

MOVING STORIES

Commitment
for **Life**

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

Committed to supporting | our global partners | in **BANGLADESH**

Prayer and Reflection

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts: it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith.
No confession brings perfection.
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.
No program accomplishes the Church's mission.
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

Ken Untener, Saginaw.

One of the partners we support in Bangladesh is ActionAid. They do outstanding work, like helping 10-year-old Jesmin who lived on the streets of Dhaka.

Jesmin's family was so poor they barely had anything to eat. Now Jesmin lives in an ActionAid funded 'Happy Home' - where she can enjoy a proper meal, learn, and play with other girls, and gain skills for the future, safe from harm.

"When I used to live on the street, boys used bad words against me and they were beating me," Jesmin said. "So, my understanding is girls are not safe on the streets."

"Now I love living in Happy Homes. I can eat healthy food regularly. I've learned to make necklaces, bracelets, anklets, and I can do embroidery. And I can study. I am in class 5. My favourite subject is Social Science and English."

Thank you for your prayers, advocacy, and generosity in support of remarkable young people like Jesmin, who thrive if only given a chance.

Photo:
GMB/Akash/
Panos/Action
Aid

