website: [www.pwrdf.org](http://www.pwrdf.org)  
Email: [pwrdf@pwrdf.org](mailto:pwrdf@pwrdf.org)

