

For all those trapped in poverty; **Bring your freedom and fullness of life.**

For 2012

For all those trapped in poverty;

Bring your freedom and fullness of life.

For all those with insufficient income;

Bring employment and creative new ways of earning a living.

For nations weighed down by unmanageable debt;

Bring release and an end to crippling burdens.

For those unable to make a living because of cheap subsidised imports from rich nations;

Bring your justice and restore their market to them so they can trade.

For countries and communities desperate for help;

Bring aid and donations with no hidden strings attached.

For governments denied their rightful income;

Bring in the taxes that they are owed.

And for all of us here, so aware of the problems;

Bring a hunger for change that fuels us to champion your solutions.

Amen.

The Sanctuary Centre <http://www.thesanctuarycentre.org/index.html>

Dates for the Diary

FAIRTRADE
FORTNIGHT

27 February - 11 March

CLIMATE WEEK
12-18 March

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
13-19 May

WORLD WEEK FOR
PEACE IN PALESTINE
AND ISRAEL

28 May - 3 June

ISRAEL/PALESTINE
DAY
20 June

General Assembly of
the URC, Scarborough

6-9 July

EWDC
Swanwick, Derbyshire

1-3 October

Available from 1st January. Celebration 2012 resources

Celebration 2012

This year we celebrate, with all churches involved in the Commitment for Life scheme, 20 years of giving acting and praying. Plan a special Sunday now, then look at the resources to help you with a service and celebration meal

You will find:

Service outline– by Janet Sowerbutts and Sheila Rudosky

Theological reflection by Ros Lyle

Drama by Chris Eddowes

Recipes for a celebration meal

Card making for craft groups

Church magazine articles to promote the scheme

The World Development Movement's view on the last 20 years

Two Commitment for Life hymns by Melanie Smith and Jean Mortimer and much more.....



Faith and justice in action over 20 years



Take a Step for Fairtrade.
27 February -11 March

Don't forget Fairtrade products during this year. More than ever farmers need your support. Why not revitalise the campaign in your church? It can be a simple step, like swapping your tea to Fairtrade or a bigger step such as asking everyone in your church to buy one product. You'll be joining thousands of others all over the UK when you take a step for Fairtrade. Make it as inventive, daring, funny or messy as you like. Every step counts for millions of farmers, workers and their communities in developing countries who urgently need a better deal from trade. The Fairtrade church Guide is out now. To order your free copy visit www.fairtradefoundation.org.uk. Their new site will launch in the next few weeks so keep checking!

Ecumenical World Development Conference 2012 — Food

Interested in development issues?
Want to be inspired to take action?
Free the first weekend in October?
Want to meet others who also feel passionate about such issues?

The EWDC aims to inform people interested in development issues at a deeper level. This year the topic will be 'Food' looking at many different strands of the theme. Past speakers have included the Archbishop of York, John Battle MP and Elaine Storkey.

Booking forms will be available. Please contact Linda Mead for further details

Micah Challenge

has a great resource to meditate on the issues surrounding the Millennium development goals. It is an interactive prayer activity designed to allow you to take time, reflect and be engaged with issues of global poverty in a physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual way.

To print the instructions go to <http://useby2015.org/MDG-Prayer->

World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel

Each year, a group from churches and NGOs working in Israel and Palestine, get together to produce a leaflet with ideas for the week. This year the theme is 'Displacement and Dispossession'. The resource will include a powerful story of how a family and local community are affected when a home is demolished or communities forced to move. Worship material will also be available. Plan ahead now and book the date in your diary. Why not hold an event to help people understand the issues and how they can support those living there?

Total for 2011

Last year's total, which included the second instalment of the legacy left us last year, was over £555,000. This is a tremendous effort.

Thank you for your continued support for those working their way out of poverty.



Christian Aid FURY Intern

Charis will be busy over the next few months preparing for FURY Assembly and a weekend for young people interested in development issues. She will be taking a resolution to FURY Assembly asking them to be active on these issues and work with Commitment for Life to raise the issue of poverty and injustice within youth groups and church congregations.



The picture (left) shows Charis with Aklima whom she met in Bangladesh at a project run by Christian Aid's partner Shushilan. Aklima has received emergency aid following the disastrous floods in August 2011 where many lost homes and crops.

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