

SPECIAL REPORTS



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Adama and his pregnant wife, Jeneba, are grateful for your generosity as they adapt to life in a refugee camp. Your love is delivering nutritious food, shelter and farming assistance to ensure their family has enough to eat, especially Jeneba and her unborn baby.

Your kindness is sending God's love to the people of the Sahel Region of Africa

Burkina Faso used to be one of the most stable countries on the continent of Africa.

Unfortunately, droughts have become more common and the land has begun to turn from lush fields into what today is nearly a “dust bowl.”

That's when the entire region of Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Mali and Niger became an epicenter of conflict as extremist terrorists began fighting for control of the lands where the last of the reliable water resources exist.

Adama and his pregnant wife, Jeneba, are only two of the thousands of displaced people your love is reaching and helping.

For families like theirs, the terrifying nightmares are as real as the day the deadly event happened.

The couple were going about their daily lives when they heard the roar of motorbikes racing toward their farming village.

By the time Adama made it back from his fields, and anyone knew what was happening, the attack was over. As Jeneba told us, “They came into our houses. They killed some, took others.” One of the people they took was Adama's father.

“I ran back to check on my father, who was praying in the mosque,” explained Adama.

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A MESSAGE FROM DANIEL



As you gather with your family this holiday season, I'm giving thanks for friends like you who have helped some of your most vulnerable neighbors around the globe.

Just as we celebrate Christmas and ring in a new year, many of God's children are still battling poverty and the deadly spread of COVID-19.

At the same time, children, women and men in war-torn parts of the world — who had to flee their homes with little more than the clothes on their backs — are deeply grateful for your support.

Please consider giving an inspired Christmas gift from our catalog at giftsoflove.org to show your impoverished neighbors how much you care during this special time of year we celebrate as Christians.

God bless you,

Ambassador Daniel Speckhard
President and CEO

Called to Love Our Neighbors

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

— Matthew 25:40 NRSV



Because of your love, refugees received critically needed grain, cooking oil and other supplies at a Lutheran World Relief emergency food distribution center.

Your kindness, continued ...

"To this day, I have yet to hear from him."

The family fears the extremist terrorists must have killed him after taking him from the village. It's heartbreaking not to know what happened to him.

Jeneba and Adama, their family and many of their neighbors fled to the Nouna region of Burkina Faso. That's where your love as a compassionate person is providing emergency food, access to clean water, clothing, shelter, crucial health services, blankets and hygiene kits to vulnerable children, women, men and seniors.

You're also helping to educate local communities — especially those in crowded, make-shift refugee camps — on how to prevent COVID-19.

In addition to that, you're helping families in these areas — where rain has become more and more inconsistent — take the new farming techniques we showed them and successfully grow life-sustaining crops on drought-stricken lands.

Thank you for always sharing your blessings with your most vulnerable neighbors. ■

Your compassion is saving lives — one face mask at a time

After a series of disasters, including back-to-back hurricanes, the people of Honduras found themselves forced to live in makeshift dwellings or crowded shelters because their homes were either destroyed or made unlivable by the storms.

At the same time, COVID-19 was spiking across Central America. That's when so many of you responded to our urgent call to sew face masks for neighbors in need around the world. To date, you've sewn an incredible 123,985 protective face masks — exceeding our goal by nearly 49,000 — sending your love to and protecting even more of God's children who are at risk.

Today, those masks are on the faces of grandmothers and grandfathers, moms and dads, brothers and sisters, who now have a better chance to survive the pandemic because of your kindness, generosity and service. Thank you. ■



Your caring heart helped Lutheran World Relief co-sponsor a COVID-19 prevention kit distribution at a family shelter in Honduras — delivering lifesaving information, supplies and hand-sewn masks to protect God's children of all ages.

Donor Spotlight

Making an impact by inspiring others to give



Diane Boehm shows the 2020 Lutheran World Relief Christmas card to her grandchildren, Caroline and Christian.

Diane Boehm and her late husband, Jerry, both former educators, have brought a teacher's zeal for service to loving neighbors in need.

Diane is one of the lead donors for Lutheran World Relief's matching gift fund campaigns. She believes in joining forces to solve problems.

"The world is a mess, and we can't fix most of what is wrong," Diane says. "But we can all have more impact if we link forces with others who have the same commitment to make things happen in places in the world where families can't feed their grandkids or get vaccinations or have a chance at the good life we have here."

Diane goes on to describe how much she values giving to Lutheran World Relief because, "[they] build a network to connect with people and make an impact." Rather than try "to solve the world's problems on its own ... [they go] to a place where needs and vision align to create change."

So, when you give, you know you are joining forces with people, like Diane, who share your values and your desire to help God's children in need. ■

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK AROUND THE WORLD

Nepal

The rapid spread of COVID-19 reached well beyond India's porous borders to families and villages in Nepal. In at-risk communities where vaccines were limited, your love joined local partners to mobilize rural communities to increase vaccination rates through a lifesaving information and education campaign.

Democratic Republic of Congo

There's been so much devastation in the news today, people barely noticed the eruption of Mount Nyiragongo in the DRC. More than 400,000 people had to evacuate their homes. Your love quickly allowed our team to respond immediately with emergency food, water, medicines and supplies.

Tanzania

Mercy Kitha is among the dozens of college-aged students who are launching new businesses, thanks to your generous support. Mercy is starting a cotton fabric business featuring bold colors and designs inspired by her homeland fashion.

Thank you for sending your love to your neighbors across the globe!

HOW **FAR** CAN **\$100** GO IN THE **NEW YEAR?**

A new coat ...
dinner and a movie ...
or a **lifesaving source of income**

\$100 sends a goat to a family in need.

Send lifesaving love.
Give gifts that matter more.

Gifts of Love



Shop the catalog at [giftsoflove.org](https://www.giftsoflove.org)



Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of U.S. Lutherans, serving communities living in poverty overseas.



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