

This Christmas, give a gift that changes lives forever and double your impact!

Together, we can transform communities and free families from extreme poverty for good.



Extreme poverty is preventing people from writing their own story

Around the world, more than 700 million people live in extreme poverty. That's almost ten per cent of the global population.

■ 'The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.'

John 10:10

We believe the local church is the answer

By giving to Tearfund, you're funding our innovative Transforming Communities programme that's helped millions of people lift themselves out of extreme poverty. We are seeing change at scale around the world – since 2018 it has resulted in the building of approximately 19,000 roads (giving people vital access to infrastructure and helping keep them safe), 18,000 schools (investing in whole generations), 9,000 health clinics, and 19,000 places to get clean water being improved or created.

Transforming Communities helps churches around the world lead their local communities out of extreme poverty and into a sustainable future. Working with churches and local organisations in more than 50 countries, Tearfund offers communities Bible-based training that helps them identify the God-given resources in and around them and can bring the very solutions they need.

In Malawi alone, 2.6 million people are currently facing hunger, and 92 per cent of children under two years old don't have the minimum acceptable diet. Tearfund works in over 1,500 communities in Malawi, delivering Transforming Communities training to teach people efficient and sustainable farming methods so they can harvest enough food for their families. The training introduces people to self-help groups where they can learn financial literacy skills, access business loans and build strong, supportive friendships.

Your generosity is helping people and communities take control of their lives and write their own future. As we faithfully follow Jesus where the need is greatest, we see communities and relationships transformed, and lives lived to the full.



Florence discovered her God-given potential

In Malawi, Florence joined a Tearfund self-help group in her local church. Florence's church had Transforming Communities training to help them identify ways of supporting their local community – helping people like Florence practically, in Jesus' name. This Bible-based training continues around the world and is made possible through faithful Tearfund supporters.

Florence met like-minded people and made new friends who regularly come together to worship and read the Bible. As well as giving her the support she needed to take control of her own life, the self-help group taught her life skills to help her live independently and reach her God-given potential.

Thanks to her self-help group, Florence has been saving and taking out small loans to improve her home and invest in her business. Now, she uses conservation farming techniques and has learned how to raise cows and chickens. Florence has a better income from selling the milk from the cows, and the animal droppings provide fertiliser for her crops.

And it doesn't stop there – in her newly renovated home, Florence replaced wood burning (deforestation is a major problem in Malawi) with renewable biogas (fuelled by the waste from her animals and crops) for cooking. This is healthier and more efficient for her, and a more sustainable fuel for the environment.

'Biogas cooking is efficient, smokeless, and quick. You can prepare a meal even when you are tired,' says Florence

Today, Florence is more financially independent and in a better position to serve her family and community. She told us:

'My life has changed through the self-help group. I can now interact with friends and I have learned about social work and how to help those in need.'

Florence, Malawi



Florence's transformation is spreading to those around her as she turns hope into action. She's living out her faith, serving the vulnerable elderly and others who need support in her community.

Florence has discovered faith, friendship and a way forward out of extreme poverty. Florence is now writing her own future. All of this was made possible because she joined a Tearfund self-help group.

📷 Florence and her family in Malawi.



Video

We've prepared a short video including Florence's story in her own words, as well as testimony from other members of her self-help group. This can be shared at any point during the service to engage and inspire your congregation and show what your church's support can make possible.



Children's Activity

Get your young people involved in the service, with our children's Christmas activity sheet. Children can colour in the decoration, cut it out and use it to decorate the church's Christmas tree. Or they can take it home and hang it on their own tree.



PowerPoint slides and prayers

At Tearfund, we believe in the power of prayer. We've seen it make a difference for thousands of people like Florence around the world who have lifted themselves out of extreme poverty.

Please pray for people around the world living in poverty. We have provided a PowerPoint presentation to help you tell Florence's story and pray with your congregation for Tearfund's work this Christmas.

Double your impact this Christmas with a gift that changes lives

Thank you for choosing this Christmas appeal resource for your church. We want to make it as easy as possible for you to feature Tearfund's work in your service over the busy Christmas period. We know every church and every congregation is unique, so feel free to use these resources in a way that best suits your needs.

However you choose to use this resource, we ask that you prayerfully consider donating to Tearfund's work in whatever way works best for you – perhaps a retiring collection or a gift from the church. Your church's gift this Christmas can help change lives forever.

Great news – your church's gift this Christmas could have twice the impact for women like Florence. A group of generous Tearfund supporters has offered to match every pound you give to this appeal – up to £500,000 until 31 December 2025!

What your church's gift can do:

£15 doubled	£240 doubled	£600 doubled
could help two families lift themselves out of extreme poverty.	could help 32 families overcome extreme poverty.	could bring transformation to two communities.

How to give

Your support helps change lives forever. You can send your church's gift directly to us online at tearfund.org/christmasgift. For further information on other ways to send your church's gift, visit tearfund.org/churchgift. If you are sending your gift by cheque or bank transfer, **please be sure to specify in the reference that it is for the Christmas Appeal** – this ensures we can double your donation. Thank you for your kindness.

Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to share Florence's story of transformation with your congregation. As always, we're right here if we can help with any further information.

As always, You can reach us by email at churches@tearfund.org.

tearfund.org

Tearfund, 100 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8QE

☎ 020 3906 3906 ✉ info@tearfund.org 📱 @ /tearfund

Registered office as above. Registered in England: 994339. A company limited by guarantee.
Registered Charity No. 265464 (England & Wales) Registered Charity No. SC037624 (Scotland)
Photos: Malumbo Simwak/Tearfund



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

tearfund