

HUNGER MATTERS TO GOD'S CHURCH

Reflect on the photo of Elisi with her elderly father and a neighbouring child. Their presence, through this photo, reminds us of the vitality of koinonia in the early church. This Greek term means fellowship, partnership and solidarity. Our common faith connects us deeply with the three people in this picture and the millions of others with whom we share the planet.



St. Paul, in the first century, wrote to the network of house churches in Corinth about solidarity in service to sisters and brothers in Judea. Poor harvests had spiked food prices in Jerusalem and members of the Christian community were vulnerable in this time of scarcity. Paul urged congregational members in Corinth to contemplate the example of Jesus who became poor so that they might be rich. He proposed the concept of a fair balance that could exist between those in need and those who enjoyed security. The collection of funds from Christian congregations involved ordinary people in an act of generosity, compassion and solidarity.

CBM Sunday

Let's be inspired by our brothers and sisters of the early church this **CBM Sunday**. Please give generously today so that together we may continue to provide food for those who are hungry in the Global South.

In the event that this project is oversubscribed or where local conditions prevent implementation, CBM will direct your donation to where it is most needed.



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11200

CBM, Sunday



Through CBM, you and other Canadian Baptists are bringing hope and healing to a broken world by transforming families and communities together.

TODAY IS YOUR CBM SUNDAY • MAKE HUNGER MATTER



My name is Elisi. I am a farmer in Rwanda.

It's a struggle with irregular rains and poor soil. Lack of food and malnutrition are big challenges. Another challenge is that I am HIV-positive. My husband died from AIDS. I also lost my only child. I have taken two orphans into my home and I also take care of my father. He no longer has the energy to help in the fields. He sees me struggle. But I keep thinking positively and work hard so that I can survive and help my whole family.



TODAY ON CBM SUNDAY,
your special offering will help farmers like Elisi to improve their land and crops and ensure a healthier life for all.
Stand in solidarity with her.
Together let's feed the world!

Today 1 in every 9 people is “officially” hungry and undernourished. Nearly 70% of the chronically hungry live in rural areas where food is produced.

Hungry children and adults are found in our own cities and towns. Over 800,000 Canadians depend on food banks on a monthly basis. However, the overwhelming majority of hungry people are located in the Global South. They are struggling farmers with small landholdings like Elisi.

CBM's food programs are making a difference in the lives of hungry people all over the world.

“The training in conservation agriculture is helping me to improve my land and reduce my farming costs. I was using chemical fertilizer, but I found out that organic compost has the same effect and I can make it myself. I was also told about varieties of trees that are good to plant, to help have healthy soil. I can see the difference. Jesus is being merciful in my life.”

HUNGER MATTERS

Why is hunger so prevalent in rural areas?

Some of the reasons include:

- Poverty and low income
- Soil depletion
- Changing and unpredictable climate
- Unstable commodity prices paid to farmers
- Lack of access to markets
- Inadequate crop storage options
- Cutbacks in research and assistance to farmers
- High cost of inputs
- Absence of farm credit programs

Three areas of the world demand particular attention because of the prevalence of hunger:

Sub-Saharan Africa – An estimated 23 percent of the population is undernourished or hungry. Currently nearly **half of all African countries are facing a food crisis.**

South Asia – Over 60 percent of the world's hungry people live in Asia. A particular challenge is uneven economic development that excludes rural families.

Middle East: The majority of Syrians have been internally displaced or left the country. Neighbouring countries like Lebanon are overwhelmed with refugees from this and other turmoil in the region.

On CBM Sunday, Canadian Baptists show solidarity with hungry people by supporting food programs. Many of these programs receive matching funds from the Government of Canada through our partnership in the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Current projects include:

- Food assistance to Syrian refugees and displaced people
- Farming with families in rural areas of Rwanda, Kenya, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo
- Innovative conservation agriculture and nutrition projects in rural areas of India

Learn more at cbmin.org

