



LWF 60th Anniversary *Weekly Prayer*

66 Million Lutherans Do Make A Difference!

October

Week One – Cambodia

Thirteen-year-old, Neang lives with her mother and her grandfather in Beng Village. Her mother explains that Neang's father died of malaria and she could not support the family on her own. Neang had to leave school because there was not enough money to buy supplies. The LWF provided Neang with a scholarship for school which included books, paper and a school uniform. The scholarship was part of the LWF program designed to build the confidence and capacity of poor and marginalized families to enable them to reduce their poverty and reintegrate into village life. In 2006, the LWF provided 812 school-aged children in one district with scholarships. Neang's mother said, "The LWF is a medicine that cures poverty."

Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of education. We pray for those who do not have access to formal schooling. Watch over the children who want to learn and help us help them. Watch over Neang and grant her a future of hope. Amen.

Week Two – Bangladesh

Abdul has spent the past many years on city streets begging for money to support himself and his family. He learned about a micro-finance program that the LWF offered. After receiving the loan he opened a small shoe shop and is now able to provide for his family. Among all the beggars that the LWF has assisted with loans in Bangladesh, none remain on the streets. These clients now have two full meals a day and are even able to use medical centers as needed.

Caring God, we give thanks for the courage Abdul had to change his life and the life of his family. Grant him a profitable business and good health. Keep us mindful of the gifts which you have given us. Thank you for using our gifts to help others. Amen.

Week Three – Mozambique

Essita is 46 years old. Her two grown sons work in South Africa but their wives live with her. Essita is a farmer and grows maize, beans, peanuts and pineapple. There isn't enough water in the area. Some villagers have to walk many miles each day for water. The LWF has dug a pit to collect water close to Essita's home. She says, "It is important because when it rains the pit is filled and I do not have to walk to find water. That makes more time to work in the field." Last year she also got two guinea fowls. They lay more eggs than normal hens. Thank you LWF!

Holy God, we thank you for the gift of water. We pray for those who do not have water near their homes or fields. Bless all those who are at work today digging wells and collection tanks for water so that whole communities might share in the earth's water. Help us to understand our own use of water. Amen.



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Week Four – Mozambique

To come to Mudala you have to cross a small river. Traditionally, boats have been made of logs and sticks and have been unsafe, easily tipping passengers into the river. Not many people know how to swim and there are crocodiles in the river. The community asked the LWF for a boat and they were given one. Now they pay less than one cent to cross in the LWF boat. It has changed life in the villages because everyone crosses the river safely. A small investment of funds and a large investment in life!

God who cares for all, we give thanks for the safety of the people in Mudala Village. We rejoice in the simple gift of a boat. Remind us all of the simple gifts we can give in our own lives and communities. Amen.