Praying for A Miracle

November 12th-18th Global Poverty Prayer week..

UK Christian relief and development agency, Tearfund, are asking Pembrokeshire to support their 'Be Part Of A Miracle' campaign. Tearfund revealed their 10 year vision in May 2007, their hope is to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty, working with a worldwide network of 100,00 local churches. During Global Poverty Prayer week, November 12th-18th, Pembrokeshire people are invited to 'pray the miracle into action'. Tearfund's vision focuses on 5 main areas: Climate, Disasters, HIV & Aids, Trade, and Water and Sanitation, these are to be the focus for prayers during Global Poverty Prayer week.

Some Pembrokeshire Christians have already responded to this appeal in their harvest celebrations.

Christians from Mount pleasant Baptist church, held a harvest celebration service, followed by a shared meal and fun day at the home of Leon and Marion Charman. Tearfund's Be Part of A Miracle video resources were used to run this event.

'When we saw Andrew, the Malawi farmer, digging through 90cm of sand caused by flooding, just to get to the soil, it was unbelievable. Climate change is having devastating effects, but not only that, the unfair trade rules and general ill heath of the people is grinding them into dust' said John from Mount Pleasant.

During the fun day people were challenged to write letters using words from old news papers. Asia Hockin and Salome Lemma, from Ethiopia, joined a group in writing a letter of encouragement to the 3rd World Church. This letter was taken back to Salome's home church in Ethiopia, as a sign of love from the Christians in Pembrokeshire.

'Be Part Of A Miracle' harvest celebrations also took place at Llanrhian Church, led by Tearfund's voluntary co-ordinator for Pembrokeshire, Francis Maull.

'A large number from the village joined to hear the message. We shared a lovely meal and especially enjoyed the Ham prepared by Rev. John Bennett!' said Tearfund's church representative for Llanrhian, Sarah Owen. 'A lot of people were very moved by what Francis said about the devastating effects of climate change, HIV/Aids, lack of clean water and sanitation and unfair trade. We must take action and pray for those who are affected. **Global Poverty Prayer Week** is our chance to join Tearfund's in their efforts.' concluded Sarah.

A collection was taken during the event and all of the proceeds were donated to the work of Tearfund.

'St.Augustine said 'Pray as if everything depended on God, work as if everything depended on you'. We need Pembrokeshire to act, we need Pembrokeshire to pray. Pembrokeshire can join Tearfund and be part of a miracle.' says Sharron Hardwick. To get resources or find out how to take part in **Global Poverty Prayer Week** and **Be Part Of A Miracle** call Sharron on 07791 646076 or visit <u>www.tearfund.org</u>

