

A New Heaven and a New Earth



**World Development and Relief,
Mission and Service Fund**

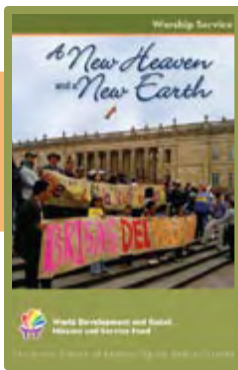
The 2008–09 World Development and Relief (WDR) materials highlight the risks that global partners of the United Church take in their efforts to bring about a new earth.

A worship service, a children’s activity booklet, a bulletin cover, offering envelopes, and online video clips are available. They encourage us to live out our belief in God’s will here on earth by acting globally and discerning how to respond to injustice in our own communities.

The theme of taking risks to bring about a new heaven and a new earth also complements the United Church’s current mission theme: Challenging Empire: A Call to Community.

Order WDR materials from United Church Resource Distribution, or visit www.united-church.ca/funding/msfund/about/wdr for more information.

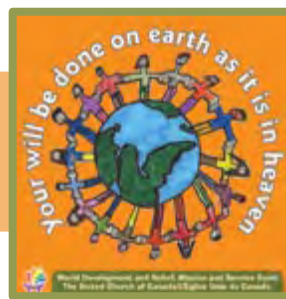
WDR • 2008–09 Materials



Worship Service CH10549

A complete worship service, including a gathering march and recitation, music choices, and leadership notes.

- Use the WDR worship service during a season or Sunday focused on outreach, development, justice, or Mission and Service.
- Use the service to generate interest in the mission theme, *Challenging Empire: A Call to Community*, or to wrap up a focus on the mission theme.
- Use the service to boost your congregation's commitment to giving to the M&S Fund.
- Also available to download at www.united-church.ca/planning/theme under "M&S Fund in Worship."



Children's Activity Booklet CH10552 (10's)

This attractive foldout is recommended for the children's focus during the WDR worship service.

- Use the children's booklet with Sunday school children for several weeks. Involve youth by having them assist younger children in making stories or pictures of heaven on earth.
- As an intergenerational exercise, create a mural of what we can do to make heaven on earth—and then make a commitment to do something together.
- Use the stories as a jumping off point to learn more about partner work through letters from overseas personnel (www.united-church.ca/communications/overseas) and *Mandate* magazine.

Supporting Resources

Explore the United Church mission theme: *Challenging Empire: A Call to Community*.

- *Mandate* magazine, May 2007, "Challenging Empire: A Call to Community"—introduction to what is meant by empire, including theological reflections, Bible studies, and workshops
- *Mandate* magazine, May 2008, "Empire and Racial Power"—how your faith community can work toward supporting racial justice and challenge empire close to home, including hands-on activities and tools, worship materials, and Bible study
- *Challenging Empire: Justice Seeking in Your Faith Community*—a complete kit for congregations and ministries in the United Church, including resources for adult study, worship, intergenerational groups, and children
- Other children's M&S resources are also available: *M&S for Kids, Vol. 1*; *Hand in Hand: M&S for Kids, Vol. 2*; and *United in Love*



Bulletin Covers CH10550 (50's)

- Use the bulletin covers on the Sunday your worship highlights World Development and Relief/ M&S Fund and/or the mission theme: Challenging Empire: A Call to Community.
- Use the bulletin covers when you are exploring your congregation's vision or mission.

Offering Envelopes CH10551 (50's)

- Insert envelopes into worship bulletins. Use them with the WDR bulletin cover.
- Seek permission to regularly place envelopes in pews or elsewhere in the worship space.

WDR Global Partner Online Video Clips

www.united-church.ca/planning/theme
under "M&S Fund in Worship"

- Download video clips of global partner work to bring about a new heaven and a new earth.
- Project the clips during the service as a Minute for Mission, a prelude to a prayer of intercession, or part of the reflection.

Want to do more?

See **Go Deeper** on the back of this flyer.

World Development and Relief resources are available at no charge (shipping and handling fees apply).

To order WDR 2008–09 Materials:



UCRD
United Church Resource Distribution
The United Church of Canada

Contact us toll-free 1-800-288-7365
or locally 416-253-5456
e-mail ucrd@united-church.ca
or contact your local presbytery resource
centre

Go Deeper

- Become a “Take Action” congregation: respond to calls from United Church partners for letters to elected officials that can make a difference, and organize easy letter-writing activities during coffee hour to encourage participation. Visit www.united-church.ca/communications/newsletters to read and subscribe to the “United Action for Justice” newsletter. Go to www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/takeaction to read current calls for action, or to subscribe to an RSS feed for automatic notification when a new action is posted.
- Organize a community panel that explores the risky issues your local community faces. In response to what you hear, develop actions that the faith community can take together.
- Create a bulletin board on the theme of “A New Earth.” Celebrate activities that contribute to justice and peacemaking, globally and locally. Include letter-writing, raising funds for WDR and M&S, and local and global outreach activities.
- Invite a member of your congregation to participate in your regional KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives group. The United Church is a part of this coalition, which unites 11 churches and church agencies in faithful action for justice and peace.



For more information, contact:

**World Development and Relief,
Mission and Service Fund**

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www.united-church.ca/funding/msfund/about/wdr