



CELEBRATE WITH US!

NCM
CANADA

COMPASSION.
AS A LIFESTYLE.
Issue 1, 2021

We are all happy to see the end of 2020! It was a year of uncertainty, disappointments, unwelcome changes, and anxiety because of what was unknown about this virus and how it could impact us...and impact us, it did!

The pandemic has exposed much in our world...racism; disregard for the well-being of the elderly; neglect to honour those who do all the menial tasks that keep us supplied with food and other necessities; the inequities in our society that have resulted in the poor and marginalized suffering loss of jobs and increased COVID infections while the rich self-isolate and accumulate more wealth; and blatant selfishness and self-centredness that put "me first" at the expense of others. We have seen increased domestic violence, increased anxiety and mental illness particularly among the youth, hopelessness, and fear for the future.

In the midst of all of this God is still at work and using His Church. We have been forced to rethink how we do things and have not been able to rely on our own skills, knowledge and past experience but rather to depend on God for new and fresh insight into what He would have us do. We have changed the way we do Church but the fact that we ARE the Church remains unchanged. As the Church we are commanded to love God, and to love our neighbour as ourselves and live out that love daily. Read and celebrate with us how God has used His Church in 2020 to live love even during a pandemic!

Thank you for giving!

– Rev. Elaine Bumstead
(Executive Director of NCM Canada)

Reports included in this issue:

- Impact reports
- Christine's Story
- Shapna's Story
- Other Projects supported last year
- Container Shipments
- Grow Hope Again This Year!
 - Grow Hope Markdale
 - Seeds of Life

"Following the example of Jesus, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM) partners with local Nazarene congregations around the world to clothe, shelter, feed, heal, educate, and live in solidarity with those who suffer under oppression, injustice, violence, poverty, hunger, and disease. NCM exists in and through the Church of the Nazarene to proclaim the Gospel to all people in word and in deed."

(mission statement)

FOOD, BLANKETS, WATER, SHELTER — YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



YOUR GIFTS BROUGHT LIFE AND HOPE TO MANY!



- 500 households (3000 people) received lifesaving assistance
- A stronger church presence was established in Southern Malawi, creating opportunities for ministry expansion. Local churches also served as temporary shelters during this time, allowing for local leaders to minister to the emotional and spiritual needs of those affected.
- Local churches have seen a growth in church attendance.
- New churches have been planted in at least 9 new villages.



- Reduced hunger for 360 families (approx. 2160 people) - the most vulnerable households (Female and child headed, the elderly and those with disabilities) in 14 targeted communities.
- The furthering of the gospel of Jesus Christ to all the project participants. Greater unity within the community and stronger ties to the local church. This has led to 4 new churches being planted in surrounding communities



- A church building was constructed and dedicated as a place of worship
- 4 new families have begun to congregate since the completion of the building.
- Stronger ties between Christians and community members are being formed.



- 350 families received life-giving food.
- New churches have been planted
- Local churches have grown in attendance and membership.
- The capacity of the local churches has been expanded to effectively meet the needs of others in a holistic way.



- Total 138 bicycles have been provided to the pastors in 5 District of Bangladesh
- Rev. Kamal* is pastoring 4 local Nazarene churches. But it was quite difficult for him to closely connect with his congregations. Rev. Kamal used to walk on foot for hours to reach them, serving these church members which was very time consuming and exhausting for him, especially on Sundays when he preached in four locations. He received a bicycle just before the government imposed COVID-19 lockdown on all local travel. He says, "Now my life will become easy, I am more easily able to serve the church members. I am very much grateful to the friends who has supported to provide bicycle to me". During the lockdown the bicycles made it possible for the pastors in Bangladesh to plant 30 new churches. (*name changed to protect identity)

CHRISTINE'S STORY

Christine Nyambura joined the church of the Nazarene in 2019. She is a mother of two children and a holder of a Business administration degree specialized in bookkeeping. She lost her employment when her health became complicated. She now has her own business of homemade detergents. Her husband abandoned her when she was hit by a stroke, experiencing some paralysis in her body. The local Nazarene church became aware of her condition and reached out to help her and become part of Nabulon church fellowship

Christine was one of the beneficiaries of the NCM Canada / CFGB project that took place at Napetet village. She serves in the trustee's department of the local church at Nabulon. Because of the support she has received through the church ministry, she developed a passion to be in position to also help others. Today, she is on our local church compassionate ministries committee.

Christine is fully committed to the church despite her health complications because she believes that God works through the church of Nazarene. She has vowed to be faithful in exercising her talents in the ministry of the church as she trusts for her perfect healing and other miracles from God.



SHAPNA'S STORY

Shapna is a housewife in her family. During cultivation time, she helps her husband in the field. They live in a remote area in Dinajpur. She manages all the household work including cooking, cleaning and washing. She says, *"I need water for 50% of my household work. But it is hard for me to access water to fulfill household needs. Because there is no tube-well in my community where I can collect water easily. I had to walk a long way to collect water from the nearest tube-well."* There were ponds close to her household, but the water is polluted and not safe for drinking or usable for other household works.

A new tube-well was established in Shapna's village. Like Shapna, many other community people also collecting water from this new tube-well. *"Now I can fetch water nearby my house"* said Shapna. *"This tube-well is very helpful for children who attend the Child Development Centre (in the local church building) and for community people, especially the women"*, she added. She expressed sincere gratitude



Three tube wells were dug in Bangladesh at three different church properties. NCM Canada also supported the larger NCM project in Africa which provided wells and latrines and training for community people in hygiene, health, and sanitation.

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List of Other Projects Supported Last Year:

- Food assistance (CFGB) in Lebanon
- Food assistance (CFGB) in Afghanistan
- Food assistance (CFGB) in a creative access country in Africa
- Goats and training in holistic Child Development for teachers of Child Development centres in Malawi
- Teacher's House constructed at Zukuma School in Malawi
- 2 Dormitory projects in a creative access country in Asia-Pacific
- Shechem House for victims of human trafficking in the Philippines
- Bethel Church construction in Nepal
- Repairs to Nazarene Schools in Lebanon
- COVID-19 Response in the Philippines
- Support for Anti-Human Trafficking in Canada
- Training in Disaster Response (Canada)



Two shipping containers loaded with goods arrived in Africa in 2020 – one with medical and school supplies for Cote d'Ivoire and one with dried food and supplies for pastors in Mozambique

Again this year, in spite of the pandemic, you have opportunity to sponsor an acre in the [Grow Hope Markdale](#) or [Seeds of Life Growing project](#). The cost to sponsor an acre in both projects this year is \$400. Your sponsorship pays for crop inputs - the farmers cost to plant, care for, and harvest. Expected return per acre when the crop is harvested and sold is over \$500 (depending on the weather, growing conditions and yield). All proceeds are sent to Canadian Foodgrains Bank where they are matched up to a 4:1 match to feed hungry people in our world. Therefore your \$400 becomes as much as \$2500

Sponsor an acre or part-acre - on our website at www.ncmcanada.ca under "donate".

- By calling our National Office at 1-888-808-7490 (Ext. 2 Yara)
- By mailing a cheque to the National Office at:
3657 Ponytrail Drive,
Mississauga ON L4X 1W5

Be sure to specify "Grow Hope Markdale" or "Seeds of Life". Thank you for growing hope!



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wants to connect
with you!**

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Each gift will be used as designated, except where any given need has been met or when projects cannot be reasonable carried out, in which case, the donor agrees that the designated gift may be used where it is needed most.