

# FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT IN YOUR CHURCH: 2024

Ways to celebrate Fairtrade



*"Since Jesus asks us as Christians to love our neighbours as ourselves, and our neighbour is any other human being with whom we come into contact, the demand to love must prevail when we shop." Dewi Hughes.*

It comes down to this. When we buy any product, we're not just buying a thing on a shelf. Behind it are people - the people who grew, processed, and crafted what we see. We come into contact with them even if we will never directly meet them. They are our neighbours.

That means we have to care about their lives - were they paid enough for their work? Do their families have access to schooling and food? Are they free to ask for good working conditions? Protected from environmental harm? If we love our neighbours, we need to do everything we can to ensure that the answer to these questions is 'yes'.

Fair Trade is one way of caring. During Fairtrade Fortnight, 9 to 22 September, our churches can explore what Fairtrade is and does, celebrate what it's accomplished, pray for it, encourage people to get involved - and enjoy wonderful Fairtrade products. It's easy to get started: take a look inside.

## WHERE TO START



**Celebrate the Fortnight by committing or recommitting to be a Fairtrade place of worship. There are only two criteria:**

1. To use Fairtrade products wherever possible (at least tea, coffee and sugar) and share information about Fairtrade products with the wider congregation.
2. To integrate Fairtrade into the life of your place of worship, at Fairtrade Fortnight or other times of the year, for example through events, stalls and worship.

To find out more about the programme and how you can register for a certificate, go to: <https://bit.ly/FairTradeChurch>.

## USING FAIRTRADE PRODUCTS



**Whether you're a small church that serves a few cuppas on occasion or a larger church with a wide programme of events each week, it's easy to find suppliers that can meet your needs for tea, coffee, sugar, and many other products as well.**

We've put together a guide that focuses on churches and their needs. Find it at <https://bit.ly/UsingFairtradeInChurch>. There's also a full guide to buying Fairtrade at <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/buying-fairtrade/>.

**"WE SERVE FAIRTRADE COFFEE AND TEA TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE WHO PRODUCE IT TO FEED THEIR OWN FAMILIES AND SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL."**  
**CHURCH MEMBER, OXFORDSHIRE**

## INTEGRATING FAIRTRADE

Integrating Fairtrade into your church life isn't difficult. It doesn't have to be about doing more things - it can be about doing the things you normally do in a Fairtrade-friendly way. And there are lots of wonderful resources to help. Here are some suggestions:

## WORSHIP

**You can incorporate prayer and preaching about Fairtrade at any point of the year ... and especially during Fairtrade Fortnight.**

Check out our page on praying and preaching: <https://bit.ly/FairTradePrayers>. Just want a prayer? There's a special selection of prayers to fit in with the 'Be the Change' theme:

Have more time? The same page has links to our own and others' materials for a full service, hymns, prayer PowerPoints, preaching ideas and more.

## FAIRTRADE, SEASON OF CREATION & HARVEST

### Celebrating Season of Creation during Fairtrade Fortnight? Here's how Fairtrade fits in.

Fairtrade farmers are among those most vulnerable to climate impacts and are calling for climate justice, with a focus on funding for adaptation. They're also taking action: care for the environment is an integral part of the Fairtrade standards.

Find out more from the Fairtrade Foundation: <https://bit.ly/FTFClimate>. Show their PowerPoint or a short film on climate justice; share a climate story, and/or get your congregation to sign the Fairtrade and climate justice community pledge. Visit our prayer and preaching page for prayers and sermon suggestions.

### Harvest and Fairtrade Fortnight are a natural pairing.

People sometimes ask: "But what about our farmers?" A combination of Fairtrade Fortnight and Harvest is a great way to say that we thank God for all harvests and want justice for all farmers, here and in other countries.

If you have farmers in your congregation, when you talk about Fairtrade, ask them also to speak about challenges they face. And take a look at Green Christian's LOAF principles (Local/Organic/Animal-Friendly/Fairtrade). Green Christian has resources for worship, study and practical action: <https://bit.ly/LOAFResources>. You might also find our prayer based on Proverbs helpful.



### Try Fairtrade products beyond tea and coffee.

Make smoothies with Fairtrade bananas, honey, spices, and local fruit; offer a taste test of Fairtrade chocolates (did you know that all Co-op and much Lidl own-brand chocolates use Fairtrade cocoa?); get a bundle of tea and biscuits from <https://bit.ly/BiscuitBundles>; hold a Fairtrade wine/juice and local cheese, evening; or ask people to make a meal or bake cakes using as many Fairtrade and local ingredients as possible. Check <https://bit.ly/FairTradeCookbook> for ideas.

And don't forget the Big Brew, Transform Trade's annual Fairtrade tea and cake fundraiser! Find materials at <https://bit.ly/BigBrew>.

### Help young people understand trade and think about how their daily choices can reflect God's love and justice.

Both CAFOD (<https://bit.ly/CAFODFairTradeSchools>) and the Fairtrade Foundation (<https://bit.ly/FTSchoolsResources>) have websites with loads of fun activities, films, stories, and more that you can use with children, with suggestions for every age group. Or have an art competition! Get inspiration from the Fairtrade Foundation's online exhibition: <https://bit.ly/FTYoungArt>.

## NEXT LEVEL REFRESHMENTS



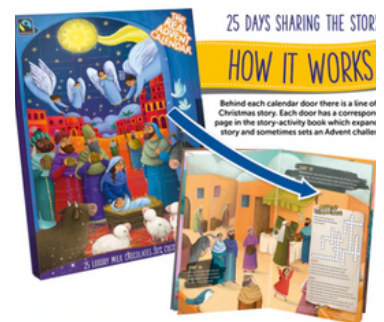
## SUNDAY SCHOOL, YOUTH GROUP, AND ASSEMBLIES





## USING FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS BEYOND REFRESHMENTS

- For baptisms and confirmations - buy a gift that is both a Christian symbol and a sign of Christian commitment to Fair Trade, such as an olive-wood holding cross or carving from the Holy Land. Find them at [Fair Trade Gifts Direct](#), [Hadeel](#) and [Shared Earth](#), or your local Fair Trade shop.
- Use Fairtrade and local flowers in your flower arrangements and suggest them to wedding couples. Find out details at <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Buying-Fairtrade/Flowers>.
- Gather orders for the *Real Advent Calendar*, a chocolate advent calendar that tells the story of Christmas: <https://bit.ly/RealAdvent>



## TALK ABOUT FAIRTRADE

### At church

- When you talk with wedding couples, promote Fairtrade gold. [Email us](#) if you'd like materials to give them.
- Holding a coffee morning or lunch? Put information about Fairtrade.out on tables or include a Fairtrade quiz: <https://bit.ly/FTFQuizzes>

### Going wider

- If you or your church use social media, share information about Fairtrade with your followers. It's easy: the Fairtrade Foundation has social media graphics (<https://bit.ly/FT14Socials>) and a [social media guide](#).
- Join with other local groups to hold events or sponsor a talk on Fairtrade. You can find a map of groups at <https://bit.ly/FTFMap>.
- Ask a local business or cafe to stock (more) Fairtrade products.
- Invite your MP to a Fairtrade event and explain why you feel making trade fairer is important. Or make the link between Fairtrade and climate if you're holding a climate conversation with your MP.



Find a wealth of ideas at <https://bit.ly/FTFCampaigns>

This material was prepared by Christian Concern for One World. We work on Fair Trade because we feel it's a key way for Christians to show love of God and neighbour. If you'd like to find out more or get in touch, visit our website, [www.ccow.org.uk](http://www.ccow.org.uk), or email us at [info@ccow.org.uk](mailto:info@ccow.org.uk). If you're wondering why we sometimes talk about Fairtrade and sometimes about Fair Trade, find out why [here](#).

August 2024: v1.2. Photos: p 2 - Fairtrade Foundation (logo), Canva; p 3 (top 2) - Fairtrade Foundation; p.4 Screenshots of [Meaningful Chocolate Company](#) and [Fairtrade Foundation](#) websites. All other photos : CCOW. Cover is a photo of art by students at St Edburg's CE Primary School, Bicester.