



Scottish Episcopal Church
**Diocese of St Andrews
Dunkeld and Dunblane**

Scottish Charity No: SC017654



Bishop's Lent Appeal 2022

USPG 'Living Hope'

This Lent Bishop Ian is asking the Diocese to support the work of USPG (United Society Partners in the Gospel, the Anglican mission organisation), in 2 ways:

USPG Lent Course 2022

'Living Stones, Living Hope'

on the theme of the Lambeth Conference scripture passages. The study booklet can be downloaded as a PDF, or printed copies can be ordered from USPG.

More information, including link to the pdf, and videos for groups to use with the Course, available at www.uspg.org.uk/lent.

USPG 'Living Hope' Appeal

supporting the Zambia Anglican Council's Gender Justice programme and the Church of North India's programme with marginalised and deprived communities.

More information below, and at <https://living-hope.raisely.com>.

To give to the Bishop's Lent Appeal by bank transfer:

Account No: **00187750** Sort Code: **82 68 31**

Or by cheque:

for **'Diocese of St Andrews Lent Appeal'**

to the Diocesan Office, 28A Balhousie Street, Perth, PH1 5HJ



Zambia Anglican Council's Transformative Gender Justice Programme

The Church in Zambia has been working to combat gender-based violence since 2012 yet the Covid-19 pandemic has left women in Zambia exposed to increased risks. The pandemic has challenged food security, livelihoods, social cohesion, and safety, compounding women's vulnerability to gender-based violence. The Transformative Gender Justice Programme works towards strengthening support groups, providing information and promoting knowledge and skills throughout the local community. The programme provides psychosocial support and counselling as well as improving the capacity to advocate and raise awareness on issues related to Gender based violence in communities, churches and other local institutions.



Annie's story



Annie Chanda (not pictured) was 18 years old, living with her parents and studying for her year 9 exams when she got pregnant. When her parents learnt about her pregnancy, they were upset and told her she had to go and live with the father of the baby. The baby's father was also a teenager and was living alone in a boarding house with no family to support him. Soon after, Mrs Mwape, a member of the Zambia Anglican Council's Gender Action Group heard about Annie's situation and took up the case. Mrs Mwape went to meet with Annie and the baby's father and counselled them both. After that she met Annie's parents and explained to them that forcefully sending their daughter to live with the father of her child was illegal. She asked them to bring Annie back home and let them know about the government policy that allows teenagers who fall pregnant whilst still at school to take maternity leave and return to school after the baby is born. After the meeting with Mrs Mwape, Annie's parents asked her to return home. When her baby arrived Annie's parents started to look after him and ensured she had everything she needed when she was ready to return to school. Annie is now doing very well in school and will be starting grade 11 this year.



Bishop's Lent Appeal 2022 USPG 'Living Hope'

The Church of North India's Let My People Go Programme

The Church of North India works with people from the Dalit and Adivasi tribal communities who are caught up in the cycle of debt slavery and poverty. People from the tribal communities face the drudgery of long hours of forced labour, low pay and many hardships due to extreme poverty.

The Church of North India's Let My People Go programme has been effective in supporting marginalised communities to break free from debt slavery and poverty to become self-sustaining in the long-term. The Church has played a crucial role in increasing household income by mobilising women in rural areas through self-help groups. They encourage women to join the groups and set up businesses to lift themselves and their families out of poverty. Women in North India's Dalit and Adivasi tribal communities are becoming leading symbols of empowerment through their economic independence, inspiring and encouraging others to follow suit.



Anjali's story

Anjali Das lives with her husband, two sons, her father and her mother-in-law in West Bengal. The income from her husband's work as a labourer and Anjali's work as a maid was not enough to provide for the family and their sons became malnourished.

With the intervention of Let My People Go programme, Anjali joined the local self-help group formed to support the women in the village. Anjali discussed her problems and difficulties with the team and her desire to do a better job which could improve her livelihood. The advised her to take loan from her group and start a business of making flower garlands which were in high demand at the local market.

The programme team then introduced her an experienced flower decorator with an established flower decorations business. Anjali worked under her tutelage for four months before she initiated her own small business.

Gradually she set-up her business and began earning additional income. She also attended a mat making skills training course organised by the programme team and invested in materials to make and sell her own mats. Within a year, her household income doubled. At present, Anjali has a much more stable and happy life. With the profit she made, she saved some money for reinvesting in her business and rest she used to repair her house and to buy household items like a fridge which she could not afford before. With a better income the family have been able to enroll in a government medical insurance scheme and have introduced fruits, vegetables and good protein sources in their diets to ensure good health.



Anjali with her flower garlands



Anjali and her family making flower garlands and mats



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Living Hope appeal, Lent 2022

Throughout Lent 2022 we will be standing in solidarity with our partners, The Zambia Anglican Council and The Church of North India. The vital work of their justice programmes is transforming lives and bringing hope to vulnerable people in their local communities.

Join us in supporting our Church partners this Lent through our Living Hope appeal.

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