

## Advent is for reaching out to the world around us.

## Here are four areas in the world where you can reach out:

**Gaza:** On November 17, Dr. Ghassan Abu, Physician at the Al-Ahib Anglican Hospital in Gaza City, reported that the Hospital had continued to operate despite the immense challenges and was one of the last functioning hospitals in the North of Gaza. "In addition to a shortage of medical supplies, Al-Ahli is also almost out of fuel to run the generators that provide electricity. Now, it has been reduced to what is being described as a "first aid station". "

As a result of the increasingly dangerous situation across northern Gaza, and near the hospital, medical staff were forced to make the difficult decision to evacuate. "It has been a living nightmare - leaving 500 wounded knowing that there's nothing left for you to be able to do for them," said Dr. Abu in a November 17 interview with Reuters. "It's just the most heartbreaking thing I ever had to do." After the supply of anaesthetics ran out and bombs were causing the building to shake, Dr. Abu and his team were forced to leave the hospital and make their way on foot to the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza. According to Sawsan Aranki-Batato around 40 patients who were not able to evacuate currently remain in the hospital and are being cared for by nurses and other medical staff.

Money donated to PWRDF will be available for the short, medium and long-term needs, as the hospital and Diocese of Jerusalem determine. PWRDF is also participating in a joint response through the Anglican Alliance which will work with the Diocese of Jerusalem to provide immediate relief in the coming months, along with recovery and reconstruction when that time comes. **East Africa:** After many years of extreme drought, terrific rains in East and Northern Kenya have killed many people and their livestock, swept away houses, roads and bridges. Please pray for the people of Kenya and the Utooni Development Organization which we have supported over the years with solar and hand pumps and shallow wells.

<u>Give the Gift of a Farm</u>: That's the challenge from the Diocese of Niagara. It is hoped that, collectively, Niagara parishes will raise money for 30 farms, with gifts ranging from \$25 (seeds) to \$615 (supplies for a farm feeding 5 people). See "World of Gifts" for more details. You can donate online: <u>http://weblink.donorperfect.com/</u> <u>ThePrimatesWorldReliefandDevelopmentFund/</u> <u>DioceseofNiagaraAdventChallenge</u>

OR through St. John's Elora marking your gift "PWRDF - Niagara Challenge".

<u>Advent Calendar 2023:</u> Hope in Action: Reflections on Farming, Family and Faith in the midst of the Climate Crisis.

Beset with climate-caused disasters it's easy to feel helpless from day to day. But in actions both big and small we can find hope. This season of Advent, join **Karri Munn-Venn** - writer, climate activist and wool farmer - as she knits together reflections of her life on the farm with scripture readings and prayer. Along the way, you'll see that farming, like Advent, is about watching and waiting, about finding light in the darkness, about hope. Subscribers will receive an email each day that includes a PWRDF story or video. You may also download the resource in its entirety as a PDF. To subscribe go to: <u>https://pwrdf.org/advent2023/</u>

Please direct any further enquiries to the St. John's PWRDF Committee Thank you for your generous support

