

Thursday, November 22, 2018

The ABM Advent and Christmas Appeal 2018

This year, the theme for the Anglican Board of Mission's Advent and Christmas Appeal is 'Shaping the Future', focusing on projects which support education in Kenya, Myanmar and Australia.

According to the United Nations, "today there are 1.8 billion people between the ages of 10-24 ... Close to 90 per cent of them live in developing countries, where they make up a large proportion of the population."

With this statistic in mind, it is vital that youth are given opportunities for education so that they can contribute positively to their own lives and become agents of change for their communities and beyond.

In semi-arid Eastern Kenya where climate change has affected food security and consequently, the health and livelihoods of many people, thousands of school children are helping to shape the future. ABM supports the Sustainable Livelihoods Project which has enabled children to plant trees in their school yards, and to irrigate them with rainwater from water tanks supplied through project funding. The children also learn about hygiene, and are encouraged to care for the environment.

Funds raised through the Christmas Gift will allow St Peter's Bible School in the Diocese of Toungoo, Myanmar, to establish an English Language Centre where children and youth from low income families can access courses for English language, computing, and music. With life changing rapidly in Myanmar, this can assist them with gaining further opportunities in education and employment.

ABM's Advent Appeal also supports Nungalinya College in Darwin and Wontulp-Bi-Buya College in Cairns. Both colleges are committed to providing culturally appropriate studies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people so that they may be empowered and equipped to be leaders in their own communities, and to make a difference.

Please consider giving a gift to help shape the future of many others during this Holy Season. To donate, visit www.abmission.org/Christmas2018.

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Contact Vivienne For, ABM Communications Coordinator at communications@abm.asn.au for more information.

Image caption: These Kenyan primary school children are excited to share environmental messages through song and dance. © ABM/Julianne Stewart 2018

The Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) is the national mission agency of the Anglican Church of Australia. For over 160 years ABM has been assisting people all over the world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, provide health and education services, improve agricultural practices and strengthen the Church.