

Living Green

Through the MDG's

Deacon Gary Cartwright 10/9/09

What are the MDG's?

- In the year 2000 195 nations agreed to improve the conditions of many of the under-developed countries over the next 15 years.
- This effort became known as: The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG's)

Why is “Living Green” Important?

- Biblical Basis: Genesis 1:28 “God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.’”
- By God’s plan we are the stewards of God’s creation.

Does this apply to our Sisters and Brothers?

- 1 Peter 4:10 – “Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”
- Matthew 22:37-39 – “Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'”

MDG's in Detail

- **1. ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY & HUNGER**
- **2. ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION**
- **3. PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN**
- **4. REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY**
- **5. IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH**
- **6. COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES**
- **7. ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**
- **8. DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT**

Numbers for Comparison Purposes

- Population of the State of Florida = 18,328,40
- Population of the United States = 307,647,063
- World population = 6,789,144,883
- Poverty Guidelines
 - US:
 - 1 person \$10,830 (\$29.67/day)
 - Family of 4 \$22,050 (\$60.41/day)
 - World Extreme Poverty = \$1.25/day

Poverty

- In the United States:
 - 2008: 12.3% of our population (37.6 million)
 - Now: 13.2% due to economic crisis (39.8 Million)
 - Worse states: Miss, Ark, LA, Okla, Texas, NM, KY, Wva – all more than 15%
- In the rest of the world:
 - 2008: 130 million added to poverty roles
 - 2009 current estimate: 1 billion
 - In 2003 it was 841 million
 - Expected to Add 55-90 million in 2009
 - Worst Areas: Southeast Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa

How Can we be “Green through the MDG’s?”

- Pray for the poor
- Think globally, act locally
 - Support local organizations like Metropolitan Ministry, Salvation Army, free health clinics.
 - Support The Dominican Development Group and REACH Rwanda
 - Support Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)

Prayer for the poor

*Most loving God, your concern for the poor is unrelenting, draw our concern
into yours;*

*Your compassion for the poor is limitless, draw our compassion into yours;
As you long for justice, may we also strive for it.*

Forgive our doubt, forgive our neglect.

*Open our eyes to structures of oppression and free us from apathy and
indifference.*

*Give us courage to accept our responsibility, wisdom to chart a sound
course amid complexity,*

*perseverance to finish our work, and the gift of your Spirit to do what
alone we cannot do.*

*So may we serve to your honor and glory
and the wellbeing of your beloved people throughout the world.*

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.