

Fifth Sunday in Lent



Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development

Reader: The Lenten journey continues.

All: Lent's questions confront us.

Reader: Why is the road so dangerous?

All: What will we do as we face choices of life or death?

Reader: Dare we trust in the power of God to renew our lives?

All: Are we prepared to share this vision with others?

Reader: The quest tests and tries us.
Perhaps we should turn back.

All: We pray that Jesus will be our guide.

Reader: Let us pray.

God of the dried up places:
there is no place that is too dark for your presence;
there are no situations that are beyond your grace.
Even barren places of grief, poverty
and hopelessness are in your hands.
Bring life where there is death,
healing where there is pain
and courage where there is fear.



All: Stay with us as we go through every valley,
Stay with us as we reach out to the world
with hands that heal.
Stay with us as we make our way
along the Christ path. Amen.

Meeting Nutritional Needs in Nicaragua

In Nicaragua, coffee farmers and their families are facing a precarious situation.

In the wake of a severe drought, their crops and livelihoods are suffering. Since farmers grow mostly coffee, their children don't have access to a variety of nutritious foods, leading to a lack of proper nutrition and delays in their growth.

Marlene Acuna Obregon worried about the well-being of her newborn baby. She knew that in the wake of poverty and prolonged drought, getting proper nourishment would be a challenge.

But all that is changing.

Marlene's is one of 440 families learning from Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported community volunteers about the importance of diet diversification, cultivating household gardens, and the benefits of exclusive breastfeeding.

"I have learned many things," Marlene says proudly. "Now we are consuming vegetables that we harvest ourselves."

With this training and education about breastfeeding and child development, Marlene is filled with thanks knowing that her baby can start life healthy and strong.

This Lenten season let us faithfully respond to Christ's call to serve those in need. Through support of PWS&D, vulnerable communities are accessing proper nutrition and leading healthy, productive lives.

