

attacks on their villages, in which hundreds have died and homes and crops burnt. The displaced are living in several large camps, and also in churches and schools, and with relatives. Aid agencies have found it difficult to respond quickly, but local churches have been at the forefront of providing basic assistance. Recently some of the displaced have attempted to return home, but their security is not assured. There is a continuing huge need for relief and assistance in a situation that is volatile and unpredictable.

Funds raised through Gift Day will support the local church in responding to these huge needs. These include distributing food supplies to displaced people, providing other basic necessities (cooking pots, tarpaulins, blankets, etc.) and training community leaders in trauma healing.

HOW WE PLAN TO USE WHAT YOU GIVE US

If we receive £36,000 or less, we will split it equally between the four initiatives. If we receive more than £36,000, we will give all four £9,000 and the remainder will be divided equally between LVA, Riverbank Trust and supporting displaced people in the DRC

Supporting these projects will make a huge difference to the lives of individuals and communities. So please consider prayerfully how God is calling you to respond. Special envelopes will be available in church for your gift on Gift Day itself and the following two Sundays.

St Paul wrote these words to the church in Corinth:

But just as you excel in everything -
in faith, in speech, in knowledge,
in complete earnestness and in your love for us -
see that you also excel in this grace of giving

2 Corinthians 8:7

Holy Trinity Church, Sheen Park, Richmond, TW9 1UP
020 8404 1112

office@htrichmond.org.uk
www.htrichmond.org.uk

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GIFT DAY 17 JUNE 2018



An opportunity to bless others

reaching out with God's love and power
helping one another live for Jesus

GIFT DAY - A GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Through our annual Gift Day we support ministry and mission beyond our church. Last year your wonderful generosity provided over £41,000, which enabled us to support

- St Peter's Church, Wandegaya, Kampala - helping to complete their Building Project
- Riverbank Trust - further development of community group work
- Karis Kids - secondary/vocational training fund
- LVA Trust - helping the charity to establish further as demand for their services grows
- Tearfund - East Africa Emergency Appeal
- The Leprosy Mission - helping to build a new Outpatients' Department at Purulia Hospital in West Bengal, India.

THIS YEAR'S PROJECTS



Riverbank Trust aim to provide supportive and loving community for vulnerable single mothers and their families by meeting their practical and

emotional needs through consistent and caring relationships. They support over 50 families in our community through school and church-based groups, one to one befriending and needs-based groups such as parenting programmes and support for families with children with special educational needs.

Through a Home Office approved sponsorship scheme, they plan to house, support and welcome a Syrian refugee family. As they build support for this project they are already supporting refugee families in our community. Within all their work they continue to share the love of Jesus and welcome families into the life of our church, driven by a passion to see families transformed by the power and love of Jesus. Funds raised through Gift Day will help Riverbank continue their work, grow their projects and support their families.



LVA Trust is a charity which provides Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) through fun and interactive lessons, assemblies, small groups and 1-1 mentoring sessions that teach

young people about good self-esteem, healthy relationships and positive sexual health. Their core belief is we are all loved, valued and able (LVA). Their programmes are in line with Ofsted's recommendations for safeguarding young people, namely to ensure that all young people have a good understanding of their "spiritual, social, emotional, physical and cultural needs." The subjects they cover become relevant at the appropriate age, and more intensive as young people grow and develop.

The team has over 20 years' combined experience of working in RSE. As they work with young people, they see and hear, first hand, situations that truly break their hearts, particularly related to social media, bullying, pornography, self-harming, drugs and alcohol. Funds raised through Gift Day will help LVA to establish further as demand for their services grows, and to bridge the gap between what they receive from schools and the real cost of providing their services.



Prison Fellowship supports prisoners through a variety of projects and by working alongside prison chaplaincies. The Sycamore Tree course is a victim awareness programme that teaches the principles of restorative justice. It is run by volunteers in prisons in groups of up to 20 learners, with prisoners exploring the effects of crime on victims, offenders and the community, and discussing what it would mean to take responsibility for their personal actions.

For most offenders on Sycamore Tree the most powerful element of the programme is when a victim of crime comes in to talk through how crime has impacted their life. Offenders have an opportunity in the final session to express their remorse - some write letters, poems or create works of art or craft. Members of the community are invited to support and bear witness to these symbolic acts of restitution. Funds raised through Gift Day will support courses in HMP Feltham which take place three times a year at a cost of £3,000 per course.



We have links with the **Democratic Republic of Congo** (DRC) through Shalom University, Bunia and Sarah Casson, working with SIL there in Bible translation in minority languages. The security situation has deteriorated dramatically in DRC in the past six months as the country moves towards delayed elections. Tens of thousands of displaced people have flooded into Bunia in the wake of