

World Missions Day – ARDF

Speaker's Notes

Introduction to [The Anglican Relief and Development Fund \(ARDF\)](#):

Who is the ARDF? The Anglican Relief and Development Fund (ARDF) is the ACNA's supported and endorsed World Missions Organization. The ARDF provides effective and efficient relief and development for objective high impact projects with measurable transformational results. ARDF exists to maximize life change in some of the most challenging parts of the Anglican Communion primarily in the Global South. It is similar to what the Episcopal Relief & Development Fund is to The Episcopal Church USA is but different in so many ways.....

What are the Fund's Principles?

Dignity, not dependency –

- ARDF supports grassroots Anglican projects, many beyond the reach of large international charities.
- Change lives in measurable, sustainable ways.
- ARDF seeks to empowering people through access to education, improved health and nutrition and income-earning opportunities
- Giving families the dignity of participating in their own life improvements.

Local knowledge, local presence

- Through the unique personal connections with dioceses and their leaders in the Global South, ARDF finds, evaluates and funds projects that help specific people.
- Works through the local organizations and church communities.
- Ensures Christ's presence and mercy are tangible and visible.

Sustained change

- ARDF changes lives rather than merely sustaining them.
- Our short-term financial investments yield long-term life changes
- A true focus on some of the world's hardest places.

Summary Points:

- The ARDF was born to give us (the ACNA) a world missions vehicle.
- This fund is not a "hand-out" fund, rather it is a "hand-up" and most importantly, the hand up given is the hand of God's love for them.
- The fund focuses on the most needy in the world.

<<Pass around sample copies of the mission reports from the ARDF web site for a few minutes... The copies are at: <http://anglicanaid.net/?/main/page/results>. Discuss some of the highlights as they are being passed around. Close this brief activity with the following cost per impacted life extrapolation. Ask the group who has each report – one report at a time - and ask them to hold it up, while the report(s) are in the air, state the cost per impacted life amount. Close with the average cost per changed life in these live examples. >> Note: We will probably have 65-70 at our annual meeting so, I plan on bringing 3 each of the five reports. (This would be one report per four or five people. I think sharing them to read will spur interest and conversation)

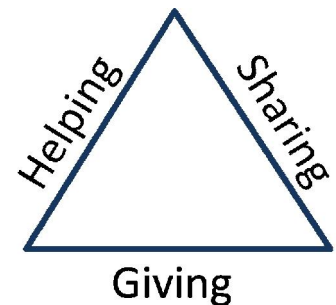
- Clean Water and AIDS Care in Tanzania\$6.50
- Churches Reach Out to Help Poor, Pregnant Brazilian Women..... 82.60
- Rescuing Starving Burundians..... 6.12
- Filipino Women Break Cycles of Poverty 2.53
- Malawi Farmers Learn to Make Better Use of Their Land 11.62
- Average for Above Ministry Projects \$7.68

Close with: A little goes a long way.....A sustainable life change for\$7.68!

What are the Reasons World Mission is Important:

(Use an easel with pad or whiteboard to draw a large triangle and label the sides as: Helping, Sharing, Giving.)

Helping: Jesus tells us we are to help those in need with the same spirit and dedication as if we (as if I) were actually helping Him. In Matthew 25:31-46 in the story of the sheep and goats we read: *... 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' 'He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'*



Sharing: Mission is about Sharing – Sharing the Gospel of Christ. In Mark 13:10 we read: *“And the gospel must first be preached to all nations.”* A key responsibility in our Christian life is being involved in Spreading the Good News of Jesus to ALL Nations. This is from the passage where Jesus is telling us the signs of the end of the age and gives instructions for preparation.

Giving: In 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 we read: *“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times; having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”* Giving is something we need to do as Christians. God gives us the heart, ability and charge to give. In this passage, Paul is giving instruction to the Church of Corinth on Sowing Generously. In the verse just before this Paul writes: *“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”*

Through the ARDF – a little goes a long way. As you pray on how you can give this year and where God is calling you to give for World Mission, prayerfully consider the ARDF in your monthly budget. If your budget is “too” tight, here are some ideas (you will find them in your annual report, too) for some life “trade-offs” you can consider. *(Recommend they take a pen/pencil and write in how many lives each small change can impact in their copy of the annual report)*

- Move your thermostat 2 degrees warmer in the summer and 2 degrees cooler in the winter to impact **20** lives through ARDF each year. I bet you don’t notice the difference yet 20 people will.
- If you normally eat lunch out each day, “brown-bag it” once per week to impact **30** lives through ARDF each year.
- If you are a Starbucks coffee drinker, twice a week trade down to a McDonald’s coffee and you can impact **34** lives through ARDF each year.
- If you normally order an iced tea or soda with your meals or at break time, grab a glass of water just once per work day (and your doctor will thank you plus) and with this amount of money you can impact **56** lives through ARDF each year.

I have challenged my family, and I challenge yours, to support World Mission as a part of your daily walk with Christ in your prayers and monthly in your financial support. If you are looking for a way to give, please consider the ARDF. Their contact details are in your annual report on the World Mission’s page.