

amos  trust
justice and hope for the forgotten

WORDS OF HOPE

THE NEWSPAPER FROM AMOS TRUST

SUMMER 2019



WORDS OF HOPE #7 IN THIS ISSUE

FRONT COVER
UP ON THE ROOF: Amos Home Rebuild — Palestine, April 2019.
Photograph: © Amos Trust/Nick Welsh

BELOW
WOMEN 4 WOMEN: We are asking women around the UK to support Amos' Women 4 Women Appeal 2019.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>3 EDITORIAL: SPACES OF HOPE
New books, Climate Justice, Gaza and our children's tomorrows – CHRIS ROSE WRITES.</p> <p>4 CLIMATE JUSTICE AND NICARAGUA
What does Climate Justice mean for Nicaragua? We speak to Dámaris and Gilberto from CEPAD.</p> <p>6 THAT'S MY HOME... LIKE A DREAM.
NIVE HALL tells the story of Amos Trust's fifth home rebuild in Palestine.</p> <p>8 SAKTHI ON THE STREETS OF CHENNAI
KARIN JOSEPH shares her experience of visiting Amos' partner in India — Karunalaya.</p> <p>10 FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD
NICK WELSH writes about why hospitality and food are so important to Amos' work.</p> | <p>12 GALLERY
Team India South win the Street Child Cricket World Cup final at Lord's.</p> <p>16 WATER FOR LIFE
KATIE HAGLEY writes about why supporting rural communities in Nicaragua is so important.</p> <p>18 ONE PEDAL STROKE AT A TIME
JACQUELINE WAGGETT shares her experience of cycling through Palestine with Amos Trust.</p> <p>21 LISTINGS
All the latest trips and events for 2019/20. JOIN US.</p> <p>23 SUMMER APPEAL 2019
Full details of Amos' Summer appeal for our WATER FOR LIFE campaign.</p> |
|--|---|



WOMEN 4 WOMEN OCTOBER — DECEMBER 2019

Full details can be found at amostrust.org/women-4-women-2019

SPACES OF HOPE EDITORIAL

WORDS Chris Rose

Next year we will be releasing 'SPACES OF HOPE', the sequel to our Words of Hope book of creative writing which we published in 2016. The book's title is named after a poem by Serbian poet, Ivan V Lalic.

'Spaces of Hope' will focus on Climate Justice and I hope will be a resource to nurture us for the long struggle ahead. It will speak of our fears, our doubts, our hopes and our belief in the world we want to come.

What has always amazed me about Garth's [Garth Hewitt Amos' Founder] concerts, is how he will tell the most heart breaking stories and sing of the bleakest situations and yet people leave uplifted and enthused. This is not some populist euphoria it is because somewhere in this — and I have no idea how it works — 'deep is calling to deep' and that has a profound effect.

Much of the content for 'Spaces of Hope' will be shaped by September's Climate Justice summit in Cambridge. It will contain articles, poems, reflections, prayers, quotes and words that we can say together, drawn from a wide and unusual cross section of people and reflecting Lalic's poem.

*'I have experienced the spaces of hope,
The spaces of a moderate mercy.
The places which suddenly set
Into a random form...*

*A quarter-century ago: one space of hope.
Another, set somewhere in the future,
Is already destroying the void around it...*

*In the spaces of hope light grows,
Free of charge, and voices are clearer,'*

SPACES OF HOPE — IVAN V. LALIC

I believe we have experienced these moments, even if at times we cannot recognise them, and they will appear again. Our calling at Amos is to step into the world we want to see — before it exists (often long before it exists); to trust that spaces of hope exist in the future that are 'already destroying the void around them', and to set about creating these spaces and celebrating them when we unexpectedly fall into them.

It is to believe that girls on the streets will live as they long to live; that Palestinians in Gaza will be free, and that rural farmers in Nicaragua will not live in fear for their children's tomorrows.

EDITORIAL
editor@amostrust.org

SUB-EDITOR
Jill Howard

WRITERS
Katie Hagley
Nive Hall
Karin Joseph
Chris Rose
Jacqueline Waggett
Nick Welsh

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Jess Foster
Rosie Hallam
Clive Horsman
Mark Kensett
Lydia Martin
Tom Merilion
Nick Turner
Nick Welsh
Peter Woodall

DESIGN
Wilf Whitty (RatioType, Bristol)
Nick Welsh

PRINT
Newspaper Club

ADDRESS
Amos Trust
St Clement's
1 St Clement's Court
London EC4N 7HB
United Kingdom

TELEPHONE
+44 (0) 20 7588 2638

EMAIL
office@amostrust.org

WEBSITE
amostrust.org

SOCIAL
Twitter — @amostrust
Facebook — @amosjusticeandhope
Instagram — amos_trust

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.
1164234



AMOS
TRUST.
ORG



ABOVE
We are stewards of time. Time is the opportunity we all have to be used to do good things. Lost time, will be lost, "making good use of time, because the days are bad."

CLIMATE JUSTICE AND NICARAGUA

DÁMARIS E. ALBUQUERQUE and GILBERTO AGUIRRE will be joining us in the UK this September to talk about the work of CEPAD and of what the call for climate justice means in Nicaragua. **KATIE HAGLEY** spoke to them ahead of their visit.

WORDS Dámaris E. Albuquerque and Gilberto Aguirre INTERVIEW Katie Hagley PHOTOGRAPHY Clive Horsman



"Rivers and water sources are drying out, causing illnesses and malnutrition. Deforestation contributes to the lack of rains and insects and other small forms of life are also affected as there is no food available."

ONCE IN A LIFETIME
Gilberto (left) and his wife Dámaris E. Albuquerque from CEPAD will update us on the current situation in Nicaragua this September at AMOS DAY and at ONCE IN A LIFETIME, Amos' first Climate Justice summit in Cambridge. See pages 20 and 22 for more details.

How has climate change impacted Nicaragua over recent years?

Nicaragua is mostly an agricultural country, formerly called the "biggest barn of Central America" producing the basic staples of rice, beans and corn for Nicaragua and for export. Farmers used traditional methods and depended mainly on good climate conditions. Traditionally, Nicaragua has two seasons: dry — November to May, and rainy — May to November. In the last 10-15 years, the rain patterns have changed, both the timing (now unpredictable) and intensity, causing flooding or droughts. El Niño causes irregular rain patterns and every year, the farmers have to guess if there will be a good rainy season or not.

Rivers and water sources are drying out, causing illnesses and malnutrition. Deforestation contributes to the lack of rains and insects and other small forms of life are also affected as there is no food available.

When families are dependent on agriculture and can no longer fulfil their needs, fathers (and more recently mothers) have to leave their villages in search of better conditions, causing family disintegration.

Can you give some examples of how CEPAD and the communities you work with are tackling climate change?

We are training people in more sustainable agricultural techniques, building water capture systems for irrigation, promoting short-term and short rotation crops such as vegetables and roots and keeping seeds for next year's planting to preserve native seeds and not using genetically modified seeds. We also provide seeds that are resistant to dry conditions.

Why do women need to be at the centre of responses to the impact of climate change on communities?

Women and children are the most vulnerable in Nicaragua, especially in rural areas. Women have always been responsible for feeding their families, but with men migrating to the cities and abroad for work, women are now the heads of the family and responsible for putting food on the tables as well.

CEPAD's Family Gardens' project teaches women farming techniques for use on small plots of land near their house so they can produce vegetables,

roots and fruits to feed their families and sell any surplus. CEPAD also teaches women how to make crafts to sell or how to run a small businesses.

What does the phrase Climate Justice mean to you?

Every person living on this planet has the same rights to have access to food, clean water and clean air. Climate Justice means those with more resources and responsibility for polluting the air and contributing to climate warming, have to share with the countries on the other end of the scale. We see that the countries most responsible for pollution are causing the countries least responsible to suffer the consequences and are not held accountable.

These countries must stop and provide a fund for countries with less resources, so they can take measures to counter the effects.

What can we in the Global North learn from the Global South?

Have a healthier human relationship with the environment. Think more about your use of natural resources with natural reproduction capacities, and use organic inputs to reduce the dependence on chemicals.

Do you have any theological insights on Climate Justice?

We do not own anything because everything belongs to God, who has given us the responsibility of managing the resources. We need to recognise that all creatures, human beings and animals, are given a divine blessing.

We are stewards of time. Time is the opportunity we all have to be used to do good things. Lost time will be lost. We need to be making good use of time because the 'days are bad.' Eph. 5:16

What does it mean to CEPAD and the communities you work with when people come to visit you?

We're all God's children and parts of the body of Christ, regardless of location, race, gender, political or religious beliefs. Everyone has something to share and something to learn from each other. When we receive visitors, it's receiving part of the family who live abroad in different contexts, with their own particular difficulties, but also with hope like us.

We receive you with joy, wanting to show you what we are doing, what we believe in, what our struggles are and what we have achieved and our hope. We want to learn from you and your struggles and dreams. It's a time of celebration and sharing.

How is the political situation unfolding in Nicaragua after a very difficult 2018? How does this continue to affect you?

Nicaragua has been severely affected. More than 250 people dead, many have moved abroad, over 170,000 jobs have been lost affecting the economy of many families. It is now a much more polarised country, impacting communities, families, even churches. The politicians are fighting for their own interests, but it's the people who have suffered and are still suffering; separated from their loved ones and struggling to find work and bring home enough food. The villages we work with have not been as directly affected as the cities. However, the economic situation has affected everyone and some people we work with have migrated to Costa Rica, Panama and Spain.

CEPAD has been affected economically as well, the (in)security level has been raised to 3 by the USA, so many groups from churches and universities stopped visiting. We used to receive 25-30 groups a year. In 2018, we received 10. Moral support from churches has been great, sending prayers, messages and money, but we miss the visits.

In August 2018 we started a project to aid the victims of the crisis. We provided training to 186 leaders from across 6 regions, on tools for crisis management. They have provided emotional care to 640 individuals directly affected the crisis.

And finally, what are you most looking forward to about coming to the UK in September?

We're looking forward to reconnecting with our friends, brothers and sisters from Amos Trust and making new ones, sharing what God is doing in Nicaragua through the churches and communities that work with CEPAD and learning what God is doing in the UK.

To find out more about Dámaris and Gilberto's visit to the UK this September, please visit amostrust.org/diary

“THAT’S MY HOME, JUST LIKE A DREAM.”

NIVE HALL tells the story of Amos Trust’s fifth home rebuild in Palestine.

WORDS Nive Hall PHOTOGRAPHY Lydia Martin & Peter Woodall

BELOW
TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK: Palestinian builders team up with Amos volunteers from the UK on our fifth home rebuild in the West Bank.



ABOVE
BEFORE — after the outer walls go up, it’s time to start work on the structure that will eventually become the roof.



ABOVE
AFTER — the finished house a few short weeks later — “When I saw the new house I thought that’s my home, just like a dream. Beautiful.”

“Nothing is harder than being here and not being able to do anything. To see 400 soldiers and 3 bulldozers demolishing your home without any reason — nothing is harder than that.” LULU

“Our house was demolished on the 4th of September 2018. It was not just the demolition of a house built with stones, but the demolition of every hope and dream built with every stone. But we had seen a light that was far away and it has now come close. We see a hope to return to our previous life, even for a more beautiful life... Inshallah.”
LULU — HOMEOWNER

THE HOME IS REBUILT, the family is in, the volunteers are safely home and our fifth rebuilding project in Palestine is complete.

There is a beautiful 160 m² home in a small village that has been rebuilt on the rubble of a home demolished in 2018. There is a new vineyard of 180 vines in fields next to a new ‘outpost’ settlement. There is a 500m² greenhouse relocated next to an Israeli military watchtower which is feared to be the precursor to a new settlement.

These small acts of solidarity, these new “facts on the ground”, are a way to support Palestinians in their struggle to stay on their land and to highlight the injustices of the occupation. This is the big picture for our home rebuilding programme.

None of this would be possible without the incredible team of 43 volunteers who joined us and spent their time, strength, energy, emotions and money to get their hands dirty, leave their comfort zone and make the kind of human connections that can’t be put into words but will stay with you forever.

None of this would be possible without the incredible partnership we have with Holy Land Trust, who organise all the logistics and build the relationships with the local communities and families.

More than anything else, none of this would be possible without the Palestinian families who welcome us with overwhelming hospitality and give us their trust, despite the ongoing trauma they are suffering.

We are constantly thanked during the trip, but the truth is we take far more than we give. This is the

transaction that is hard to put into words.

The Palestinian poet RAFEEF ZIADAH has a piece called “We Teach Life, Sir” and it’s simply true. Working alongside and becoming friends with people who personify the concept of grace under pressure is life-changing and seeps into every aspect of your existence, far beyond politics, human rights, the Palestine-Israel conflict or any other cause you might support. Peeling away the layers that separate, whether they be wealth, background, culture, religion, gender, politics, a concrete wall or a thousand other barriers, and making real human to human connections is, for me, at the heart of everything Amos stands for. Everything flows from that.

Amos is committed to challenging injustice, building hope, deepening involvement and creating positive change. By these measures our home rebuilding project is a huge success.

It only takes a moment, however, to zoom out to the big picture and see that what we do in the context of the overall issue is tiny, even insignificant. So why do we persist? Why do we keep introducing people to Palestine knowing that the situation gets a little worse each time we visit and a just solution is seemingly nowhere in sight? Why do we rebuild one home when hundreds have been demolished during the occupation and thousands more have demolition orders?

During the trip I shared a prayer from Nicaragua with the group which, like all the best art and poetry, gets to the heart of this dilemma.

*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 tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work.
Nothing we do is complete.
No statement says all that could be said.*

*No set of goals and objectives includes everything.
This is what we are about.
We plant the seeds that one day will grow.
Knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.*

*We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realising that.
This enables us to do something,
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.*

I was also challenged recently by some words from Leonard Cohen to think that sometimes a little despair allows us the humility to truly provoke miracles.

*Let judges secretly despair of justice:
their verdicts will be more acute.
Let generals secretly despair of triumph:
killing will be defamed.
Let priests secretly despair of faith:
their compassion will be true.*

Lulu was reluctant to share the story of the night her family’s home was demolished as she said they didn’t want to be seen as victims. As we left she said, “When I saw the new house I thought that’s my home, just like a dream. Beautiful.”

Amos Trust’s next Home Rebuild trip will be in 2021. To watch our short film about home rebuilding in Palestine visit vimeo.com/amostrust/rebuilding-home-rebuilding-hope



STREET-DWELLING
Karunalaya has been working with pavement communities for nearly twenty-five years. They help them to develop street theatre programmes and encourage pavement-dwellers to self-organise and demand their rights.

SAKTHI ON THE STREETS OF CHENNAI

On Her Terms Lead **KARIN JOSEPH** shares her experience of her recent visit to Amos' partner in India, Karunalaya.

WORDS Karin Joseph PHOTOGRAPHY Tom Merilion and Rosie Hallam



NATIONAL PRIDE
Team India South proudly hold their flag for the anthems, ahead of their World Cup final at Lord's where they beat a strong England team.

Monisha's impassioned address ended:
"If you respect us, you'll listen to us.
If you listen to us — you'll protect us.
Please protect us."

"Each day, Karunalaya's team builds 'sakthi' in the young people and the communities they work with on the streets of Chennai. Sakthi is the Tamil word for 'inner power', something that nobody can take away from you." **PAUL SUNDER SINGH**

The heat is punishing even late in the afternoon, at Karunalaya's centre in north Chennai in June. The large dusty yard is set up with two football goals and the boys staying at the centre play with full energy, unfazed by the heat, introducing themselves to me as Neymar and Messi. But a banner of smiling faces on the wall celebrates a recent victory in a different sport: in May, Karunalaya led the winning Indian team to claim the trophy at the first ever Street Child Cricket World Cup, with the final held at the iconic Lords' Cricket Ground in London.

Monisha, Nagalakshmi, Suryaprakash and captain Paulraj from Karunalaya played as Team India South, alongside four other young people from Mumbai. The sport is so popular in India that the country fielded a team from the North too. Street Child United's inaugural competition brought together 8 mixed teams, not only to play fantastic, nail-biting cricket, but to represent the rights of children on the streets.

Team India South blazed a convincing trail to the final, beating a strong Team England with a six in front of a cheering crowd. And although their victory in the sporting competition was of course a great achievement for them, it was also a hugely important platform for them to speak about the lives of children on the streets. During the events around the competition, Team India's youngest member Monisha, aged fourteen, shared her team's demands.

Monisha lives on the streets of Chennai with her family, alongside dozens of other families whose home is the pavement. She spoke about the daily challenges of life in a pavement-dwelling community: threats from the police, the risk of sexual abuse because of having no safe home, limited access to toilets and sanitation. All challenges that are heightened for girls and young women.

Monisha's impassioned address ended: "If you respect us, you'll listen to us. If you listen to us — you'll protect us. Please protect us."

Safety for girls on the street is a daily struggle and the options open to them are often slim; many families decide that child marriage is the safest option for their teenage daughters.

Karunalaya has been working with pavement communities like Monisha's, and her teammate Paulraj's, for nearly twenty-five years. Their staff are a constant presence on the streets. They help the communities to organise street theatre programmes about difficult topics like child marriage or substance abuse.

They encourage pavement-dwellers to self-organise and demand their rights through Pavement Dwellers' Rights Associations. They provide supplementary classes to help children keep up in school and promote girls' education in the face of high rates of early marriage or child labour. They counsel couples and families and respond to situations of abuse and violence when women and children come to them for help.

The women workers of Karunalaya have spent years building relationships with community members and it is this groundwork which means that today, they are invited in. What's most noticeable when I'm walking with Phinora and Bhuvana, through the communities, is the warmth and trust with which they're welcomed. Now in many communities, the families themselves run programmes autonomously, such as Rights' associations and children's clubs.

One of the biggest barriers, Phinora told me, when going to work with communities at first, is that they assume you will just give them a handout... 'gradually we explain that we are wanting to talk to them about their rights.'

By raising awareness of community rights, Karunalaya has been mobilising thousands of people across Chennai to stand up to injustice, and demand the rights that are theirs. They feel that events like the Street Child Cricket World Cup provide a great platform on which to make these demands heard, internationally, but also at home in Chennai.

Their victory was proudly celebrated at home, receiving coverage in almost all the national Indian

papers, as well as TV, radio and international press.

I asked Monisha and Paulraj what it was like to return triumphant to their communities with the World Cup in hand? Both said that their families were unbelievably proud of them.

Paulraj's dad, who works as a loader in a shoe factory, told all of his colleagues about it; none of them could believe that the son of someone who lived on the streets would captain a team to a World Cup victory. It had an immediate impact in Monisha's community as she began to be recognised by people, even the police asked if she was the girl in all the papers.

Hearing about her demands and what she'd achieved, in this way, led to the police promising her mother that they'd no longer harass her community.

The three older team members have all graduated from secondary school and are applying to colleges in Chennai, and Monisha continues to study at a good school nearby. But visiting them at their homes on the street a few weeks after they lifted the Cup at Lord's was a stark reminder that daily life continues, in many ways, as before.

Back in her community, Monisha welcomed us into her family's 3m x 3m home and explained that at night only the smallest children sleep inside to keep them safe from kidnap, the rest of them, including herself, sleep outside on the streets with no protection from male violence or abuse. She and other girls in the community are then up early between 3am-4am to ensure they can wash out of sight, as the public toilets, essential for her community, are locked at 6 p.m. and not opened again until 10 am, leaving sixteen hours of each day with no privacy to fulfil their basic needs.

So Karunalaya continually invests in the sakthi of young people, especially girls, on the streets, teaching them to demand their rights, and the rights of others. Monisha and her teammates are demanding protection, from anyone who'll listen — and they don't show signs of stopping.

To find out more about Karunalaya, please visit amostrust.org/karunalaya

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

WORDS Nick Welsh
FOOD PHOTOGRAPHY Mark Kensett
YOTAM & SAMI PHOTOGRAPHY Nick Turner

BELOW

Za'atar focaccia served with spicy marinated mixed olives with preserved lemon and chilli olive oil — prepared for Amos Trust by Ottolenghi for our 'FRESH' fundraising dinner — April 2019



“If you really want to make a friend, go to someone’s house and eat. The people who give you their food, give you their heart.” CESAR CHAVEZ

Quite how it came to pass that I’m the one writing this particular article, I’m not really sure. I’m no JAMIE OLIVER that’s for sure — although I’ve been told that my chilli isn’t half bad (TIP: use frozen mince... no — really.)

We love food here at Amos Trust. We love talking about it, we love preparing it, we love sharing it, and yes, — we love eating it. We take the business of hospitality very seriously and what could be more hospitable than sharing a meal? As the American labour leader and civil rights activist Cesar Chavez said, “...if you really want to make a friend, go to someone’s house and eat. The people who give you their food, give you their heart.”

There’s long been a culinary thread through our work in Palestine — those that have visited the West Bank with us know this only too well; whether it’s barbequing at Wi’am or enjoying the really quite amazing Maqluba prepared so lovingly by the women in Aida refugee camp. And who can forget Merai’s outstanding (and I don’t use that word lightly), chicken and rice. Whenever we visit, we always come back several pounds heavier than before we left.

Our relationship with food took on a new direction when we started organising Palestinian culinary tours with our friends at Zaytoun, and then again when we were lucky enough to have Yotam and Sami from Ottolenghi choose Amos to be their creative partner and cater our fundraising dinners.

At Greenbelt Festival last year, we were invited to host a series of Palestinian cooking demos in their new food venue, The Table. How we laughed when our friend Phoebe from Sabeel-Kairos continually rolled her eyes at Amos Director and sous chef Chris as he made a hash of cutting up the onions!

When our supporters give their time and offer up their skills to fundraise for us, food is usually involved. When our partners visit us from around the world, food often takes on a central role in their own stories. As someone said when they came back from one of our Taste of Palestine tours, “you can disagree about the facts on the ground, but you can’t disagree with my taste buds”.

To find out more about our next Taste of Palestine trip, please visit amostrust.org/taste-of-palestine-2020

JUST DESSERT MINI BASBOUSA CAKE WITH ROSE-WHIPPED CREAM AND PISTACHIO BY OTTOLENGHI



RIGHT
YOTAM OTTOLENGHI and SAMI TAMIMI
photographed at ROVI in London during the
filming of our OTTOLENGHI & AMOS TRUST FILM.
To watch, please visit
vimeo.com/amostrust/ottolenghi



FOUR RUNS, FOUR RIGHTS: KARUNALAYA

STREET CHILD CRICKET WORLD CUP CHAMPIONS 2019

CHAMPIONS — Jubilation as Team India South win the first ever Street Child Cricket World Cup at Lord's Cricket Ground, London — May 2019

PHOTOGRAPH Rosie Hallam





PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

TEAM INDIA SOUTH REFINING THEIR TECHNIQUE



#ONHERTERMS

OPPOSITE PAGE
PRACTICE — Fellow team members hone their batting techniques between games.

ABOVE LEFT
DEMANDS — Nagalakshmi and Monisha hold up their demands for children on the streets.

ABOVE RIGHT
FOCUS — Concentration before bowling; victory is in sight at Lord's.

ABOVE
FINAL — Captain Paulraj at the stumps in the final game against England.

PHOTOGRAPHY:
© Rosie Hallam

Find out more about our On Her Terms campaign — visit amostrust.org/on-her-terms

NICARAGUA is the fourth most at-risk nation in the world due to changing climates. And while the world is talking about the need for drastic action on climate change the people of Nicaragua have been living with its escalating consequences for decades.

This is climate injustice: those who have the least political and economic power, and the least responsibility for the changing climate, are affected the most.

Amos' partner CEPAD knows that climate change cannot be seen in isolation from all the other difficulties small communities face, rather it amplifies them. They have witnessed this in the isolated villages where they work, as those trying to look after the land to sustain their future are hit the hardest, with the political turmoil only adding to their vulnerability.

“CEPAD has helped us hugely we have seen great change — especially the women. Before we didn't know how to grow plants and run family gardens. Now we can move forward.”

SECURRO, LA JOYA
CEPAD

Last October, after 11 months of drought, Nicaragua received all its annual rainfall in 48 hours, causing flooding, destroying crops and livelihoods. Meanwhile, after a year of riots and political uprisings the economy is crumbling, meaning there are less funds available for better roads, clean water and jobs.

WATER FOR LIFE

As we come to the end of one five-year cycle of support for seven rural communities in Nicaragua, we look forward to working with seven new ones — as our WATER FOR LIFE appeal continues.

WORDS Katie Hagley
PHOTOGRAPHY Clive Horsman

BELOW:
WATER FOR LIFE: El Nancita in Teustepe, Nicaragua — January 2018

Despite this, CEPAD continues to provide training and support for communities to adapt and to know their rights. They are also providing emergency support, such as new seeds after flooding.

Directors, Dámaris and Gilberto will be speaking about creating sustainable local responses at our upcoming climate justice summit, 'ONCE IN A LIFETIME', which takes place in Cambridge on 23rd - 24th September (please visit amostrust.org/climate-justice-2019), and is a direct response to all we've learnt about climate justice in Nicaragua.

We've also been privileged to see these local responses in action. Over the last five years, we've taken two groups of supporters to meet these communities — the first group returned inspired to find the funds to fulfil our commitment to give \$15,000 a year. The second, having raised funds and helped build micro-dams for families to collect what little water there is, returned to the UK inspired to do more; to provide 140 families with water filters and safe drinking water.

As our relationship with these seven communities draws to a close, we want to ensure that they continue to be equipped to fight climate change at a local level. Please support our WATER FOR LIFE appeal on page 23 and help the communities of Teustepe continue to flourish.

Over the next year CEPAD will be identifying 42 new communities to work with across Nicaragua and we will look forward to supporting seven new communities in Teustepe, some of whom Amos supporters will meet when we visit Nicaragua next year, to see how CEPAD are challenging climate change one community at a time. You can read more at amostrust.org/water-for-life



Join us on our NICARAGUA ADVENTURE in February/March 2020.
Full details can be found at amostrust.org/nicaragua-2020



24 FEBRUARY — 8 MARCH NICARAGUA ADVENTURE 2020

WORDS Chris Rose
PHOTOGRAPHY Clive Horsman

“We are organising this special trip to see the progress that has been made, to understand the difficulties and challenges that CEPAD have overcome and to see what the future holds.”

Nicaragua is one of the most beautiful, yet poorest, countries in the Western Hemisphere experiencing the onslaught of climate change and uncertainty about its future.

For the last five years Amos has been supporting our partner, CEPAD, as they work with seven, small rural villages around the town of Teustepe in the Boaco region of Nicaragua, equipping them to respond to the impact of climate change. This programme comes to a close at the end of 2019.

We are organising this special trip to see the progress that has been made, to understand the difficulties and challenges that CEPAD has overcome and to see what the future holds.

Part of this trip will be assisting us in our evaluation of this work and looking at how we can build support for a new five-year programme in the region.

You will spend time in each of the seven communities and also visit the neighbouring area of San Jose de los Remates to see the ongoing impact of CEPAD's previous work.

You will visit some of the communities that have applied to join the next five year programme to learn about the issues CEPAD face and their ideas for combating the

destructive cycle of long periods of drought followed by catastrophic floods.

In addition, you will learn more about what the call for climate justice means from a Nicaraguan perspective and how it cannot be separated from the political events in this troubled country.

You will be staying in Teustepe — in a unique hotel that boasts a number of thermal pools and also in Managua, and will spend a mid-trip break on the volcanic Island of Ometepe on Lake Nicaragua.

While on Ometepe you will have the chance to climb the volcanoes, swim in the lake and visit the neighbouring islands.

Finally, you will visit the Avocado School in La Concepción, which Amos has been involved with since its inception, to hear about how the community is working together to make the school prosper.

For more information about this trip, please visit amostrust.org/nicaragua-2020

PALESTINE: ONE PEDAL STROKE AT A TIME

WORDS Jacqueline Waggett
PHOTOGRAPHY Team Amos

If you would like to join Team Amos on our next Tour of Palestine in March next year, please visit amostrust.org/tour-of-palestine-2020

BELOW:
Members of Team Amos cycling through the West Bank in April 2019.



“... there are few tourists and even fewer Palestinians that own bikes — they simply don’t have the freedom of movement or the choice to explore in this way.”

SO LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM, Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, and all on a bicycle — why not?

When you combine a love of cycling with a sense of adventure and an appetite for human rights, you’ve got a recipe for an unforgettably unique experience that truly gets under your skin, and may just change you a little forever.

This was not my first trip to Palestine — last year I joined a small group of cyclists on a trip of a lifetime; travelling on a bicycle gave us a feeling of being connected to the people, the land and the challenges they face, in a way that was truly a privilege to experience.

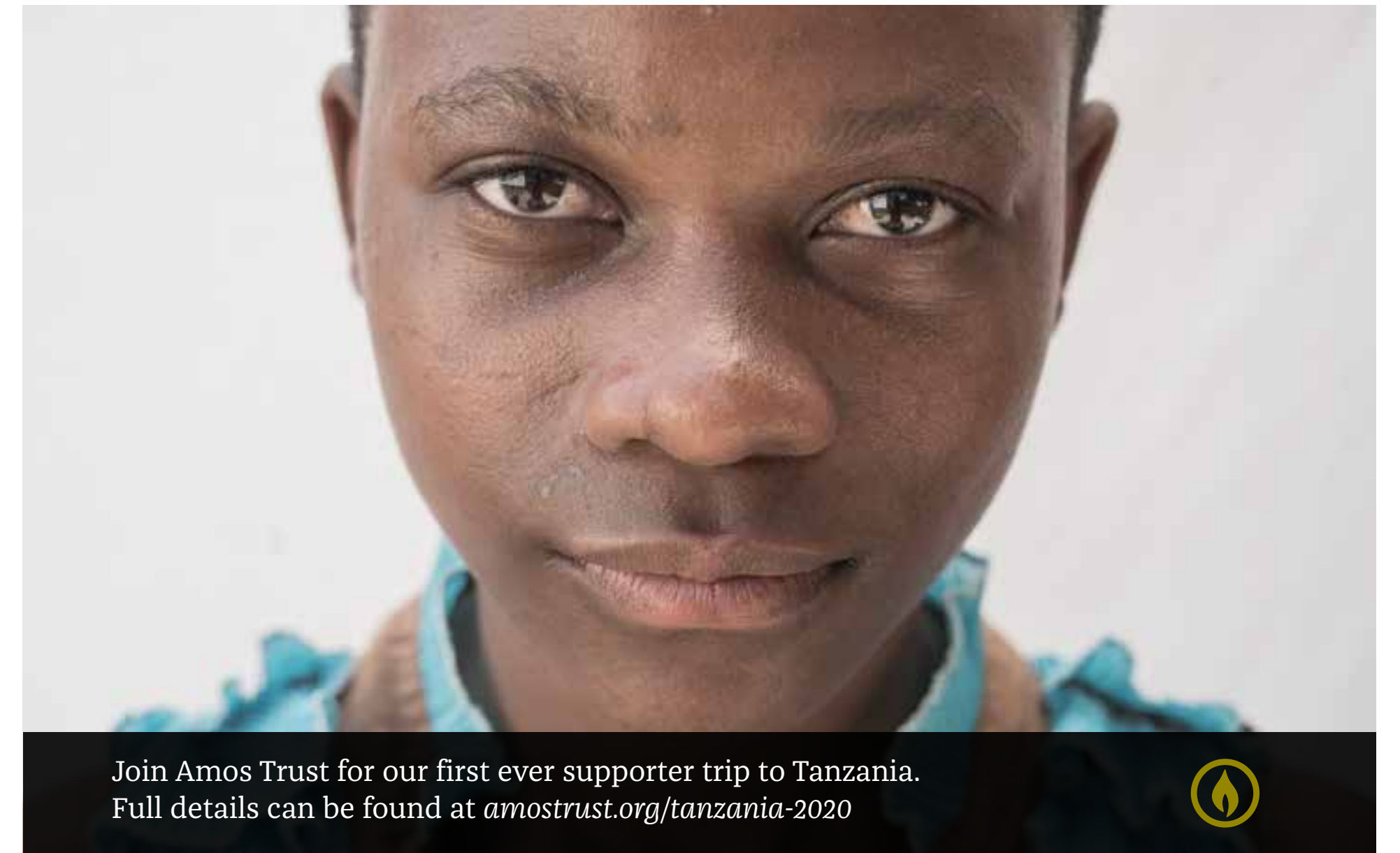
Beyond the pilgrimage tours, arriving on coaches to see the churches and temples, there are few tourists and even fewer Palestinians that own bikes — they simply don’t have the freedom of movement or the choice to explore in this way. This is part of what makes this trip feel so special. The Palestinian people are so shocked to see us, the response and welcome is one of complete openness, which today I find is very rare — we are carried along by cries of ‘you are welcome’, ‘come have coffee with me’, ‘why are you here?’ (particularly to the females among us). We ride along feeling like celebrities!

It is then something of a leveller to be moving so slowly, wrangling your bike over potholes and still finding enough breath for that last push on a hill climb, (and it is very hilly), before sweeping through blossom filled valleys, past ancient olive trees,

Roman ruins and gliding down world class descents (this is uncharted cycling heaven). It’s easy to forget the political turbulence that dominates the land and people, well I say easy, but in reality, around each bend there is an Israeli control tower, or change in tarmac quality, to mark the ever illegal and eerie presence of another settlement.

It’s hard, (really hard) to share a clear narrative on how the conflict and desire for land and dominance has unfolded in Palestine. In many parts it’s now a jumble of ancient Bedouin camps and Palestinian people (who we dined with) trying to live alongside clinical Israeli settlers, that literally pop up on their doorstep overnight creating an understandably palpable and constant sense of tension. The diversity and contrasts are so extreme. Palestinian people are living daily with a very real threat of violence to them, their home, children, water, electricity supplies, points of access and ability to travel and move around their own land freely; we sat and heard their stories which were awash with shocking acts of inhumanity, and in contrast, inspiring acts of activism and bravery in response to this.

This trip shook me, woke me and stirred an energy that contrasts to my comfortable life at home with freedom and choices. I try to give these experiences a voice, to friends and family or just a stranger on the plane, as it gives power to the unheard; it’s not always an easy conversation, but one I feel impassioned to share.



Join Amos Trust for our first ever supporter trip to Tanzania. Full details can be found at amostrust.org/tanzania-2020



25 JULY - 3 AUGUST TANZANIA ADVENTURE 2020

WORDS Karin Joseph
PHOTOGRAPHY Tom Merillion

This unique trip will consist of 7 nights in Mwanza where you will join Cheka Sana’s team on the streets, visit their day centre and accommodation, and experience their long-term family reintegration work.

Join Amos Trust for our first ever supporter trip to Mwanza, Tanzania, where you’ll spend a week with our partners Cheka Sana as they support children and young people living and working on the streets.

This unique trip will consist of 7 nights in Mwanza where you will join Cheka Sana’s team on the streets, visit their day centre and accommodation, and experience their long-term family reintegration work.

Cheka Sana will explain their model of work with young people, you’ll get to know their staff team, and gain an understanding of the realities and challenges children face on the streets. We will also take a day-trip to experience some of the incredible national parks which sit right on Mwanza’s doorstep.

During your stay you will join Cheka Sana’s outreach teams on home visits in local communities as part of their family reintegration work, join Cheka Sana’s association groups with young women, get involved in their self defence training sessions (females only) and join in with their sports and arts activities.

Our aim for this trip is to support groups of young women, and girls in particular, whose lives on the streets are extremely

challenging. Cheka Sana’s vital work helps them unlock their potential, and overcome the barriers they face which can seem overwhelming and immovable. Our visit will include 7 nights full board accommodation in a comfortable tourist hotel in Mwanza, a short walk from Cheka Sana’s centre, a 1-day National Park visit with a local guide and all local transportation once you arrive in Mwanza. This trip is full board and includes all meals. Prices are based on two people sharing.

July and August are some of the best months of the year for a safari in the Serengeti. It is also the perfect time of year to visit the island of Zanzibar which is only a few hours away, so it’s a great opportunity to add time on to your trip and make the most of beautiful Tanzania.

To find out more, please visit amostrust.org/tanzania-2020



Join us for Amos Day 2019 ALL OUR WORLDS in September.
To register, please visit amostrust.org/amos-day-2019



ALL OUR WORLDS

AMOS DAY 2019 SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, 17-25 NEW INN YARD, LONDON EC2A 3EA

CLIMATE JUSTICE We are delighted that Dámaris E. Albuquerque (*above*) and Gilberto Aguirre will be joining us to talk about the work of CEPAD and of what the call for climate justice means in Nicaragua and how it can't be separated from political events. **STREET JUSTICE** We will have a link-up with some of the women workers and girls from our partner projects who are at the heart of our campaign, **ON HER TERMS**. **PALESTINE JUSTICE** We will be screening the newly released, award-winning documentary, 'GAZA', as part of our new AHLAN GAZA campaign. REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN.

Meet old friends, make new ones and be inspired.
amostrust.org/amos-day-2019

#amosday2019

AMOS LISTINGS

2019/20

AMOS TRUST events and trips are open to everyone. Join us as we challenge injustice, build hope and create positive change.

23 – 26 AUGUST 2019

GREENBELT FESTIVAL NR. KETTERING, NORTHANTS

amostrust.org/greenbelt-2019

Join us at the annual Greenbelt Festival where we'll be cooking up a storm in The Table as well as hosting a series of talks and discussions around issues of climate justice.

1 – 10 DECEMBER 2019

BETHLEHEM CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE TOUR

amostrust.org/christmas-2019

Join us as we welcome Sami Awad from Holy Land Trust in Bethlehem as well as local musicians and choirs for our annual Christmas tour of the UK.

23 – 28 MARCH 2020

PALESTINE FULL AND HALF MARATHON

amostrust.org/palestine-marathon-2020

Join Team Amos and run the eighth annual Palestine Marathon in Bethlehem, in the shadow of the Wall.

6 – 15 MAY 2020

ALTERNATIVE PILGRIMAGE

amostrust.org/alternative-pilgrimage-2020

Join us in Bethlehem and Nazareth with time in Jerusalem, Hebron and Nablus — on the shores of Lake Galilee, and in the Judean wilderness.

25 JULY – 3 AUGUST 2020

TANZANIA ADVENTURE

amostrust.org/tanzania-2020

Join us on our first ever supporter trip to Tanzania where you'll spend a week with our partners Cheka Sana as they support children and young people living and working on the streets.

25 MARCH – 3 APRIL

EASTER PALESTINE EXPERIENCE 2020

Our Easter Palestine Experience will be based in Bethlehem and Nazareth with time in Jerusalem, Hebron and Nablus — on the shores of Lake Galilee, and in the Judean wilderness. You will spend 5 nights in Bethlehem, followed by 1 night in Nablus and finish with 3 nights in Nazareth. Visit the historic sights in Jerusalem: the Mount of Olives, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Western Wall, and Haram al-Sharif. Meet Amos' inspirational partners and visit the young people of Alrowwad Cultural Centre in Aida Refugee camp and hear how they promote 'Beautiful non-violent Resistance'. Find out about the issues facing women on the West Bank, visit Banksy's Walled Off Hotel, the inspirational Tent of Nations and one of the homes that Amos has rebuilt. Meet local people and enjoy some incredible Palestinian hospitality.

For full details, please visit
amostrust.org/easter-experience-2020

25 JULY – 3 AUGUST

TANZANIA ADVENTURE 2020

Join us for our first ever supporter trip to Mwanza, Tanzania, on the shores of Lake Victoria and spend a week with our partners Cheka Sana as they support children and young people living and working on the streets. This unique trip will consist of 7 nights in Mwanza where you will join Cheka Sana's team on the streets, visit their day centre and accommodation, and experience their long-term family reintegration work. Cheka Sana will explain their model of work with young people, you'll get to know their staff team, and gain an understanding of the realities and challenges children face on the streets. We will also take a day-trip to experience some of the incredible national parks which sit right on Mwanza's doorstep. This trip is full board and includes all meals. Prices are based on two people sharing.

For more information, please visit
amostrust.org/tanzania-2020



DIWALI DINNERS

Our new fundraiser for Karunalaya in India runs throughout October. Get involved at amostrust.org/diwali-dinners



Join us in Cambridge this September for our first Climate Justice Summit — ONCE IN A LIFETIME. Please visit amostrust.org/climate-justice-2019



ONCE IN A LIFETIME

23/24 SEPTEMBER, CAMBRIDGE

Once In A Lifetime — Climate Justice Summit
 CLIMATE CHANGE IS A JUSTICE ISSUE. Those who have the least political and economic power, and the least responsibility for the changing climate, are affected the most. We have a moral and ethical imperative to respond to their call for immediate action. We are inviting community activists, experts, artists and theologians from the UK and the Global South to take part in an interactive 2-day summit in Cambridge.

For further details, please visit our website amostrust.org/climate-justice-2019

#climateconfcambs

ONCE IN A LIFETIME is brought to you by AMOS TRUST and AROCHA (Eco Church).



WATER FOR LIFE SUMMER APPEAL

“We walk with a community until it has the skills to walk without us and the people can claim the rights they did not know existed.”

REV. DR GUSTAVO PARAJON,
 CEPAD FOUNDER

Over the last five years we have journeyed with, visited and shared the stories of seven communities in Nicaragua. As our time supporting these communities draws to a close, we are determined to ensure they have what they need going forward and to encourage supporters to journey with seven new communities over the next five years.

THESE COMMUNITIES STILL NEED:

15 micro dams and seed packages for 28 farmers (benefitting 112 families); seed packages for 35 women to start family gardens, (improving their family’s nutrition and providing an income); training for 21 women to start small businesses making jewelry and handicrafts.

- £150 will pay for the materials for one micro dam
- £65 will provide seed packages for one farmer
- £30 will provide two women with seed packages to create their family gardens
- £20 will provide one woman with materials to start her handicraft business.

Please make a one-off donation to the Water For Life appeal or support the next seven communities by becoming a committed giver today. Please visit amostrust.org/water-for-life

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

PLEASE HELP WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF AMOS TRUST

- I / We enclose a one-off contribution of £
- I / We would like to give regularly to Amos Trust and have completed the Standing Order form

PLEASE USE THESE FUNDS FOR

- Water For Life Appeal
- Amos Trust General Funds
- Street Justice
- Palestine Justice
- Climate Justice
- I / We would like a receipt
- I / We would like to receive WORDS OF HOPE E-news

ABOUT YOU

TITLE _____ NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

 POSTCODE _____
 TELEPHONE _____
 EMAIL _____

STANDING ORDER FORM

TO THE BANK MANAGER _____ YOUR BANK _____
 POSTCODE _____

Please debit my/our account

ACCOUNT NO. _____ SORT CODE _____
 WITH THE SUM OF £ _____ EACH MONTH / QUARTER / YEAR (delete as applicable)
 STARTING ON DD / MM / YYYY _____

And pay this sum to Amos Trust

ACCOUNT NO. 10939419 SORT CODE 16-20-30 BANK RBS, 10 NORTH ST, GUILDFORD, GU1 4AF

SIGNATURE _____ DATE DD / MM / YYYY _____

PAYMENT METHODS

CHEQUES (payable to Amos Trust). We also accept charity vouchers.
 CREDIT / DEBIT CARD To donate by card, please visit amostrust.org/give
 STANDING ORDER To give a regular gift, please complete the standing order form above or visit amostrust.org/water-for-life — or if you would prefer to talk to us about making a donation, please call the office on 020 7588 2638 during normal office hours.

GIFT AID DECLARATION — DONATIONS TO AMOS TRUST

Please GIFT AID this donation and any I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years
 I confirm I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE DD / MM / YYYY _____

PLEASE NOTIFY AMOS TRUST IF YOU:
 Want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address; no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM AND DONATION TO:

Amos Trust, St Clement's, 1 St Clement's Court TELEPHONE: +44 (0) 20 7588 2638
 London EC4N 7HB, United Kingdom EMAIL: office@amostrust.org
 Registered charity no. 1164234 WEBSITE: amostrust.org



WATER FOR LIFE APPEAL

CLIMATE JUSTICE



Please journey with the next seven communities in Teustepe by becoming a committed giver today. Please visit AMOSTRUST.ORG/WATER-FOR-LIFE

