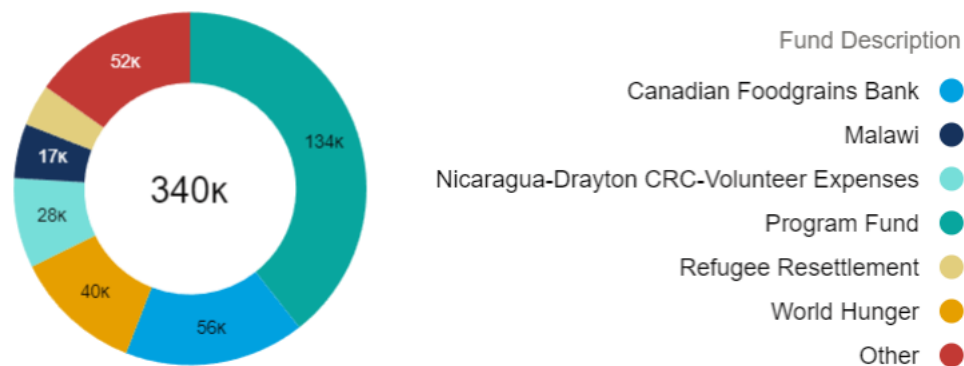


Fall 2024 Classis Report | HURON

Giving from Classis Huron

- Thank you for your generous support of World Renew's work! As we closed our fiscal year for 23/24 in June giving from Classis Huron totaled \$339,556.13. The top areas of giving were toward the Program Fund and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Thank you for partnering with us to live justice, love mercy and serve Christ! See the chart below for a summary of giving:



World Renew News

- **2025 Guatemala Christian Leaders Tour:** Calling all pastors, deacons, church leaders, and World Renew ambassadors and board members! Journey with World Renew in Guatemala from March 15-22 where you will expand your understanding of poverty and justice, giving you a new perspective to lead your church particularly on global issues. You'll visit programs in education, preventative health, agriculture, diaconal training, community planning, and livelihoods training while witnessing the varied geography of Guatemala. For more information and to register, visit: worldrenew.ca/journeys
- **Equipped to Educate Curriculum:** World Renew's new curriculum for schools is designed to engage students in the call to "live justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God" (Micah 6:8). This resource platform tackles major global issues in our world, while drawing clear connections to many of the *Throughlines in the Teaching for Transformation* curriculum for Christian schools. Visit our resources platform at worldrenew.ca/educate and share with a Christian school teacher you know today!

- **Church and Community Engagement Team Staff Changes:**
 - *Chris Orme* accepted the permanent position of Director of Church & Community Engagement, CAD in June 2024. Chris was serving in an interim role in this position since August 2023. He has been with World Renew since April 2018, previously serving as a Church Relations Representative. Chris is excited to continue to serve God's Church while strengthening the Canadian Church's relationship to the Global South.
 - *Giselle Rogers-Graham* accepted a full-time position as Constituency Support Specialist after volunteering with World Renew Canada since October 2023. She began her new role in July 2024. Giselle looks forward to building meaningful relationships with WR's communities and partners, and is eager to contribute to our mission of Living Justly, Loving Mercy and Walking Humbly with Christ.

- **World Renew Stories:** Interested in a story of transformation to share with your church about God at work through World Renew? Visit worldrenew.ca/stories for our latest stories of hope and read about the impact that your church is having by supporting ministry through World Renew.

Upcoming Church Offerings

World Renew encourages your church to participate in these upcoming offerings—to access resources, visit worldrenew.ca/yourchurch.

- **November 3: World Hunger Sunday.** Despite our ability to produce enough food to feed the global population, more than 783 million people still experience hunger. World Renew invites you and your church to help families around the world *plant hope and end hunger* through our World Hunger Campaign. Order adult devotional books, printed bulletin covers, and our brand-new Peter Fish recycled cardboard coin banks that can be decorated with provided stickers or any other way you choose!

- **December 25: Christmas Day, Gift Catalogue.** *Put hope on your Christmas list this year!* World Renew's Gift Catalogue and the Giving Tree Project are meaningful, powerful activities for your congregation during Advent. Give a practical item like a handwashing station, a goat, or a bicycle for a person who lives in poverty. This catalogue includes many great gift choices for families, churches, schools, and groups. Put up a Christmas "giving tree" and use the coordinating Giving Tree Project! Videos, social media banners,

bulletin announcements and inserts are downloadable and free. Look for the all-new "Fill the Barnyard" resources, too!

How Can Your Church Be Involved?

- **Give.** Participate in World Renew offerings and disaster appeals.
- **Advocate & Pray.** Use your voice! Opportunities include sponsoring a refugee (a uniquely Canadian program), creation care, and more. Visit worldrenew.ca/advocate-and-pray for more information.
- **Learn.** Listen to our DoJustice podcast, hosted by World Renew, the Office of Social Justice and the Centre for Public Dialogue of the Christian Reformed Church of North America. Get connected at worldrenew.ca/podcast

A Message from Jamie McIntosh - Executive Director, World Renew Canada

Christian Reformed Churches in Canada Resolutely Back World Renew Canada's Work

During the reign of King Saul, his son Jonathan, ventured forth with his armour-bearer to advance on a Philistine outpost. "On each side of the pass that Jonathan intended to cross...was a cliff." Though daunting to navigate, Jonathan was sparked with zeal to defeat the enemies who were wanting to make God's children their slaves. The King's son hatched a daring plan against the odds, reasoning that "*Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few.*" (1 Sam 14:6)

Travelling by his side, ever loyal and courageous, Jonathan's armour-bearer stood undaunted, backing Jonathan to the hilt: "*Do all that you have in mind...Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul.*" (1 Sam 14:7) So together they fearlessly plunged into a veritable hornet's nest of Philistine soldiers.

When one looks at the plight of the dispossessed and oppressed around our planet today, witnessing people reeling from natural disasters and the ravages of war, it would be easy to look at the overwhelming odds, tuck tail and run. But for more than six decades, CRCs in Canada and the United States have felt compelled by Christ's example to stand alongside the imperilled, commissioning then-CRWRC, now World Renew, to come alongside local communities and churches, strengthening them with a fighting chance.

To this day, World Renew Canada is only able to rise to the challenge and face down the giants of poverty, hunger and exploitation with our partners and participants around the world, because CRCs across Canada have vowed to surround us with prayers, special offerings, and voluntary service engagements.

That fateful day in the early days of the Kings, Jonathan and his valiant armour-bearer -- whose name is only known in the heavenly realms -- routed the enemy outpost in a stunning victory.

Thousands of years later, we are seeing the CRC and its members across Canada stand with us in rising ways to advance the struggle against poverty and injustice:

- Canadian church giving for fiscal 23/24 totalled a whopping \$3,515,610.
- 13 Canadian Churches are in “Advanced Partnerships”, deeply engaged with WR’s work through steadfast support of a specific project prayerfully, financially and relationally.
- Fiscal year 23/24 saw 118 Canadians visit World Renew’s work in person across 13 trips.
- 13 International Response Managers continued voluntary training, worked on projects remotely, and travelled to disaster sites to assist with emergency aid.
- Refugee resettlements continued across Canada, and our work attained a “Zero Risk” rating with the Federal Government, a testament to the continued fidelity of our work since 1979.
- 21 World Renew Justice-learning events engaged 261 people from 30 Canadian churches and organizations.
- Since the Abbotsford flood of November 2021, World Renew provided two annual grants of \$200,000 each, providing the salary of the Abbotsford Disaster Response Committee project coordinator, and enabling the ADRC to provide building materials such as lumber, lawn care, and furniture/appliances for the community.

Looking forward, we anticipate an historic year of Canadian Foodgrains Bank projects, with World Renew’s current 23 percent equity share allowing us to robustly program directly and with trusted partners, all through the generosity of Canadians and the up to 4:1 match from the Canadian government.

This year, we hope to resettle scores more families fleeing desperate situations, with Canadian churches and families serving as conscientious hosts as part of our Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement program. We are exploring how best to deepen Canada’s response to disasters closer to home, in ways that are complementary to Canada’s unique federal response mechanisms.

Thank you for your faithfulness enabling us show up in places where people are so deserving, yet like brave Jonathan of long ago, find themselves surrounded by towering cliffs and glowering enemies. How reassuring it is to know that you stand alongside these families—and us—as fellow armour-bearers in the fight for a brighter, hope-filled future. World Renew can confidently stand with them, knowing our Canadian churches have “got our back!”

Thank you for such faithful and fervent support. Heaven knows its worth on earth.

Jamie McIntosh
Executive Director, World Renew Canada

Thank you for joining World Renew to show the love of Jesus and help restore hope for those living in poverty. The Church and Community Engagement team is here to serve you and your congregation and are one phone call or email away!



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