



World Vision

# Today

Autumn 1999

Child Sponsor  
**Thomas Kinkadee**

*Painter*  
of **Light**

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On the cover: Thomas Kinkadee's "Bridge of Faith" painting. See print offer on center envelope.

**World Vision Today**, a free quarterly publication, affirms people responding to God's call to care for the poor by providing information, inspiration, and opportunities for action, linking them with children and families in nearly 100 countries where World Vision ministers. In an effort to be careful stewards of our resources, this publication costs less than 30 cents a copy to print and mail.

We welcome your comments and feedback. Letters to the Editor must include the writer's full name, home address, and daytime telephone number, and should be sent to: The Editor, **World Vision Today**, P.O. Box 9716, Federal Way, Washington 98063-9716, faxed to (253) 815-3445, or e-mailed to [WVToday@worldvision.org](mailto:WVToday@worldvision.org). Letters may be edited for space and clarity. Submitted photos will not be returned. Please send address changes at least 30 days before moving and enclose the address label clipped from a current copy or return envelope.

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## Letters

### Gift From a Broken Heart

I just finished the entire issue of *World Vision Today* [Summer 1999]. The picture of the little boy in your Kosovo report broke my heart. I am sending a gift to help in that area and also to the orphans in Rwanda.

It is good that God is the judge of earthly events. Men can do a lot of terrible things, but even they need the Lord.

Lois Fry  
Newport, Minn.

### People Over Possessions

I just read Richard Stearns' commentary, "Mark McGwire's Baseball" [Summer 1999]. Amen! Thank you for this excellent reminder to value people over possessions.

Think how different the world would be if every American Christian caught this vision of creative, joyful giving.

Perhaps it would even spill over into the military where the current annual budget is 1,000 times more than that of the Peace Corps. Imagine what could happen if First World nations spent more money building friendships than building bombs.

Barbara Shiffer  
Oneida, Wis.

### Response to Romania

Friday evening I was exhausted and frustrated with my 40 sixth graders. The last thing I wanted to read was a magazine with stories of more needy children. But there was something special about that beautiful baby on the cover [Spring 1999]. I had to read it. I was pleasantly surprised when I read the stories of hope. Thank you for doing such an outstanding job.

Jessie Johnson  
St. Paul, Minn.

I was overwhelmed with joy at the cover story on Father Tanase [Spring 1999]. The beautiful story and endearing pictures touched my heart in a special way.

Sixteen years ago, a small group from my church and a Catholic church met with a common goal: to provide the first crisis pregnancy home in our community. Through months of meetings, prayers, and solicitations for money, staff, and equipment, God supplied our needs. We opened our center within a year.

Reading about Father Tanase's mission to educate his people against abortion and supply a center for girls and single women filled my heart with happiness.

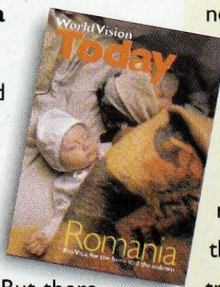
Susan Ebert  
Everett, Wash.

### Kids in Charge

In our Kaleidoscope feature [Summer 1999], we asked kids to imagine they had to assume responsibility for their households as many children worldwide are forced to do. Twelve-year-old sponsor Juliette Moncada of Metairie, La., took on the challenge:

"When I went to the supermarket, I couldn't buy much with just \$30. My next task was to fix supper, and I was very good at that because my mother is a professional cook. If it wasn't for her, that task would have been very hard. With limited resources, it would be hard to fix things and get around. My estimate for transportation would be about \$15 a week, and for people without money, that's very expensive.

I want to congratulate World Vision for the outstanding job you have done for all those poor children around the world."



## Wanted: Dream House

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One bedroom, 320 square feet, cinderblock with cement floor, one indoor toilet, sink with faucet, tin roof. Needs to sleep eight.

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When our family moved to Washington state last year, my wife, Reneé, and I spent several weeks looking for just the right house. Our home in Pennsylvania was a 200-year-old fieldstone farmhouse in a beautiful setting with the charm found only in houses built in another era. For 12 years it had been our dream home. It would not be easy to replace.

As we searched, I was amazed at our many requirements: a nice neighborhood near a good school; a decent-sized yard;

**dreams realized:** Sponsored by World Vision, Sunshine Salas, 11, and her family proudly show off their new home which Richard Stearns (center) and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter helped build in the Philippines.

enough bedrooms and bathrooms for our children; a quiet street; a garage; a dining room; a study; and, if possible, in a home built after 1990—with some charm. We rejected house

after house for some minor flaw: too close to a neighbor; busy street; small kitchen. Finally, we found a house that met almost all our needs.

More than 63.5 million homeowners in America have gone through a similar selection process. Owning a home is an inseparable part of the American Dream, and 23 percent of the population see that wish come true.

Last March, I saw more than a hundred families in the Philippines realize that dream as well when World Vision partnered with Habitat for Humanity in their 16th annual Jimmy Carter Work Project (see story on page 14). I had the honor of working alongside President Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, to build a house for Leonisa Salas, her husband, her son, and her outgoing 11-year-old granddaughter, a World

Vision sponsored child aptly named Sunshine.

At first I wondered why the Salases were so excited about their new house. The 16-by-20-foot cinderblock home had just three rooms, a cement floor, and a tin roof. Why were they so cheerful and brimming with joy?

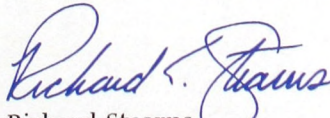
I had my answer when we visited the family's existing house. You see, the Salases are among the millions of Filipino squatters living in appallingly flimsy shacks along dusty roads. Families crowd into structures made of bits of scrap wood and metal with no electricity or running water. A 6-by-6 foot room served as a bedroom for Sunshine and her family; the dirt floor, which turned to mud when it rained, was their bed.

I was shocked that this bright-faced little girl lived in such deplorable conditions. Every child and family should have a clean, decent place to live. Sadly, more than 1 billion people worldwide live in inadequate housing, and more than 100 million people are classified as homeless.

However, for about \$2,000 (paid interest-free over 15 years), Sunshine and her family have new hope in the form of their "dream house" which has piped water, a toilet, and electricity. The Salases and 130 other families with new homes named their community Isaiahville after the prophecy in Isaiah:

*... They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands.*  
Isaiah 65:21-22 (NIV)

I returned from the Philippines deeply thankful to have met the Salases, for their new home, and for all that God has supplied my own family. The houses in which you and I live may not be mansions, but if they are warm and dry, if they have indoor plumbing and electricity, we have been extraordinarily blessed. 🌍

  
Richard Stearns

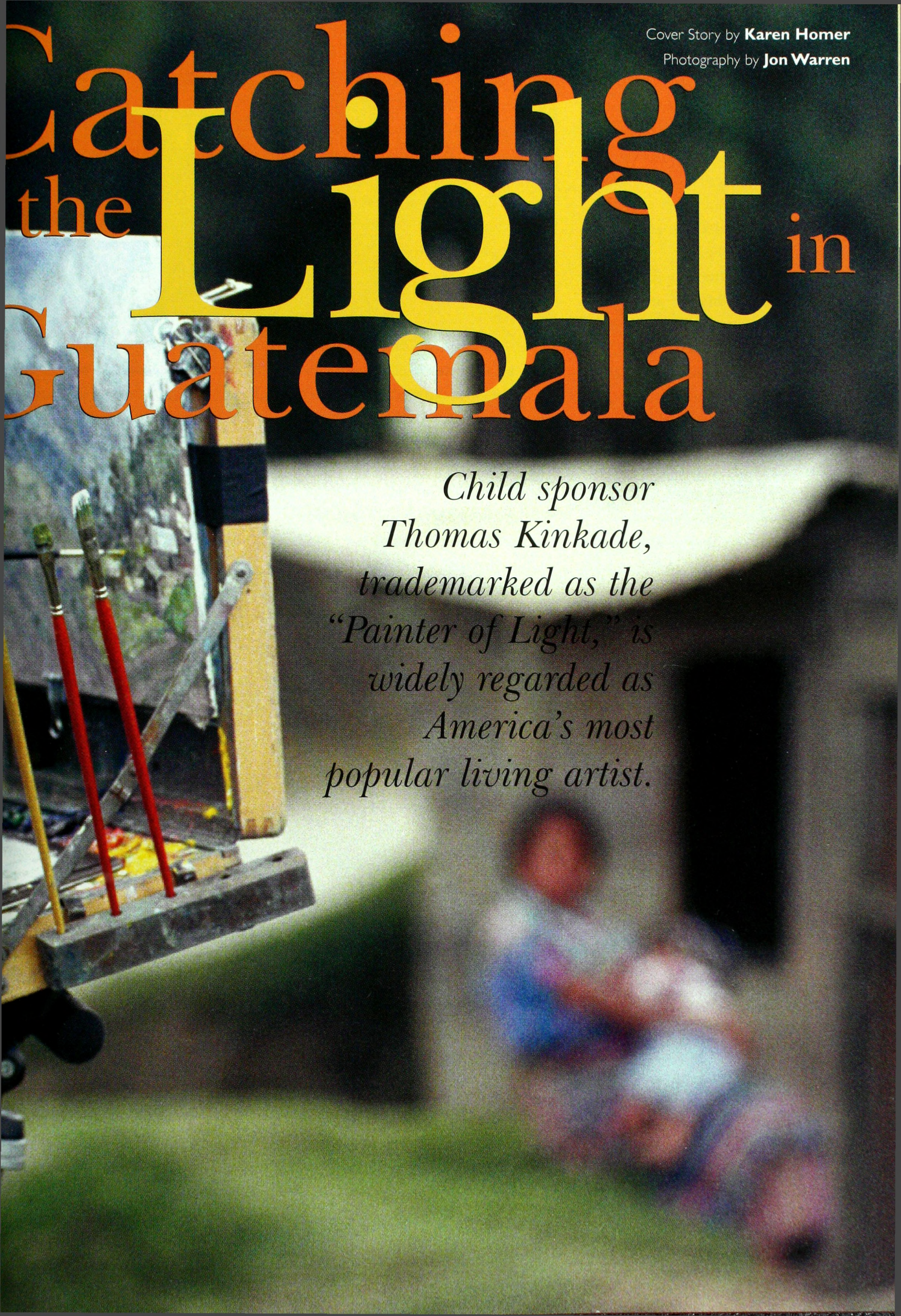


Cover Story by **Karen Homer**

Photography by **Jon Warren**

# Catching the Light in Guatemala

*Child sponsor  
Thomas Kinkadee,  
trademarked as the  
“Painter of Light,” is  
widely regarded as  
America’s most  
popular living artist.*



**H**is radiant renditions of country gardens, lighthouses, and small-town streets are reproduced on canvas lithographs, prints, books, posters, calendars, cards, collector plates, figurines, and a line of home furnishings. There are more than 220 Thomas Kinkade Signature Galleries coast-to-coast.

A committed Christian, Thomas describes his paintings as “quiet messengers affirming the basic values of home and family, faith in God, and the luminous beauty of nature.”

A father of four daughters, Thomas says God challenged him to advocate for the world’s poorest children through becoming a World Vision spokesman. Thomas, his wife, Nanette, and their 11-year-old daughter, Merritt, traveled to

Guatemala in March to visit World Vision projects and to meet two of the four children the Kinkade family sponsors in Guatemala, Ethiopia, and Cambodia. In this interview with **World Vision Today**, Thomas shares how Guatemala’s spectacular scenery and welcoming people inspired his paint brush and encouraged his faith.

**What influences have shaped your work as an artist?**

My life as an artist has been a miracle from start to finish. There is no part I can take credit for. As a preacher once said, “If you see a turtle on a fence post, you know he didn’t get there by himself.” I feel like that turtle. God has been developing my life despite my own foolishness and weakness.

My vision as an artist is an outgrowth of my Christian walk. When I was saved, my art was saved. I began to realize that art is not just a self-indulgent exercise. It is a means of touching the life of another person. When I met Jesus as my Lord and Savior, I saw that I approached my work from the heart of a servant, I could create paintings that would reach others and share the hope and love of God.

I was also influenced by popular American visionaries such as Norman Rockwell and Maxfield Parrish who became icon-makers of their age. Parrish’s paintings gave meaning and

**Kids’ critique:** Children gathered in this market ponder over Thomas’ partially finished scene. “The people here embraced me,” says Thomas. “I felt a part of their community.”



## World Vision in Guatemala

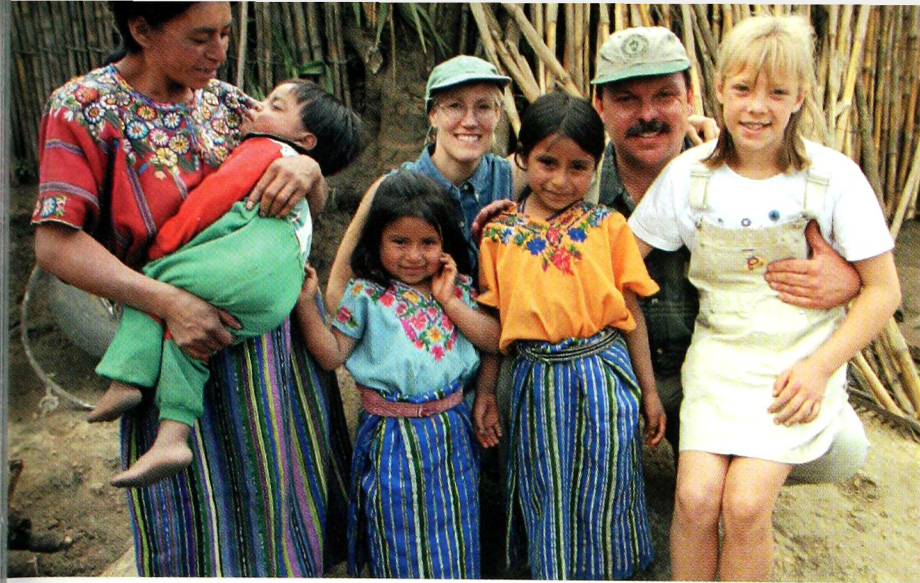
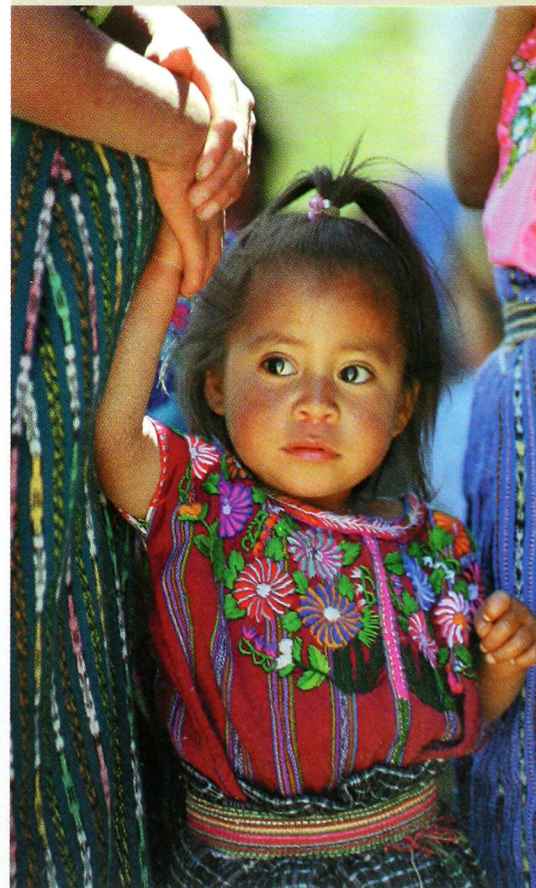
World Vision began sponsorship in Guatemala in 1975. Today, 43,143 Guatemalan children are supported by World Vision sponsors worldwide, including 18,929 American sponsors.

Through sponsorship, children receive help with tuition fees, school supplies, and preventative health care. Only a third of the country's 11 million people have access to health care facilities.

Families benefit from community projects such as microenterprise development, potable water, literacy, agricultural training, housing improvement, and Christian witness programs.

The Kinkades visited a World Vision day care center/school for 80 children whose families live in Guatemala City's largest garbage dump. Staff share the love of Christ with these *guajeros* (dump dwellers) who are shunned by the community. The children receive hot meals, clean clothing, and medical care.

Jon Warren / World Vision



**Family portrait:** Sponsored sisters Brenda Carolina Jochola Lopez (left) and Celestina, their mother, Elena, and brother, Marvin David, welcomed Thomas, his wife, Nanette, and their daughter Merritt into their home in San José Xepatan, Guatemala.

entered a state of poverty. Our clothing was always second-hand or very inexpensive. We lived in a shabby house compared to others in the neighborhood. But through prayer, my mother managed to create a constructive, hopeful environment for the family. As an adult, I realize that God worked through the poverty and gave me hope to become something beyond what my family background and environment might have suggested that I could become. However, the poverty I experienced was complete wealth compared with that of children whom World Vision serves.

### How did you become involved with World Vision?

What could be more improbable than God speaking to you in the middle of a San Francisco theater production of "Miss Saigon"? Yet I believe he did speak to me through the Vietnamese children in that play. It gelled in my mind that I needed to find a way to reach out to children in the greatest poverty. Soon after, I received a call from Ray Schutte, a World

pe to the 1920s' generation immersed in a materialistic frenzy. During the Depression era of the 1930s, his paintings created an escape to other worlds. Norman Rockwell, on the other hand, painted a definition of middle-American culture. He created idealized images of rural life, the homespun values that shaped postwar American society, creating hope for those who returned from war wondering what it meant to be American.

### What message do you want your paintings to convey?

I paint worlds that are icons of hope—an idealized vision of life the way it can be. I try to create universal images that all people can identify with. Anyone from any culture can celebrate the joy of walking through a fragrant garden, the peacefulness of a stream, a cozy cottage with glowing windows that beckon us to enter and sit beside the fire. These are universal images that present the inner longings of all people—what I call the lifestyle of light. Light creates hope.

### Describe your childhood growing up in Placerville, Calif.

God has a funny way of weaving the threads of your life together. My parents were poor. They divorced when I was 5, and then we really

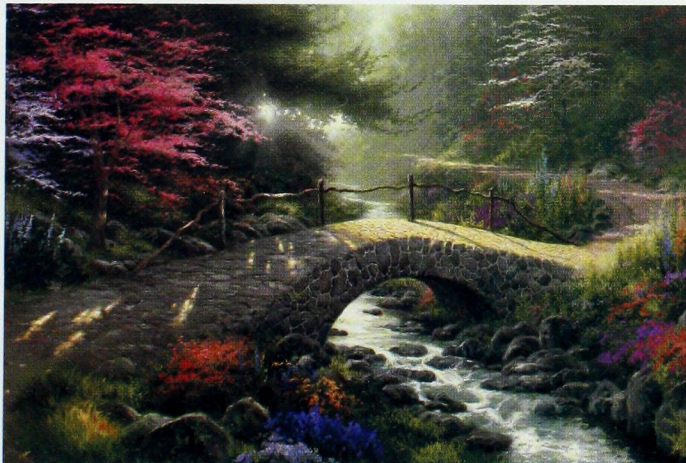
Vision representative, who spoke of translating the hope of my paintings into the hope that is the foundation of World Vision's efforts. God broke my heart in that theater, and then he provided the opportunity for me to light a candle of hope for others.

### **What were your impressions of Guatemala and World Vision's work there?**

Guatemalans are not fundamentally different than us. They love to work hard, to build traditions, to take walks in the open air. Guatemala is a country with strong Christian culture and traditions. The people have a great desire to know God. The Bible says true religion is caring for widows and orphans. World Vision is trying to do that in the most tangible way. We visited schools built by World Vision. We walked into clinics supported by World Vision and saw children receiving medical attention. We saw children rescued from living in a garbage dump. Sponsorship doesn't just meet needs now, it creates community identity and self-sufficiency for the future.

### **How did you feel when you met the sisters you sponsor: 5-year-old Brenda Carolina and 7-year-old Celestina?**

Getting that hug from Celestina when she ran up and greeted me made the entire trip worthwhile.



To receive a free print of Thomas Kinkadee's "Bridge of Faith," see the envelope in the center of this magazine.

There was genuine love in that hug. I felt I knew the girls from their sponsorship folder. Seeing them vital and healthy warmed my heart. It felt so good to think that in some silent, behind-the-scenes way, I am helping to make their lives better.

### **How is sponsorship benefiting the girls?**

To me, education is the single-most important benefit of sponsorship. With an education, there's hope that children can help make their village a better place. Life is lived on the edge in Guatemala. It's a day-to-day struggle to survive. If one thing goes wrong, for example if a parent is sick for a week, it's a tragedy. The children may not have enough food to eat. Sponsorship provides a buffer for families against disaster by providing health care and education.

### **Why did you and your wife, Nanette, decide to bring your daughter Merritt on this trip?**

My hope is that it would plant a seed in her heart that the world is a broader place than just the United States—that the ministry need is deep in other countries. Who knows what God can do with this experience? As an 11-year-old girl, my wife visited a field hospital in the Philippines with her parents. She witnessed a woman giving birth. This led her to choose a career of

service as an obstetric nurse. Prior to our marriage, she devoted her life to ministering to women giving birth. Perhaps something similar might emerge as my children experience needs in other countries.

### **What did you enjoy about painting in Guatemala?**

I wanted to bring out my sketchbook everywhere I went. I captured some of the contrasts of this beautiful country in the two paintings I did there. The first shows the rich heritage of the colonial square, the bustling life of a colorful city, women wrapped in handwoven tapestries, light pouring over a cathedral. In the second, I stood on the mountain's edge, looking out at farmers laboring over their crops carved in the hillside. The light filtering over the ancient volcanoes is an artist's paradise. By God's grace, I captured a little of the heart of these people.

### **How did your visit affect you as an artist?**

I've spent my life trying to impart a message of light. My paintings are a tool to remind people that in the midst of their struggles there is beauty in the world. There is hope. God loves them. Yet when I came to Guatemala, I was aware that for many people there is much darkness: ignorance, poverty, and despair. We can curse the darkness or we can light a candle.

Lighting a candle is as simple as sponsoring a child. It may not change the whole world, but it will change the world for one child. World Vision's founder, Bob Pierce, said, "May my heart be broken by the things that break the heart of God." I feel broken-hearted when I think of the day-to-day life of some of the people we met in Guatemala. It will motivate me never to take for granted the blessings we have in America and never to stop trying to make life better in other countries.



Story and photograph by

Israel Cárcamo

# Mitch money builds

*World Vision donations help Honduran families rebuild their homes, communities, and lives one year after Hurricane Mitch.*

Daysi Martinez, 29, stirs an adobe mixture while her neighbors in La Barranca, Honduras, wield shovels and pickaxes. Good-naturedly, she urges them to work harder. "Laziness is for idlers," she says. She and her husband, Adrian Alvarez, are anxious to complete their new house before winter sets in.

Hurricane Mitch destroyed 190 homes here in October 1998, including Daysi and Adrian's. Now 30 housing construction projects are underway in this region 100 miles from the capital, Tegucigalpa, with materials and machinery provided by World Vision.

Honduras lost 5,700 citizens, two-thirds of its infrastructure, and 70 percent of its crops to Hurricane Mitch. The storm left some 220,000 families homeless.

World Vision is providing food-for-work incentives to support survivors like Daysi and Adrian. The

organization plans to repair 2,000 houses and build 1,500 new ones, including 800 funded by U.S. donors.

"The work we are doing is for everyone," Adrian says, explaining that the building projects unite families and communities. World Vision pays for their labor with food—a blessing for Daysi and Adrian, who lost this year's entire harvest of corn, beans, squash, and watermelon in the hurricane.

This disaster aid is only the latest way World Vision is helping the couple. Five of their six children are among 1,758 sponsored children in the El Trapiche project, which since 1995 has assisted children in 17 communities with education and installed a potable water system.

Soon Daysi and Adrian will move the family into their two-bedroom home with a spacious kitchen, living room, and dining room. It's a far cry from their post-hurricane hut made of sticks and leaves that was too hot during the day and too cold at night.

"If my children were not sponsored by World Vision, we would be worse off, without hope," says Maximo Alvarez, 43, another new homeowner. Although he suffers

from diabetes, Maximo helps his wife, Maria Nicolasa, and their three children with the construction. When Hurricane Mitch hit, they lost the home they had inhabited for just six months, along with six tons of corn hurriedly harvested before the storm.

"We are not alone," he says. "World Vision has not left us. As always, they have been the only ones to lend a hand in our worst situation." 🌐



## How is World Vision helping Central America?

### World Vision Honduras:

- Providing food for 65,000 people in work programs.
- Rebuilding 1,500 homes, repairing 40 schools.
- Providing seeds and tools to 3,000 farming families.
- Assisting 5,000 families with spiritual and psychological counseling.

### World Vision El Salvador:

- Providing food for 1,750 families.
- Rebuilding or repairing 192 homes and providing agricultural supplies for 192 families.
- Helping to rebuild five bridges and two water systems.

### World Vision Guatemala:

- Repairing 6,000 homes, 3,000 latrines, 20 roads, and 13 bridges.
- Distributing seeds and tools to 1,000 farming families.
- Providing spiritual counseling and support.

### World Vision Nicaragua:

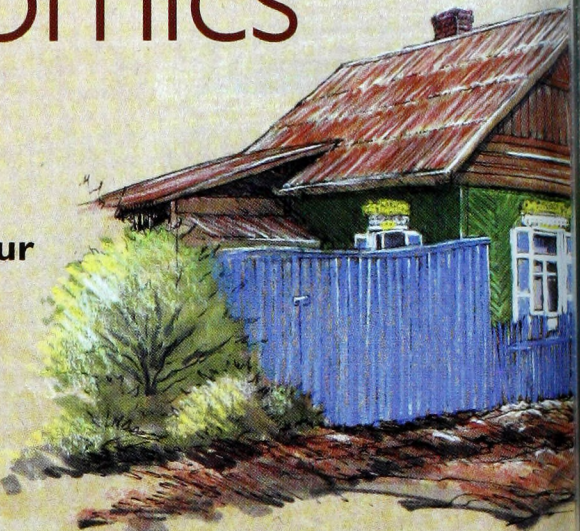
- Providing materials for 600 new homes.
- Distributing seeds to 6,000 farming families.
- Helping to prepare 11,000 acres for grain production.

# HomeEconomics

Compiled by **Jane Sutton-Redner**

Illustrations by **Futura Graphics**

In the United States, our homes are our castles—spacious places of comfort complete with all the modern conveniences. But for many people in developing countries, their “castles” may be merely a roof over their heads.



Mud hut  
Location: Ng'abagok, southern Sudan  
Materials: clay walls, wood frame, thatch roof  
Occupants: 7

Fishermen's shacks  
Location: Zamboanga, the Philippines  
Materials: wood, bamboo, metal roof  
Occupants: 5



Futura  
99

## The Shelter Squeeze

	Percentage of income spent on rent
Guatemala City, Guatemala	85%
Lahore, Pakistan	69%
Monrovia, Liberia	57.6%
Hanoi, Vietnam	55%
Delhi, India	44%
Arusha, Tanzania	30%
New York, United States	20%



Rent chews up a large percentage of some city dwellers' paychecks.

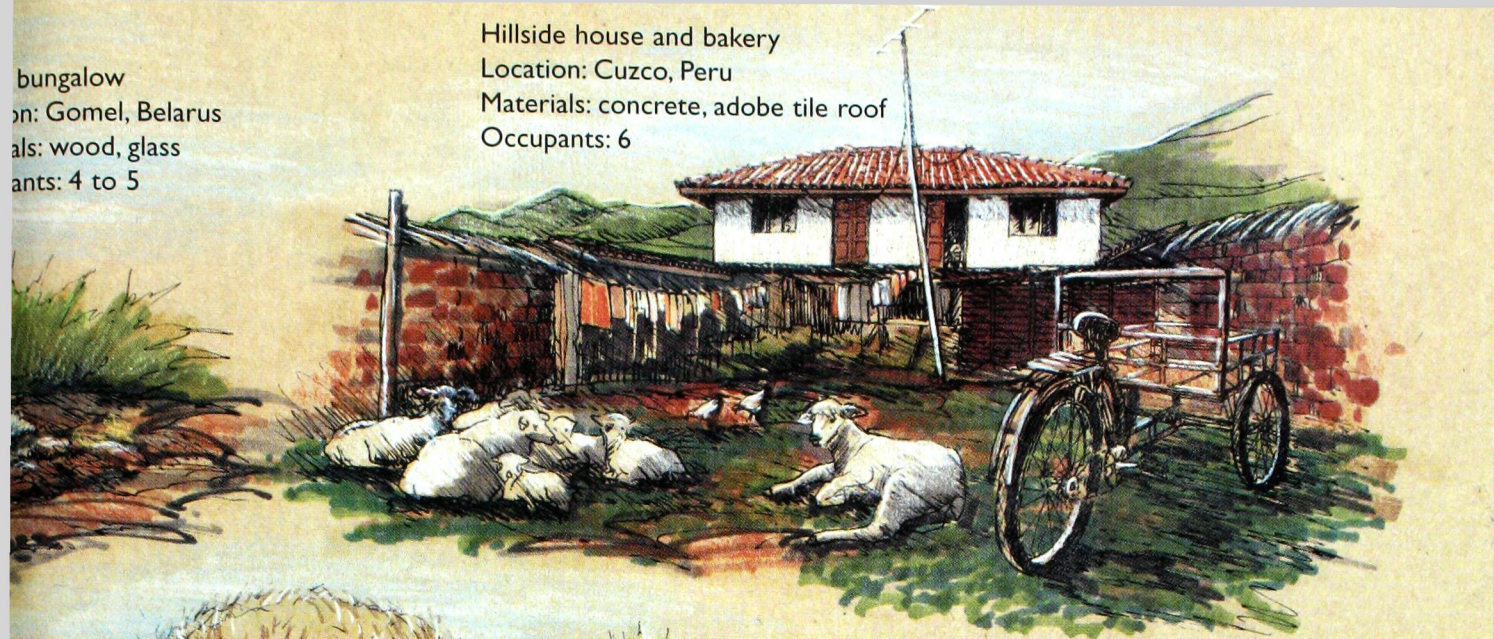
## Cramped

Country	Households (millions)
Malawi	1.8
Peru	4.2
Romania	7.3
United States	94.3

Source: Human Settlements Basic Statistics, 1997 by United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

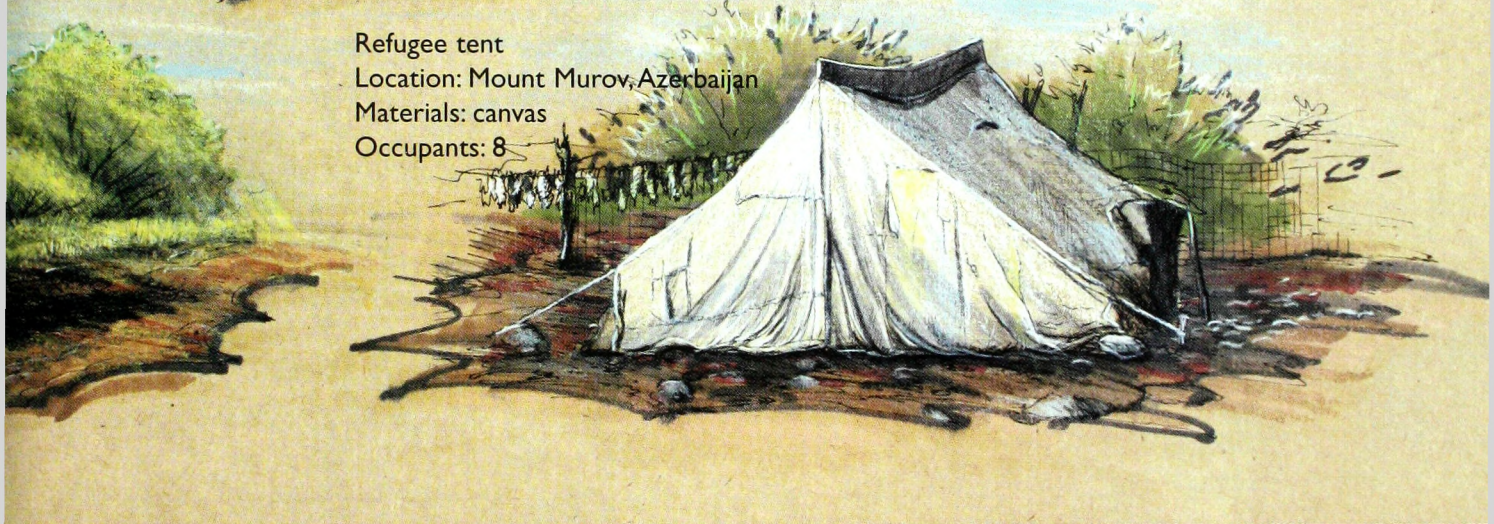
bungalow  
 on: Gomel, Belarus  
 als: wood, glass  
 ants: 4 to 5

Hillside house and bakery  
 Location: Cuzco, Peru  
 Materials: concrete, adobe tile roof  
 Occupants: 6



Turkana tribe's ekol  
 Location: Lokichokio, Kenya  
 Materials: branches, palm leaves  
 Occupants: 4

Refugee tent  
 Location: Mount Murov, Azerbaijan  
 Materials: canvas  
 Occupants: 8



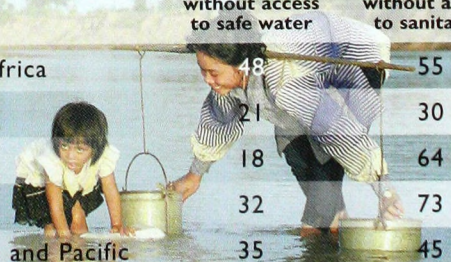
Peeking into households abroad reveals smaller, more crowded homes than in the United States.



Source: United Nations Human Development Report, 1998

## Unequal Access

Region	% of population without access to safe water	% of population without access to sanitation*
Sub-Saharan Africa	48	55
Arab states	21	30
South Asia	18	64
East Asia	32	73
Southeast Asia and Pacific	35	45
Latin America and the Caribbean	23	29
<b>All developing countries</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>58</b>



Almost a third of the people in the developing world lack access to safe water.

\*Sewage and garbage disposal.

■ If current trends continue, by the year 2030, tobacco-related diseases will kill 10 million people a year—more than 70 percent of them in developing countries where information on the health risks of smoking is not often publicized. (World Health Organization)

■ A third of the people are in some 3.3 million (United Nation

## Crisis Updates

### Angola

The latest round of fighting in Angola's sporadic civil war between the government and insurgent National Union for Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebels has brought the total number of uprooted people to 1.7 million. Under fire and cut off from food supplies, desperate civilians are flocking to feeding centers. World Vision is providing emergency rations to 40,000 people in four locations. Relief efforts are hampered by the fighting and the danger posed by 10 million land mines littered across the country.



### Kosovo

As the Balkan winter approaches, World Vision staff are working quickly to erect 3,200 shelters for ethnic Albanian families resettling in Kosovo. The conflict damaged or destroyed more than 100,000 homes and displaced almost half of Kosovo's 2 million residents. World Vision also is distributing family survival packs, containing food and hygiene products.

## Child Sponsorship: Mozambique

Some 6,000 children in Mozambique will benefit when World Vision begins a sponsorship program in this Southern African country in December 1999. Sponsored children in the Zambezia region will receive opportunities for education and medical checkups.

Mozambique became one of the world's most impoverished countries during a

20-year civil war which ended with a 1992 peace accord. World Vision began emergency relief in Mozambique in 1986 during the continent-wide drought. The agency's relief and development work, including road and bridge reconstruction, health, agriculture, and Christian witness programs, served 2.8 million people in 1998. Now that communities are more stable, sponsorship is possible.

## Good News: Indian bonded child laborers released

The families of 13 bonded child laborers in Gudiatham, southeast India, celebrated recently when their children were released after years of oppressive, hazardous work making cigarettes and matchboxes for cottage industries. Forced to drop out of school to work, the children now plan to attend vocational classes.

The eight boys and five girls, ranging from 10 to 15 years old, worked up to 12 hours a day, six days a week, earning just pennies. Their parents sold them into labor to raise money for daily expenses or family debts such as medical bills and funeral fees. Many families hoped to release their children

eventually, but could not earn enough to reimburse the sweatshop owners who demanded exorbitant interest.

World Vision's Restoration Childhood project paid the sweatshop owners an average fee of \$38 per child for their release. The payment, made on behalf of the child's family, is considered an interest-free loan. The parents will gradually repay World Vision's contribution to a community loan fund established to help prevent families from selling their children into bondage. World Vision has released 300 bonded child laborers in India.

## Coming Events

**Oct. 1: World Vision's Annual Day of Prayer.** More than 9,000 staff in nearly 100 countries will pray for donors, project communities, and for God's direction and blessing on our ministry. We invite you to join us, praying with us in your home or church.

**Nov. 4-6: National Conference of the Evangelicals for Middle East Understanding.** "Middle Eastern Christians in the Islamic Context: Lessons from the Past, Prospects for the Future." Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, Walnut Creek, Calif. Speakers include Tom Getman, director of World Vision Jerusalem, and Bob Seiple, former World Vision president, now ambassador at large for International Religious Freedom with the U.S. State Department. For conference information, call EMEU at (773) 244-5786.

**Nov. 20: Nordstrom's Private Holiday Shopping Night and Fashion Show to benefit World Vision.** Brea Mall, Brea, Calif., 8:15 p.m. Tickets: \$35. For more information, call World Vision toll-free at (888) 552-1510.

gees and displaced  
Africa counted  
on displaced people.  
Refugees)

The world's 225 richest people have a combined wealth  
of more than \$1 trillion, equal to the total annual  
income of the poorest 47 percent of the world's  
people. (United Nations Human Development Report)

Malnutrition in Latin America decreased from an  
estimated 21 percent in 1970 to 7.2 percent in  
1997 due to improved education for mothers and  
better access to basic health services. (UNICEF)

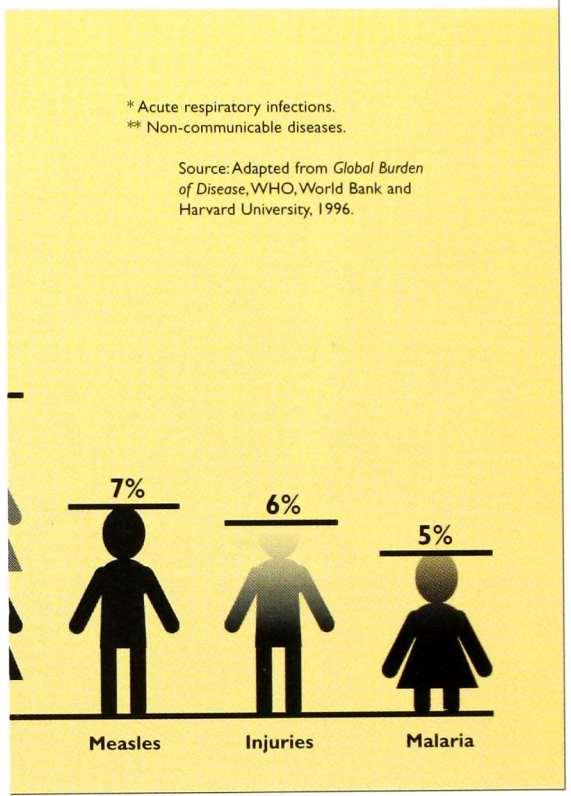
# Global causes of death for children under age 5

Diarrhea and acute respiratory infections are the leading causes of child deaths worldwide. Malnutrition alone accounts for 15 percent of all child deaths in developing countries. Diarrhea and acute respiratory infections are the leading causes of child deaths worldwide. Malnutrition alone accounts for 15 percent of all child deaths in developing countries. High-cost health programs.



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## or Kids— break a record

More than 1 million school students across the United States received 1,000 school supply kits for needy children in 17 countries last year. More kits are in demand this year. Through World Vision, Kits for Kids contain seven items worth a total of about \$7. For more information about how you can participate in this practical ministry, contact Laura at (252) 749-1800 ext. 227, or e-mail [laura@worldvision.org](mailto:laura@worldvision.org) or visit [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org).



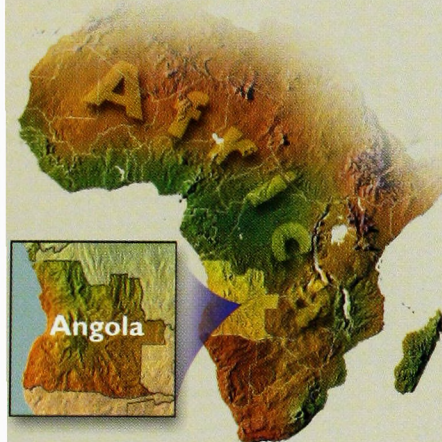
■ If current trends continue, by the year 2030, tobacco-related diseases will kill 10 million people a year—more than 70 percent of them in developing countries where information on the health risks of smoking is not often publicized. (World Health Organization)

■ A third of the people are in Africa. Some 3.3 million people are in Africa. (United Nations)

## Crisis Updates

### Angola

The latest round of fighting in Angola's sporadic civil war between the government and insurgent National Union for Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebels has brought the total number of uprooted people to 1.7 million. Under fire and cut off from food supplies, desperate civilians are flocking to feeding centers. World Vision is providing emergency rations to 40,000 people in four locations. Relief efforts are hampered by the fighting and the danger posed by 10 million land mines littered across the country.



### Kosovo

As the Balkan winter approaches, World Vision staff are working quickly to erect 3,200 shelters for ethnic Albanian families resettling in Kosovo. The conflict damaged or destroyed more than 100,000 homes and displaced almost half of Kosovo's 2 million residents. World Vision also is distributing family survival packs, containing food and hygiene products.

## Child Sponsorship: Mozambique

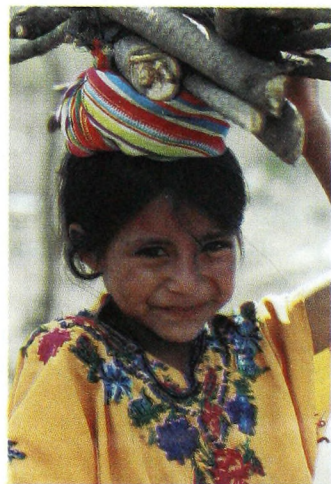
Some 6,000 children in Mozambique will benefit when World Vision begins a sponsorship program in the African region. The program will focus on educational and health services.

20-year civil war which ended with a 1992 peace accord. World Vision began



For 50 years, World Vision donors have been a bridge of faith and hope to millions of children worldwide. Now, when you sponsor a child for the first time or request an additional child to sponsor, Thomas Kinkadee will provide a free 12-by-16-inch "Bridge of Faith" print to thank you for your support.

When you send World Vision your first monthly donation of \$22, we'll mail you a certificate to redeem the print by mail or at any of Thomas Kinkadee's 220 galleries across the United States. For quick delivery of your certificate, you may call toll-free (800) 391-4466, and charge your sponsorship payment on your credit card.



Thomas Kinkadee and his family visited their sponsored child, 5-year-old Brenda Carolina, in Guatemala.

Mozambique is the most in

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Refugees)

The world's 225 richest people have a combined wealth of more than \$1 trillion, equal to the total annual income of the poorest 47 percent of the world's people. (United Nations Human Development Report)

Malnutrition in Latin America decreased from an estimated 21 percent in 1970 to 7.2 percent in 1997 due to improved education for mothers and better access to basic health services. (UNICEF)

# Global causes of death for children under age 5

Diarrhea and acute respiratory infections are the leading causes of child deaths worldwide. Malnutrition alone accounts in half of all child deaths in developing countries. Rough low-cost health programs.

# are Christ's love with a child

ase send me a certificate for my free "Bridges of Faith" print for sponsoring a child. For fast delivery of your certificate, bill your sponsorship payments to your credit card.

prefer to sponsor a  boy  girl living in Africa  Asia  Latin America  Middle East where the need is greatest

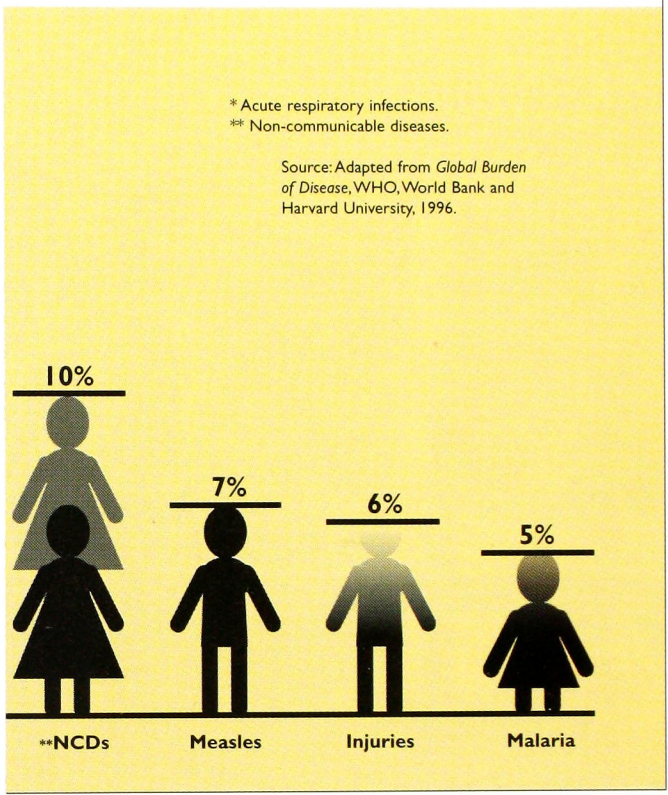
re is my first monthly gift of \$22 1800/H9B-P02  
Check (payable to World Vision)  
Bill my monthly sponsorship payment to my credit card:

-   -   -    
  -

cannot sponsor a child right now, but would like to give a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 1300/H9B-P03

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Number \_\_\_\_\_

visit us at: [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org)



## Kits for Kids—help break a record

ation Bible School students across the United States assembled 90,000 school supply kits for needy children in 17 developing countries last year. More kits are in demand this year. Distributed by World Vision, Kits for Kids contain seven items totaling a total of about \$7. For more information about how your group can participate in this practical ministry, contact Laura Anko at (412) 749-1800 ext. 227, or e-mail [oolkits@worldvision.org](mailto:oolkits@worldvision.org).



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20-year civil war which ended with a 1992 peace accord. World Vision began

Mozambique most in need of

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# share the light of Christ's love with a needy child



## and receive a free Thomas Kinkadee print, "Bridge of Faith."



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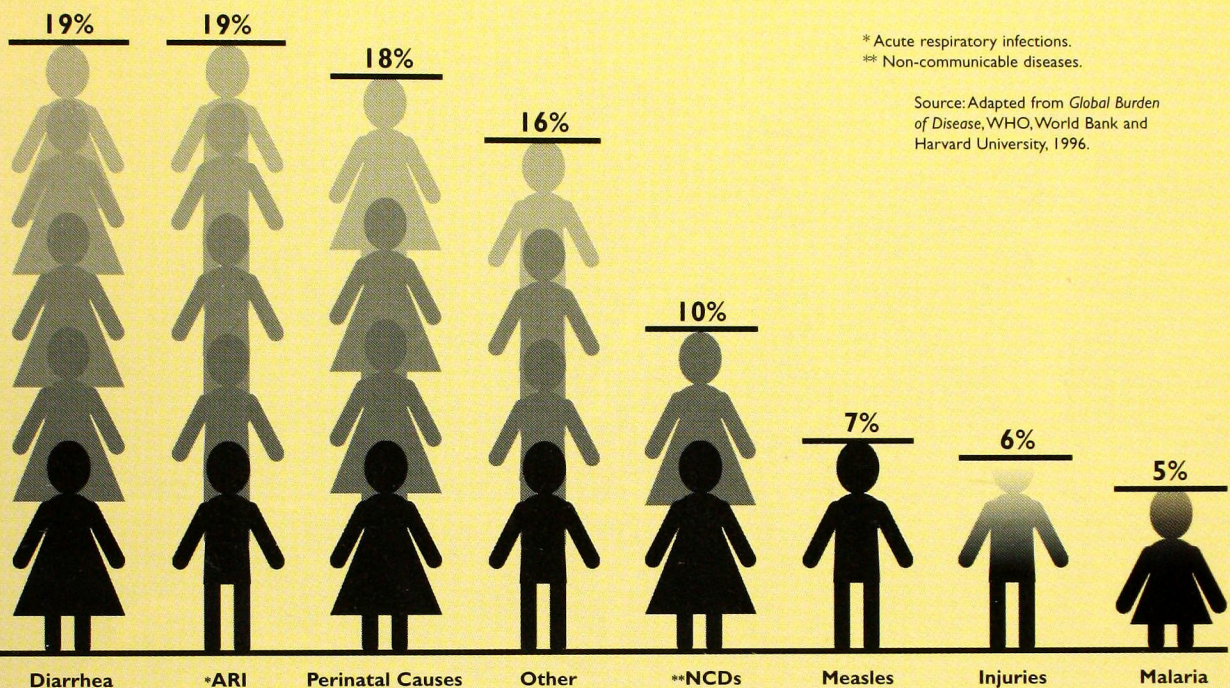
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## Global causes of death for children under age 5

Diarrhea and acute respiratory infections are the leading causes of child deaths worldwide. Malnutrition alone accounts for just 3 percent of under-5 deaths, but it contributes to more than half of all child deaths in developing countries.

**Good news:** Since 1985, 30 million young lives have been saved through low-cost health programs.



## Gifts that keep on giving

Celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or Christmas with an enduring gift that can change the lives of children and families around the world. Order a unique present from World Vision's *International Gifts of Joy and Hope Catalog*. Some suggestions:

- \$25 purchases a month's food for a family of five in Sierra Leone.
- \$30 buys 10 fruit trees for a farmer in the Dominican Republic.
- \$40 provides one year of theological training for one student in Bangladesh.
- \$100 pays for business training for 10 people in Azerbaijan.
- \$250 stocks a medicine chest in a rural health clinic in Peru.



Call toll-free (888) 511-6511 to order a catalog, or visit our Web site at [www.worldvisiongifts.org](http://www.worldvisiongifts.org).

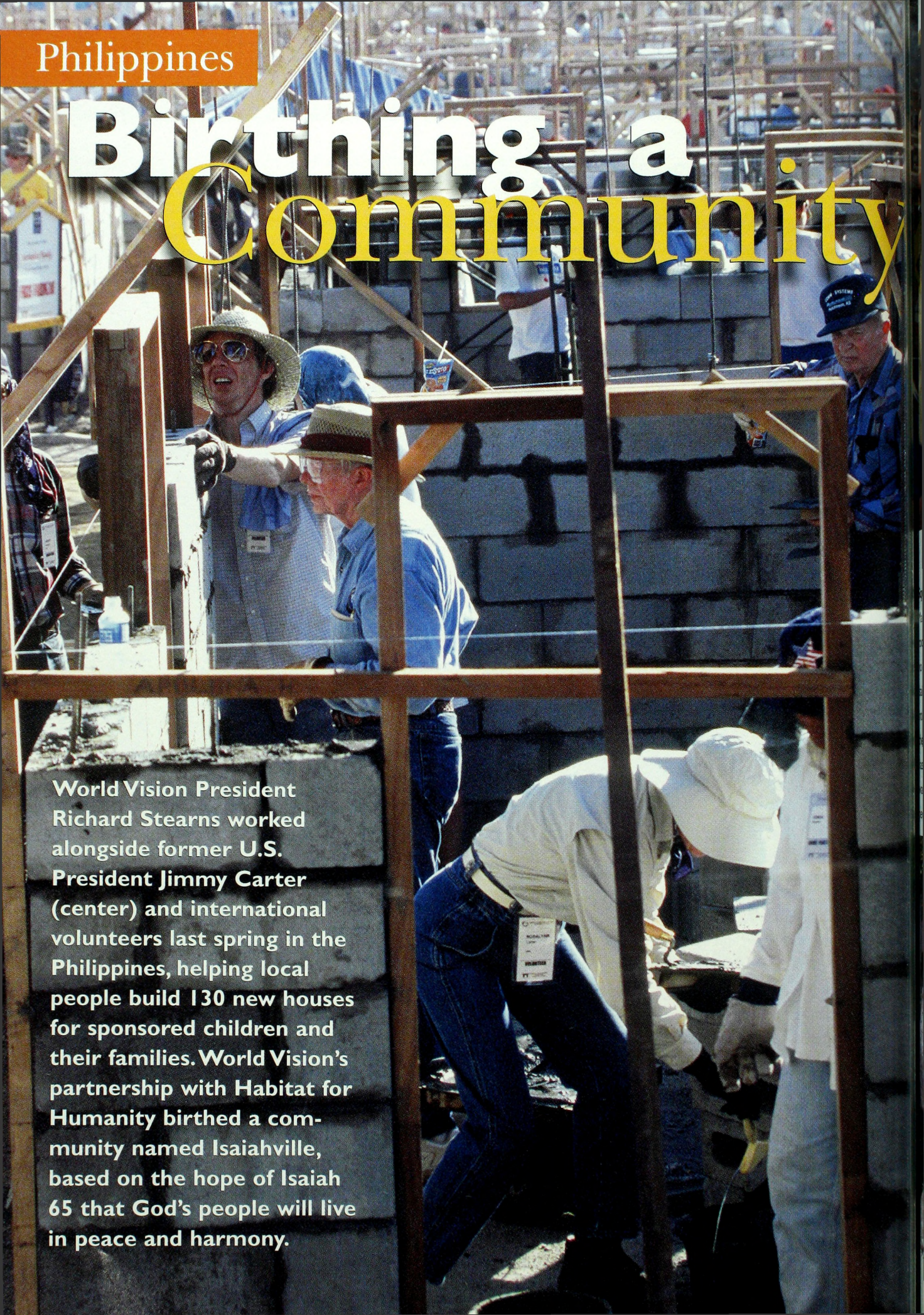
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Philippines

# Birthing a Community



World Vision President Richard Stearns worked alongside former U.S. President Jimmy Carter (center) and international volunteers last spring in the Philippines, helping local people build 130 new houses for sponsored children and their families. World Vision's partnership with Habitat for Humanity birthed a community named Isaiahville, based on the hope of Isaiah 65 that God's people will live in peace and harmony.



**Tears of joy:** Salome Castillo received gifts from World Vision volunteers and a Tagalog-language Bible from Jimmy Carter. He provides Bibles to all families in Habitat for Humanity's work projects, emphasizing his belief that building homes helps build the kingdom of God.

**Quarters no more:** The families used to live in the slums of Maragondon, a city southwest of the capital, Manila. Their flimsy, one-room shacks provided scant protection from frequent storms and had no electricity or indoor plumbing. World Vision bought the land for Isaiahville residents and partnered with Habitat for Humanity, an international Christian housing ministry. Habitat for Humanity finances the homeowners through 15-year, no-interest mortgages. World Vision has worked in Maragondon since 1992, providing education, health, water systems, economic development, and spiritual support for 7,100 people, including 3,200 sponsored children.

**“I would like to thank World Vision for our beautiful new house.”**

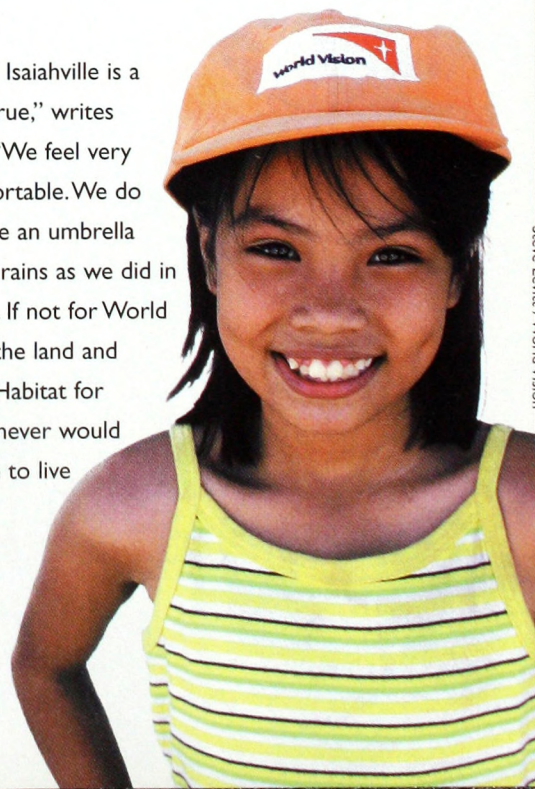
*Sunshine Salas, 11, who lives with her grandparents,*

*Leonisa and Salvador Salas, in the bungalow that*

*Rich Stearns and Jimmy Carter helped build.*



“Living here in Isaiahville is a dream come true,” writes Leonisa Salas. “We feel very safe and comfortable. We do not have to use an umbrella inside when it rains as we did in our old house. If not for World Vision buying the land and working with Habitat for Humanity, we never would have been able to live so peacefully.”



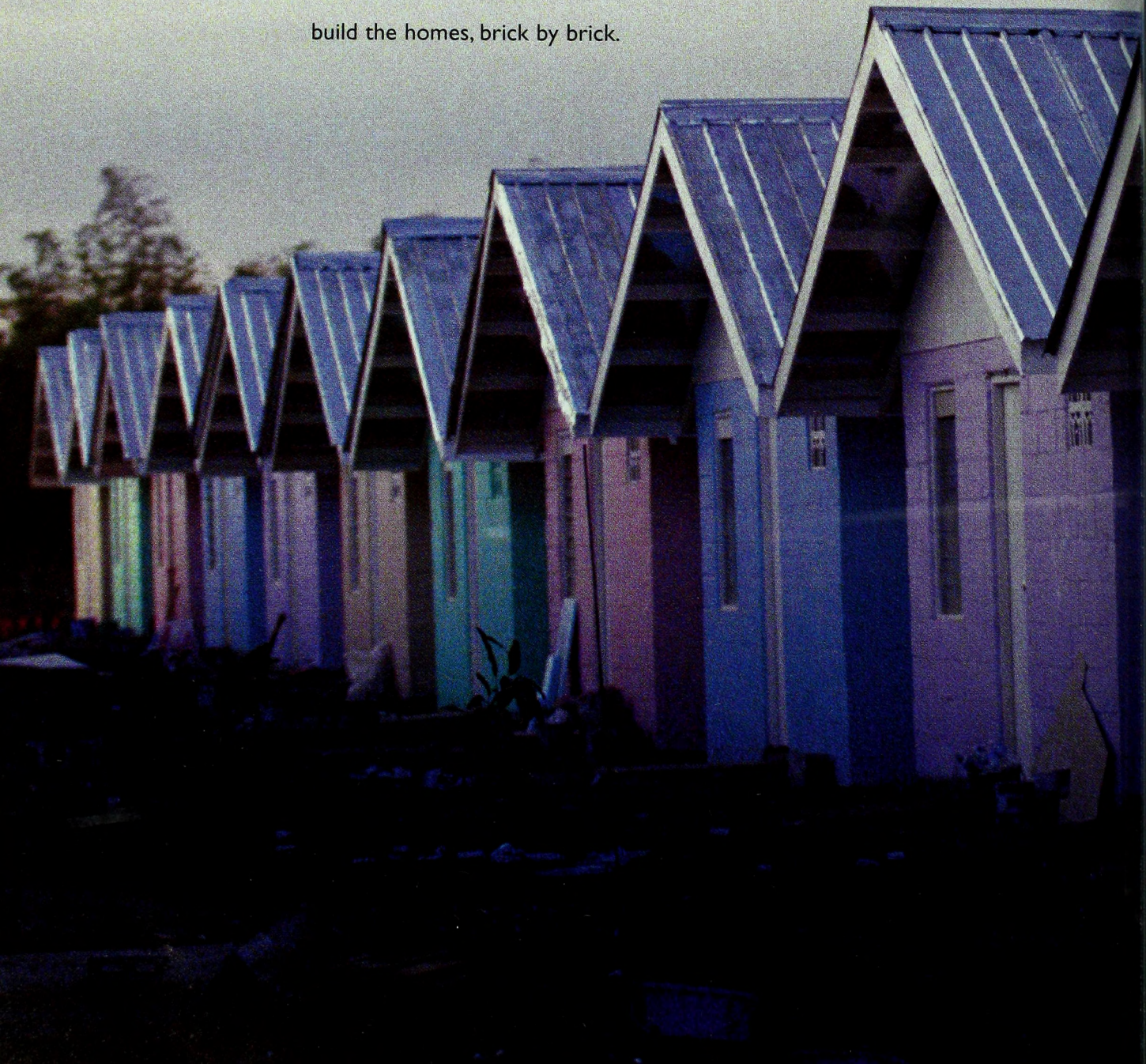
# Signs of Hope: Home at Last

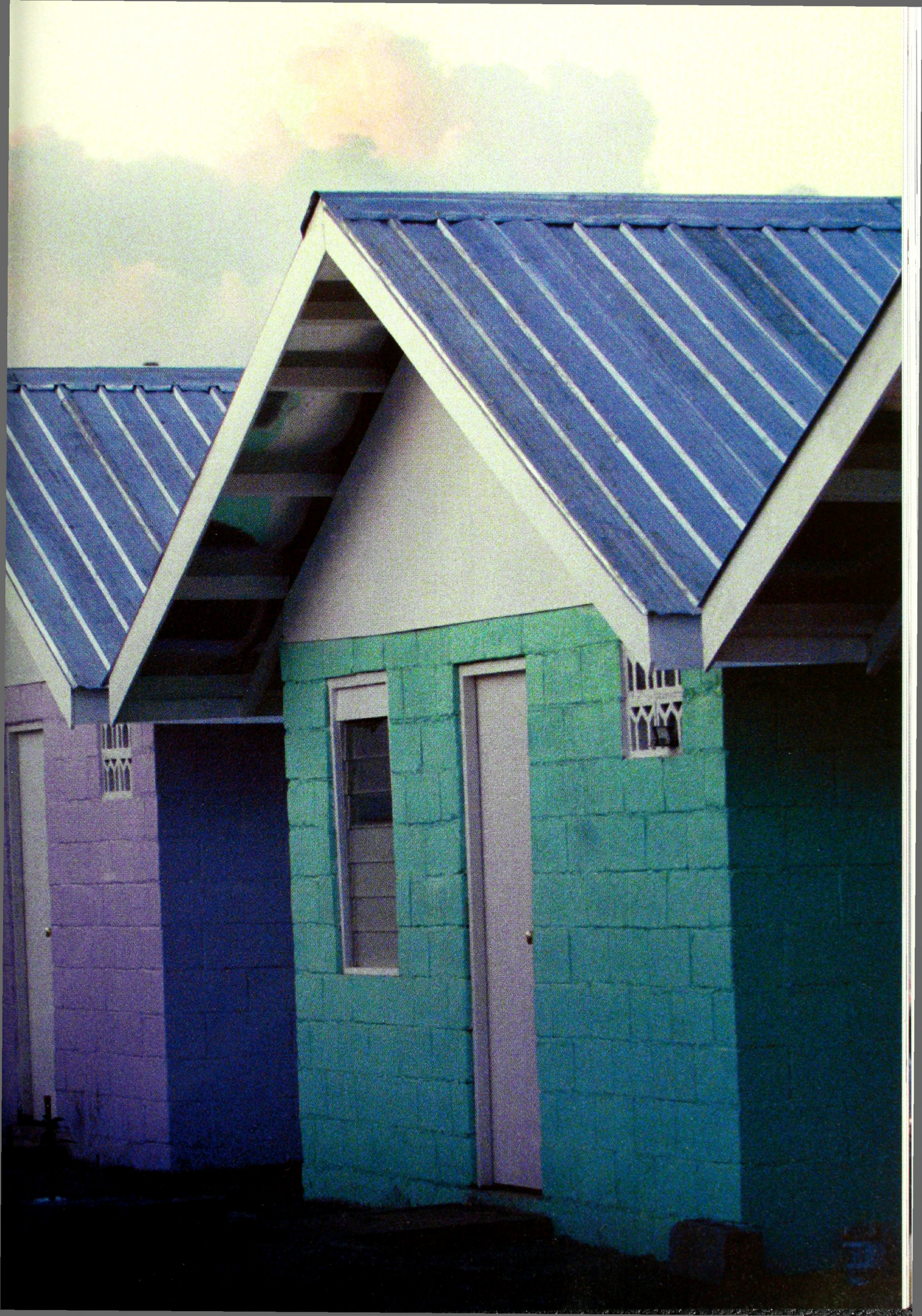
Photo by Janet Jensen, The News Tribune/Tacoma, Wash.

*"My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest."*

Isaiah 32:18 (NIV)

Street of dreams in Isaiahville, Philippines: The 130 families living in this new community will always remember the World Vision and Habitat for Humanity volunteers who helped them build the homes, brick by brick.





# Disaster Assurance

Story and Photography by **Cathy MacCaul**

*Teddy and Renee Faulkinberry were still unpacking boxes three days after moving into their new Oklahoma City home when a swarm of twisters ripped through the area on May 3.*

Ironically, Teddy had cut short his church-building missions trip to Honduras, returning home to sign the closing papers. Gazing at the rubble where their rambler once stood, Renee recalls how she stared down death during the storm and survived on faith.

Teddy was at an afternoon hockey game when he heard the storm warnings. He called to alert Renee, and asked if Nicole, their 16-year-old daughter, was home from visiting a friend. As Renee hung up, Nicole pulled into the driveway. The wind

was blowing hard; debris began to fly. Renee and Nicole grabbed two pillows and headed to the master bedroom closet for safety. They huddled there for several hours while the storm flattened the house around them.

"That's where we were," says Renee, pointing to a small closet-cum-cave hollowed out between broken boards and shattered furniture. "The closet light stayed on through the entire tornado, and it didn't turn off until three men came and pulled us out. It was like God was reminding me that he was

there with us, and he would be there until help came."

The Faulkinberrys are among 2,625 families in the area whose homes were destroyed or damaged. However, they feel fortunate to have survived the killer tornadoes that claimed 44 lives. They say they had the insurance you pay for and the assurance you pray for to help them through the ordeal.

For families like the Faulkinberrys, World Vision immediately launched survivors' relief operation. Some \$500,000 worth of new clothing, shoes, personal care items, dinnerware, cleaning supplies, toys, and games were distributed to more than 6,400 individuals. The new apparel replaced clothing imbedded with shards of glass and insulation fiber. Donated by corporations including Dress Barn, Finger Hut, Hasbro, and Pfaltzgraff, the goods were stored in a 50,000-square-foot warehouse in Oklahoma City provided free of charge by Hobby Lobby, a regional craft store chain.

More than 500 volunteers from 23 local churches and community groups committed 8,938 hours of service, partnering with World Vision to distribute the supplies to 1,635 needy families.





"Stories like the Faulkinberrys' are repeated to me through tears dozens of times as families came to our church to receive new clothes, toys, diapers, and much more," said Colen Lassiter, pastor of The Rock, Assemblies of God church. "I received many hugs and thanks for the encouragement brought by these gifts of love. Because of World Vision, we were able to minister to our members in need and to the community. God is good, and so are the hearts of the corporate sponsors." The Oklahoma City tornado also gave World Vision the opportunity to minister to churches who have cared for disaster and famine victims overseas. For several years, youth from Sooner Baptist Church raised funds through World Vision's 10 Hour Famine program. After the storm leveled the church, World Vision provided a grant to help replace

**Act of faith:** Renee Faulkinberry and her daughter, Nicole, took refuge in a closet as tornadoes destroyed their Oklahoma City house. As a Christian, Renee is thankful she had the insurance you pay for and the assurance you pray for. Local churches, supported by World Vision, are helping hundreds of families to rebuild their lives after the disaster.

the congregation's van which is used for a latch-key children's ministry. "We felt like a member of our family needed assistance," said Don Paterson, a World Vision relief coordinator. It will take time for the tornado victims to recover, but many are already looking to the future. The Faulkinberrys plan to rebuild in Oklahoma City—in a different part of town. Reflecting on her experience, Renee says accepting help from strangers was a lesson in grace. "We didn't feel like we should be receiving, but rather giving. We've always been on the other side." 🌐



## World Vision responds to U.S. natural disasters

**August 1992: Hurricane Andrew** caused \$26.5 billion in damages—the most of any tropical cyclone to date. The storm killed 60 people and forced approximately 2 million people in the Bahamas, Louisiana, and Florida to evacuate their homes. World Vision distributed \$3 million worth of emergency supplies to destitute families.

**July 1993: The Midwest floods** hit hardest in Missouri. In St. Louis, World Vision mobilized, trained, and coordinated 4,000 volunteers who cleaned 240 affected homes and businesses. World Vision's \$3.2 million response included grants to flood-damaged churches.

**January 1994: The Los Angeles, Calif., earthquake** left 600 families in the town of Fillmore homeless in a matter of minutes. World Vision provided immediate cash grants for emergency housing and partnered with more than 60 churches and organizations to help rebuild the community.

**April 1997: Red River flooding** in North Dakota and Minnesota marshalled more than 1,000 World Vision volunteers who helped distribute \$1.1 million worth of gift-in-kind donations, including cleaning supplies, clothes, and boots.

**September 1998: Hurricane Georges** battered Puerto Rico, causing \$300 million in crop damages. Working with a coalition of 30 churches, World Vision delivered \$200,000 worth of aid to hurricane victims.



## Say What?

Here's your chance to learn new words in four languages.



English word	Spanish	French	Kiswahili <i>(East Africa)</i>	Tagalog <i>(the Philippines)</i>
people	gente <i>(HEN tay)</i>	gens <i>(jahn)</i>	umma <i>(UM mah)</i>	sambayanan <i>(SUM bay ah non)</i>
friend	amigo/amiga <i>(ah MEE gah)</i>	ami/amie <i>(AH mee)</i>	rafiki <i>(rah FI kee)</i>	kaibigan <i>(kah ee BI gyan)</i>
family	familia <i>(fam EE lee yah)</i>	famille <i>(FAH mee)</i>	familia <i>(fam il EE ah)</i>	angkán <i>(ang KON)</i>
church	iglesia <i>(ig LAY see ah)</i>	église <i>(EH gleez)</i>	kanisa <i>(kan EE sah)</i>	simbahan <i>(sim BAH han)</i>
house	casa <i>(CA sah)</i>	maison <i>(MAY zon)</i>	nyumba <i>(NYOOM bah)</i>	bahay <i>(BA hay)</i>

H	O	U	S	E	P	B	C
T	R	M	K	G	I	A	H
I	Q	C	A	L	R	H	U
G	S	N	O	I	X	A	R
L	I	Y	R	S	S	Y	C
E	W	U	C	E	L	O	H
S	I	M	B	A	H	A	N
I	V	B	P	D	S	T	U
A	K	A	N	I	S	A	C



## House Hunting

Find these words in the puzzle:  
 church, house, église, iglesia, nyumb  
 bahay, maison, casa, kanisa, simbahat  
 They can appear up and down,  
 across, or diagonally.



## In the Word

What does the Bible say about houses? Look up these verses and find the word that belongs in the blank. (New International Version)

### Isaiah 25:4

"You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a \_\_\_\_\_ from the storm and a shade from the heat."

### Psalms 84:3

"Even the sparrow has found a \_\_\_\_\_, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young—a place near your altar, O Lord Almighty, my King and my God."

### 1 Peter 2:19-22

"... You are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's \_\_\_\_\_, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone... And in him you too are being built together to become a \_\_\_\_\_ in which God lives by his Spirit."

### John 14:2

"In my Father's house are many \_\_\_\_\_; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you."



# a special offer for you and dreams of hope for a child



As a World Vision friend and five-time Grammy award winner Larnell Harris knows

about the needs of suffering children—and how compassionate people like you are helping to save them from lives of hunger, poverty and despair.

And now—as a special thank you when you send a gift of \$25 or more to help children in need—World Vision is offering you Larnell Harris' latest recording, "First Love."

Your gift will help provide things like clean water, nutritious food, health care and clothing to children and families in need. And you will help bring about long-term change as World Vision helps communities find lasting solutions.

And each time you listen to the inspirational songs from "First Love," you can be assured that your generosity provided a hurting child not only with things like food and clothing... but with dreams of hope and a chance for a better life.

## Yes, I'd like to help children in need, ...and receive Larnell Harris' latest recording, "First Love"

Please use my gift of

\$25  other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help suffering children. (1300)

I prefer a  CD (60)  Cassette (63)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to World Vision. The amount of your gift is tax deductible, minus the value of the CD/Cassette.

Mail today to: Child Sponsorship  
P.O. Box 70050, Tacoma, WA 98481-0050

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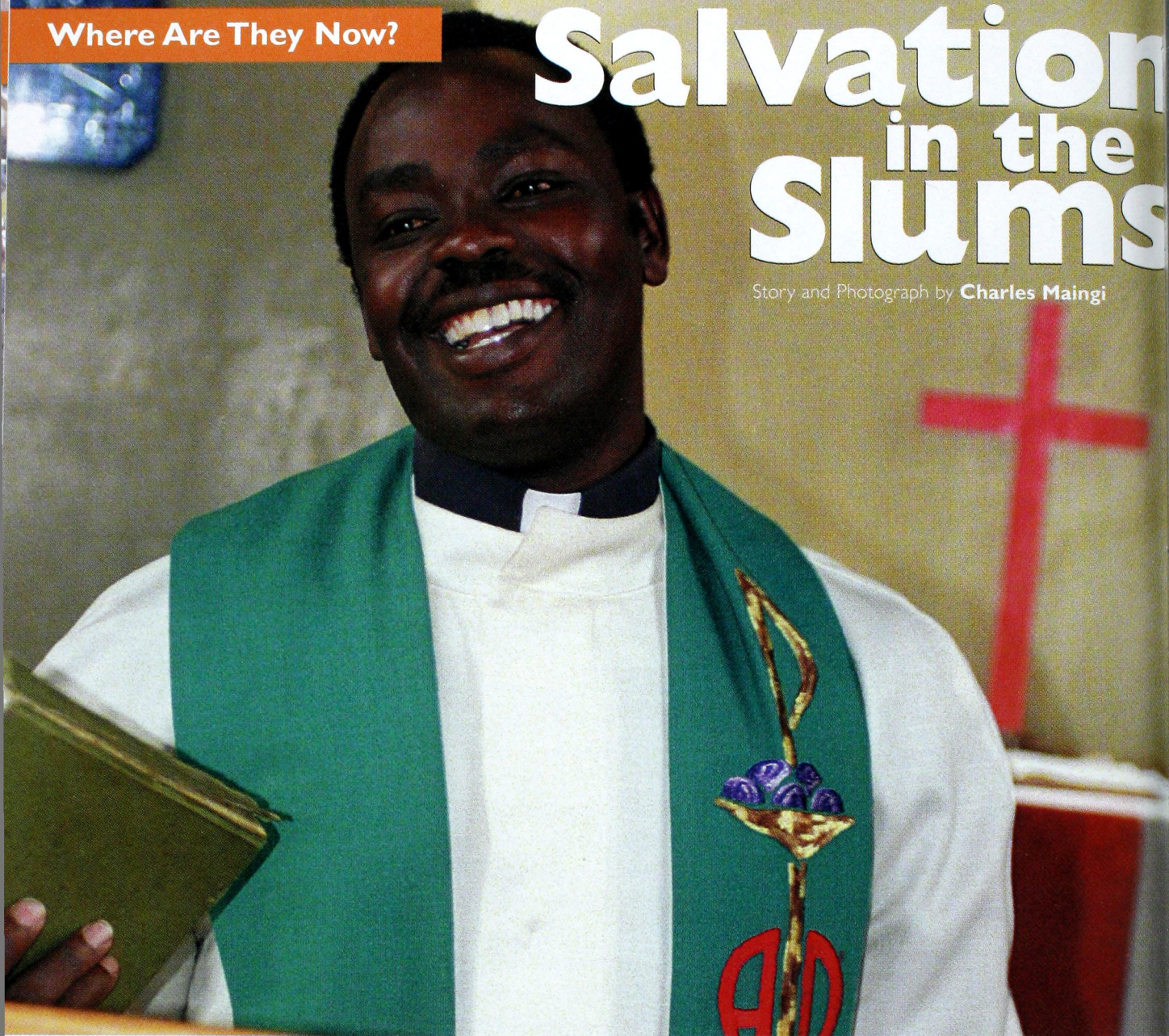
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# Salvation in the Slums

Story and Photograph by Charles Maingi



## Former sponsored child Peter Ndung'u, a Lutheran pastor, now ministers to teens in the slum where he was raised.

Watching Peter Ndung'u, 31, serve Communion in his dignified, gold-trimmed vestments, it's hard to believe he grew up in Kibera, a sprawling urban ghetto just a few miles from the Lutheran church where he now ministers in Nairobi, Kenya.

"Drugs are the order of the day

in Kibera," says Peter, who counsels addicts in this slum where marijuana and solvents are cheap and plentiful. "Some people live by selling drugs from hideouts where robberies and thuggery are planned. You always fear you will be attacked, robbed, or even killed.

When you survive for a day, you thank God."

Kibera is one of 29 Nairobi-area slums—home to more than 2 million residents, most of whom migrated here from the countryside in search of work. The majority end up unemployed or work as temporary laborers, earning an average wage of 70 shillings (\$1.20) a day. Families have little money left for food, clothing, or school fees after paying rent. An 8-by-10-foot shack can cost \$10 a month—two weeks' wages.

Desperate to earn cash, women vendors in makeshift stalls line Kibera's muddy lanes, hawking their

ares: a few vegetables; small sacks of charcoal; a plate of homemade french fries for a dime. Their barefoot children scamper across mounds of rotting refuse. Teenagers loiter in alleys between the tin-roofed shacks.

Faced with poverty, lack of education, and unemployment, Peter says despair drives many Kibera youth to drugs, alcohol, violence, and crime. He understands their frustration. Without the education and support he received from World Vision as a sponsored child, Peter believes he might have become a drug addict.

The fourth-born of seven children, Peter and his family struggled to survive in Kibera. "My father worked as a day laborer. He cut grass while my mother cut firewood from a nearby forest to sell to hotels."

Tragically, when Peter was 10, his mother died of a spinal disease and his family's financial situation became even more precarious. World Vision staff learned of Peter's need and enrolled him in a sponsorship program which provided his tuition fees and school uniforms for the next five years. Peter also received free medical care and enjoyed nutritious lunches at school. His family benefited from gifts of flour, rice, and milk powder.

Sponsorship also addressed the children's spiritual needs. "Through World Vision's initiative, we had Bible lessons during our lunch break," recalls Peter. "As a result, I became a Christian and joined the Lutheran church."

Peter passed the entrance exams to Kangata High School in 1983. But tuition problems clouded his hopes of ever graduating. Peter's father moved to the countryside to find land to farm, leaving the children to fend for themselves. "I used to cut grass and clear other people's compounds to get food to eat," says Peter.

Peter's pastor suggested he apply to World Vision for a special education grant to complete high school. Graduating in 1986, Peter worked odd jobs before being admitted to Matongolo Theological College in 1989. Four years later, the congregation of Kibera Lutheran called him to pastor their church where he served for three years. Today, Peter leads the 500-member Uhuru Highway Lutheran Church, and oversees a deanery with thousands of members in his care.

Reflecting on his childhood, Peter expresses his gratitude to his sponsors, an American couple. "They wrote to me several times a year and never failed to send me a card at Easter and Christmas. Occasionally, they sent me gifts, such as books. I was challenged that somebody from a distant country who did not know me would be willing to help me. They took me as their son."

Today, Peter and his wife, Eddah Wanjala, 30, whom he married in 1991, have three sons of their own: John Muise, 6; Patrick Mwakina, 4; and Ben Waiyaki, 2. The couple is determined to provide their boys with a good education, but they haven't forgotten the children of Kibera. Along with 10 fellow church members, they provide tuition fees for three needy high school students from the slum.

"I was touched to learn of their plight," says Peter. "The children were very interested in acquiring an education, but their parents could not afford the school fees. I remembered how I was helped to get out of the quagmire and was challenged to help them."

Sharing the challenge to care for children, Peter believes, is what sponsorship is all about. "World Vision gave me hope and helped to make me what I am today. I am very thankful." 🌐

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**withaheart.com**



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**Shop for gifts online at  
the .com with a heart  
and change a child's life!**

Are you looking for books,  
electronics, music, flowers, toys,  
food, entertainment, or clothes?

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at your fingertips when you use  
World Vision's gateway to your  
favorite Web shopping sites. And by  
continuing to use withaheart.com,  
your purchases will help needy  
children and families worldwide!

Our nationally known affiliates  
have agreed to provide a  
percentage of your purchase price  
to help World Vision programs. So  
the next time you plan to shop on  
the Web, go to the .com with a  
heart—**withaheart.com**—where  
convenient connections make a  
difference for kids everywhere.

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let World Vision's withaheart.com  
take you there. Bookmark it now!**



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WZCPO1

# light the way

for a needy child and receive Thomas Kinkade's "Bridge of Faith" free.

"Bridge of Faith" is one of Thomas Kinkade's most inspiring paintings. And now, the renowned Painter of Light™ is making this 12" x 16" commemorative print available as a "thank you" when you sponsor a child through World Vision.

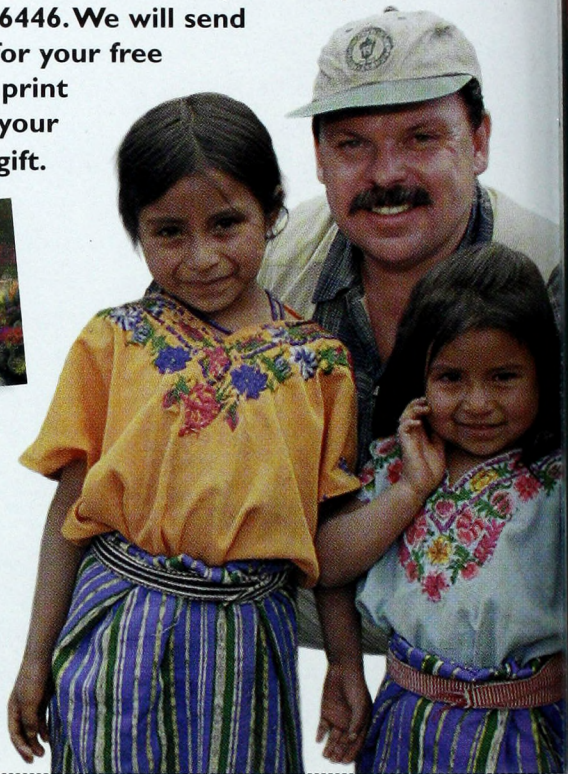
For \$22 a month you can help light the way for a child as you enable him or her to go to school, receive health care, hear about the love of Christ, and enjoy other community improvements.

**To sponsor a child, return the coupon today or call 1-888-511-6446. We will send you a certificate for your free Thomas Kinkade print when we receive your first sponsorship gift.**



"I pray that this painting will remind you that you are a bridge of faith and hope to children in need."

Thomas Kinkade  
World Vision Sponsor



## Yes! I'll light the way for a child!

We will send you a certificate for your free "Bridge of Faith" print when we receive your first payment.

I would like to sponsor a  boy  girl living in

Africa  Asia  Latin America  Middle East  where the needs are greatest

Enclosed is my first monthly payment of \$22 to help a needy child and his or her community.

Check (made payable to World Vision).

Bill me later.

Visa  MasterCard

Bill my monthly sponsorship payment to my credit card:

American Express  Discover

Card no. --- Exp. Date --

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Instead of or in addition to my sponsorship, I would like to give a gift of \$  to help children in need. (1400)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

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