

PWS&D spotlight



March 2010, Issue 11

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Welcome to the PWS&D Spotlight, an e-newsletter for people interested in learning more about The Presbyterian Church in Canada's development and emergency relief work around the world

Declaring the Good News of Easter: A Lenten Reflection

We Christians are an Easter people, and for us Lent is a time of reflection and anticipation. We spend these weeks in the shadow of the greatest time of our faith, Holy Week. As we recall and meditate on the suffering of Christ, his death and the climax of triumphant resurrection, we remember again who we are and to whom we are called.

We also remember that the new life in Christ has not been realized by everyone. Easter is not yet universal. Many struggle under a load of crushing poverty, debilitating economic or political injustice. Inadequate health care may cause unnecessary death while poor access to education and nutrition may result in the loss of a child's hopes and opportunities. When an earthquake strikes, this darkness is compounded. The Holy Week cycle of suffering and death is felt by many of our neighbours around the world.

Yet PWS&D is a sign that we have not lost hope. Remembering our calling to continue Christ's work, we declare the good news of Easter with words and deeds.

Through PWS&D, we partner with others across the globe to make the promise of Easter a reality. Christ's new life is proclaimed with every patient treated, every student taught and nourished, and every home built. As we work with others we also join with Christ, speeding the day when the reign of God is enjoyed by all.

This Lent, let us reflect on the suffering of Christ and of our global family, anticipate the promise of Easter, and join God's work through PWS&D to make this promise a reality.

Written by Jeremy Bellsmith, researcher and writer with The Vine: the national church's resourcing centre.

Photos: PWS&D and Paul Jeffrey/ACT



Massive Earthquake Hits Chile: PWS&D Accepting Donations

An 8.8-magnitude earthquake hit Chile on Saturday, Feb 27, claiming anywhere from 300-800 lives, destroying 1.5 million homes, and causing widespread damage to highways, bridges, hospitals and infrastructure for electricity and water.

The ACT Alliance is providing food boxes,

hygiene kits and water bottles to about 1,000 families affected by the earthquake. PWS&D is a member of the ACT Alliance and will forward donations received to the response.

You can help those affected through your prayerful and financial support. Make a donation

to PWS&D today by calling 1-800-619-7301 ext. 291, donating online, through your church or

mailing a cheque to the office. Please mark all donations "Chile Relief."

Photo by Marcelo Hernandez/LatinContent/Getty Images



Spice Up Your Sunday Bulletin with PWS&D's Bulletin Bits

Looking for some great news to insert into your Sunday bulletin? PWS&D's weekly Bulletin Bits feature a news item or story and a photo to be downloaded and inserted into your church's Sunday bulletin. You can also sign up to receive Bulletin Bits by email. Check out www.presbyterian.ca/pwsd/bulletin_bits to read the latest Bit!

Water for Life in Malawi: Emelda's Story

Clean water is essential to life, yet access to safe water remains a struggle for more than a billion people around the world. In Malawi, PWS&D is working to change the situation by partnering with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian to bring clean water to community members in the Euthini area of the country.

Emelda is part of a water committee overseeing a borehole that was installed in her village through this program. She used to wake up before sunrise to travel a long distance with the other women in her area to collect water.

Since the borehole was installed, the women have been able to use their time for other activities such as farming and caring for their children. By sharing the responsibility to oversee the borehole, Emelda is proud to be part of the solution to ensuring her community has access to clean water.



You can read more about how PWS&D is working together with partners in Malawi and Canadians here at home to build healthier communities by visiting www.presbyterian.ca/pwsd/pwsdev

Please consider adding the text from this newsletter to your church bulletin

Stay up-to-date on PWS&D news and events by visiting www.presbyterian.ca/pwsd regularly.

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