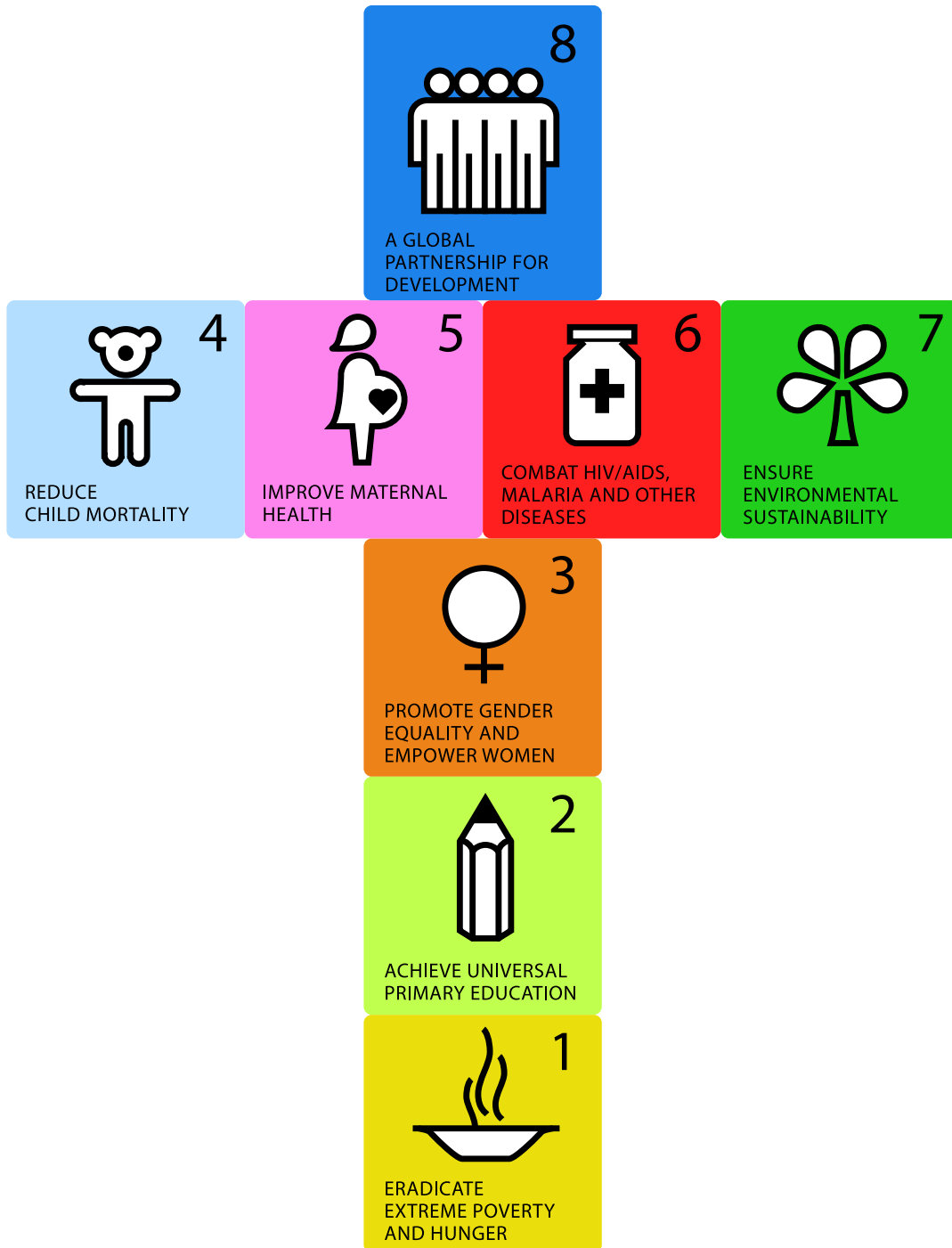


Christ Church Embraces The Millennium Development Goals



OUTREACH THROUGH THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

What are the Millennium Development Goals?

In 2000, at the Millennium Summit, 189 nations from the United Nations adopted the Millennium Development Goals which are eight goals meant to reduce world suffering caused by extreme poverty by 2015. The goals are:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education for all children.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women.
4. Reduce child mortality.
5. Improve maternal health care.
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other preventable diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.
8. Develop a global partnership for economic development.

The Anglican Communion has endorsed the MDGs, the 2003 and 2006 General Conventions of the Episcopal Church have endorsed them, the Diocese of North Carolina endorsed them at our 2005 Diocesan Convention, and the MDGs were the focal point of the 2006 Diocesan Convention. The wonderful thing about the MDGs is that they are achievable and every individual can make a difference.

How can we embrace the MDGs at Christ Church?

The first commitment is financial. In order to achieve the MDGs, economists and world leaders have calculated that we will need 0.7% of the Gross National Income of the wealthy nations. Our national church and our diocese have built into their budgets 0.7% to go to programs that specifically work toward meeting MDGs. We ask that every member of our parish make a financial commitment of 0.7% of his/her income to go toward meeting these goals through organizations of his/her choice.

The second commitment is participation in parish-sponsored collections. On a monthly basis we will highlight one of the MDGs and we will ask for contributions that will be given directly to organizations that help meet the MDGs. For instance in February, we highlighted hunger (MDG #1). We collected over \$1500 dollars for Loaves and Fishes in our community. We asked people to bring canned goods to the church throughout the month and these will go to Loaves and Fishes as well.

The third commitment is spiritual. Pray for the achievement of the MDGs, for those whose lives may be touched by our efforts, for the leaders of nations and of economic power to be committed to bringing about global justice and greater equality.