




Peace through Partnership

Prayer

Issue 1 - 2012

Create Peace

by Britt Kaufmann

Great Shepherd,

You guide us toward peace.

Help us to move toward conflict
— as peacemakers.

Help us to choose what is
within our control: open ears,
kind tongues, imaginative
minds.

That we may endow dignity to
all — for each man, woman,
girl, boy, is a child of God.

Forgive us for when we
have failed to act.

Bless us as we begin again to
create your peace.

Amen

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February/

Focus on Burundi

More than half of those who left Burundi during the conflict of the 1990s have returned to find their homes in ruins or their land occupied by others. The vast majority live in rural areas and struggle to survive with little or no support.

Our Burundi programme has seen homes and schools rebuilt, literacy training started, as well as livestock rearing and food production.

Unfortunately, security has taken a turn for the worse over recent months with a new rebellion movement feared. These developments highlight more than ever the need for our peacebuilding agenda to prevent a return to violent conflict.

FSC
Mark
Here

FEBRUARY 6-12

Give thanks for Cord's work in Burundi, particularly for the rice warehouse in Gilharo Commune and pineapple production plant in Rutana that Cord has helped to facilitate.

Give thanks for the new opportunities these projects have opened up for those involved and particularly for the way both projects are bringing communities together to support each other. Pray for good harvests of crops and sales of produce.

Give thanks for the funding granted from the U.S. government for work with returnees and vulnerable people in Rutana Province. Pray for the success of other bids that have been submitted for other areas of work.

FEBRUARY 13-19

Pray for security in Burundi after several violent incidents. Ask for God's protection over people caught up in such events. Pray protection over Cord's staff and the vital work they carry out.

Ask that peace would prevail in Burundi, a tiny country trying to escape a history of conflict.

Ask God to prevent the plans of those intent on violence and give strength and integrity to leaders and decision makers.

FEBRUARY 20-26

As we approach the beginning of Lent, a time of reflection on the great sacrifice of the crucifixion, reflect on what many have given up in the pursuit of peace – their homes, their loved ones, their lives.

Thank God for those willing to make a stand for peace, ask that He would bless, resource and equip them.

Pray for Cord's Lent campaign – 'Don't Give Up On Peace This Lent'; that it would be successful in engaging supporters in thinking about peace and about Cord's work.

FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 4

On Women's World Day of Prayer (2 March), remember our work with local partner ADDF providing literacy and rights training for women.

Pray that women learning to read will lead to a better quality of life by enabling them to learn other skills, be more involved in community life and exert their rights.

Signup at **cord.org.uk/lent** for our free daily

March/

MARCH 5-11

Give thanks for Cord's team in Cambodia and their work with around 20 local organisations, training and equipping them to run their own projects.

Pray for wisdom for those involved in the consultation process for a new law covering the activities of civil society groups and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The Cambodian government wants more transparency from such groups, whereas the groups themselves feel the law is too restrictive and will affect their work.

Pray for wisdom, compromise and patience for all those involved, for an outcome that will not impede charitable work that plays an important role in Cambodian society.

MARCH 12-18

On Mothering Sunday (18 March) remember mothers who have lost children and children who are orphaned because of war or conflict.

In Cambodia many families have lost older generations through past conflict and are navigating a path to peace without the wisdom of elders.

Pray for healing and comfort in the pain of separation. Ask for wisdom in a country continuing the journey towards peace.

MARCH 19-25

On World Water Day (22 March), thank God for the blessing of this life giving resource. Remember those rebuilding their lives after the severe floods in September 2011. Flooding destroyed more than 10% of Cambodia's crops.

Pray for concerns over food security and increased personal debt. Give thanks for Cord partners such as Banteay Srei who are providing practical relief to victims of the floods.

This week also sees the launch of Cord Wills Week (19-23 March). Pray that the campaign is helpful for those considering leaving a lasting legacy for peace.

MARCH 26-APRIL 1

Pray for truth to emerge and for justice to prevail in the ongoing tribunal against three surviving members of the Khmer Rouge.

Despite hopes that the 'Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia' would finally bring justice three decades after the fall of the brutal communist regime, the court's credibility has been criticised by some.

Focus on Cambodia

Cambodia is a country of extremes, with areas of extreme poverty and high levels of corruption reported.

Our experienced advisors work with around 20 local organisations, supporting them, through training and mentoring, to run their own projects; learning together to strengthen Cambodia's future.

As 80% of the population depend of agriculture as there main source of income, climate change and resulting extreme weather is one of the biggest threats to livelihoods in Cambodia.

"Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

John 20:21 (NIV)

By e-mails to reflect, pray and act for peace

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Focus on Chad

Since 2003 over 250,000 Sudanese refugees have fled across the Darfur border and are currently living in 12 camps in eastern Chad.

Our work on solar cookers in Farchana camp continues, as does our work with parents associations and income generation. We will be setting up exciting new income generation activities over the next few months which will improve quality of life for more people.

In 2012, as well as working with Sudanese refugees in Chad, we will be exploring ways of expanding our work with the local Chadian communities, who themselves are living in poverty.

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April/

APRIL 2-8

During Holy Week, as we reflect on God's amazing sacrifice in sending His Son to die for us, think about His provision for all our needs – nothing being too great for Him to provide.

Think about the Sudanese refugees in Chad and God's love for them. He knows all their needs – for homes, healthcare, education and livelihoods.

Ask for God's blessing as Cord works to meet these needs. Pray that practical and financial resources are provided.

APRIL 9-15

At the end of 2011 we prayed for continued investment in our Chad programme by international donors.

Give thanks for the renewed funding from United Nations High Commission for Refugees for Cord's work,

although the grant was significantly reduced as UNHCR also respond to the arrival of 85,000 Lybians in Chad since November.

Pray that funding will come from other sources to support Cord's work in Chad, so that we can reach more people in need.

APRIL 16-22

"Blessed are the peacemakers," reads Matthew 5:9 (NIV).

Remember the Cord Chad team. Pray that staff have the skills and knowledge to work in difficult situations. Ask for protection over them and for energy in their work.

Thank God for the relative calm in Chad at the present time. Pray that this would continue despite the pressure on resources and infrastructure while accommodating refugees from Lybia.

APRIL 23-29

Thank God for the solar cooker project in Farchana refugee camp. This marvellous invention has so many benefits for the people using them.

Pray that local conflicts over limited firewood would subside due to the cookers; that people would see health benefits; that more girls would be able to access education because of the time freed from collecting firewood.