



Feed The Children (UK)
Harvest Festival
Resource Pack 2011

Are You Hungry?



**Every child should have
food and clean water.**

**Your Harvest Festival
celebration can help feed
hungry children living in
poverty around the world.**

Are You Hungry? – Harvest Festival 2011

Could your Church or School Harvest Festival help impoverished families?

Support at harvest time provides essential funding to our community programmes, as well as transporting goods to the communities that need them, and we are very grateful for all support in gifts and the cash, without which we could not send them.

Collecting goods for Feed The Children (UK)

Although we emphasise our gratitude for financial support, we do appreciate that adults and children also enjoy the tangible giving of gifts during harvest festival; and if you are able to deliver your gifts to us, or to one of our regional collection points, we would be happy to accept them.

We welcome donations of basic food with a shelf-life of at least 9 –12 months:

- Dried pasta
- Pulses (peas, beans, lentils),
- Rice
- Salt
- Sugar
- Dried fruit
- Along with your cash donations

These basic items are nutritious, easy to store, pack and transport – and can save lives.

We do not have transport and are unable to collect your harvest goods; please check that you are near enough to one of our offices or collection points (see page 6 for a list) before you decide to make a collection of goods.

Children like two-year-old Michael living in rural poverty in Liberia features in our harvest material this year, as does Adam, and Isabel both six years old, Sarah 4 years old and two year old Barbara all young victims of the east African famine.

Resources for worship

I hope you will find the enclosed poster and suggestions for material useful; they include readings, songs, prayers, and sermon / talk ideas prepared especially for Feed The Children (UK). If you are within reach of our office at Reading, and would like to book a Feed The Children (UK) speaker for your harvest service, please call us on 0118 932 0095 or email info@feedthechildren.org.uk to arrange a date.

I do hope you will consider supporting Feed The Children (UK) this year; your support means a lot to us, and to all the children who depend us.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Main".

Brian Main

Chief Executive Officer
Feed The Children (UK)

Are You Hungry? - Worship Resources for Harvest Festival 2011

We hope you will find some helpful suggestions in this Worship Resource for harvest festival. Do feel free to adapt the material where you wish; we have tried to use language suitable for all ages.



Traditional harvest favourites, as well as themes of thanksgiving, growth and sharing, justice and concern, are appropriate.

In the streets of every city	<i>CMP</i>
When the church of Jesus Christ shuts its outer door	<i>BPW, HS</i>
Take my hands, Lord, to share in your labours	<i>ONC</i>
There's a spirit in the air	<i>BPW, HP, AMN</i>
Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer	<i>AMC, AMN, HP, ONC, RS, SFJ</i>
Heaven shall not wait	<i>CG, HSN, ONC, ONM</i>
I, the Lord, of sea and sky	<i>AMC, CG, CHE, CMP, SFB</i>
Beauty for brokenness (God of the poor)	<i>CMP, ONC, SFB</i>
Lord of our growing years	<i>BPW</i>

Books: Common Praise (AMC), Hymns Ancient & Modern (AMN), Baptist Praise & Worship (BPW), Common Ground (CG), Celebration Hymnal for Everyone (CHE), Complete Mission Praise (CMP), Hymns & Psalms (HP) Hymns & Songs (HS), Heaven shall not wait (HSN), Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New(ONC), Rejoice & Sing (RS), Songs of Fellowship 2(SFB), Sing for Joy (SFJ)

About Feed The Children (UK)

Wherever there is conflict, poverty, famine or disaster, it is the children who suffer most. Feed The Children aims to focus help on the most vulnerable, the children left homeless, orphaned or disabled. The charity's programmes help develop sustainable communities, and also provide food, blankets, toiletries and clothing in emergency situations. Within the UK, Club AM breakfast clubs operate in areas of deprivation.

We work worldwide to develop sustainable communities and provide food and other necessities for those in great need.

Feed The Children (UK), 2 Tavistock Industrial Estate, Ruscombe Lane, Twyford, Berks, RG10 9NJ

Tel: 0118 932 0095 Email: info@feedthechildren.co.uk

www.feedthechildren.org.uk Registered Charity no. 1034916

Ideas for readings and sermons

Psalm 65, Matthew 6.25-33 Two traditional harvest readings introduce the theme of thanksgiving for our good food; God's provision is generous and worship begins with a sense of gratitude.

Deuteronomy 24.17-22 Israel's ancient community saw a responsibility to share harvests with the strangers and the fatherless. How do we see our responsibilities today?

Ezekiel 34.11-16 God's preferential love for the poor is declared, in this image of the shepherd caring for scattered sheep and tending to the weak.

James 2. 2.1-8, 14-17 Concern for the poor is above all things, practical; and demands action from us.

Matthew 18.1-5, 10-14 It is often the children who bear the brunt of the world's difficulties. Jesus' concern for the little ones informs our priorities; it's not the strong Jesus watches out for, but the weak and vulnerable.

Are You Hungry?

A visual aid

Take a piece of food such as an apple, or a small loaf of bread. Ask for five volunteers to come to the front. Explain that you are going to share out the food you have.

Cut the apple or bread into quarters; explain that because you are doing the sharing, you are keeping three quarters for yourself, and three others can share the remaining quarter. The other two can go without.

Is that fair? The children will quickly give their opinions, and suggest how to share the food so no one goes without. Feed The Children believes every child matters; every child is loved as an individual, and has the right to live, to have basic needs met, and to have the chance to grow up. We believe we must FEED EVERY CHILD.

Are You Hungry? - Worship Resources for Harvest Festival 2011

Millions of people facing starvation

Little Ruth is almost two years old – but she only weighs around 10 kilos (about 22 lbs). Her parents are semi-nomadic people and are accustomed to moving around with their goats, donkeys and cows—but now, there is nowhere left to go to find water and pasture for the animals.

The Horn of Africa is a vast region, extending across Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Southern Sudan and is suffering its worst drought for decades. With more than 80% of the population dependent on their livestock to make a living, the drought is making the situation desperate. Livestock has already died. We don't know what abject poverty means but these poor people do.

The region has so little in the way of resources, only rutted dirt roads, few schools or hospitals, and thousands of people with no way of helping themselves.

People drinking from the same water trough as their animals, because they have never had even basic health education – and besides, it's the only water available. And everywhere, children and babies with stick-thin limbs, and mothers begging us for food or water and this story is repeated in town after town, village after village, throughout Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Southern Sudan.

We cannot help every child in need, but with your help, we can save a great many. Hope for now – and for the days to come Feed The Children is providing African rural communities with emergency food and water supplies; but that's not all .

We are developing and implementing a range of small scale projects that give the skills that empower a community, and help people towards tackling their underlying problem – poverty. The problems of the region won't be solved overnight.

Feed The Children's help to children like Ruth includes physiotherapy, replacement prosthetic limbs and other aids as the child grows; help to pay for hospital visits, and help with school uniform and books so that their education continues.



With your support, we can help even more families to help themselves.

Will you help us bring emergency food, support, and training to desperate rural communities?

Donations from this harvest festival will help provide food, clean water, health care and education programmes such as health and hygiene, HIV/Aids awareness and tree planting schemes. And that's not all! There is further information about our work so visit our website, at www.feedthechildren.org.uk

Prayers

Call to Worship

What a rich harvest your goodness provides!.....
The pastures are filled with flocks;
The hillsides are full of joy.
The fields are covered with sheep:
The valleys are full of wheat.
Everything shouts and signs for joy.

Psalm 65.11,13. GNB

Prayer of Approach

Holy and gracious God,
You are the source of all life;
Draw us into your presence
And speak to us
Words of comfort and of challenge,
That we may worship you in love and truth.

Amen

Are You Hungry? - Worship Resources for Harvest Festival 2011

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dear Father God,

Thank you for caring about each one of us, every child and every grown-up.

When we need food, we lift up our hands and you fill them with good things: fruits from the orchards, cereals from the fields, butter and meat and milk from the farm, juices, tea and coffee from countries far away. Thank you, Father, for caring about each and one of us, every child and every grown-up.

You remembered all our needs, giving us clothes to wear, homes to keep us safe, stories to open our minds. Thank you, Father for caring about each one of us, every child and every grown-up.

We praise you for all the people who bring us your blessings: the farmer who drives the tractor, the supermarket worker who stacks the shelves, the teacher who tells us about your wonderful world, our families who love and look after us, Thank you, Father, for caring about each one of us, every child and every grown-up.

We praise you in the name of Jesus, the friend and saviour of all.

Amen

Confession

Loving God,

We thank you for the rich diversity of your world.

Your family extends to all and no one is excluded.

Forgive us that our mercy is not as wide as yours.

We have fed our own families but we have not helped to feed every child.

We are content to live in a country that cares for most people but not for all people.

We try to love our neighbour but are suspicious of the stranger.

We share the love of Christ with our own kind but have not taken his good news to the lost sheep.

Have mercy on us, Lord. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus, who died for us and for all people.

Amen

Intercessions

Lord Jesus Christ, you took a child to stand in the centre of the people:

Our hearts go out to the neglected children of our world.

We pray for little ones made weak by hunger, whose lives hang by a thread in arid lands.

Bless the work of Feed The Children as it hurries out to them with food for today and seeds for tomorrow. Give success to those who raise money in this country, and strength to its workers overseas.

We pray for all agencies committed to rescuing Children robbed of their parents, or brutalised by war, or crushed in spirit by oppressive labour.

We pray that every child may share in the bounty of God's harvest.

Lord Jesus Christ, you touched the outcast leper and brought him healing: our hearts go out to the world's untended sick.

We pray for remote villages on sun-baked plains that have no access to clinic or hospital. We pray for families decimated by Aids.

Bless medical agencies and their doctors and nurses as they dedicate themselves to taking out medicines for today and knowledge for tomorrow.

We pray that every sick person may share in the bounty of God's healing.

Lord Jesus Christ, you treated as an equal the woman at the well: our hearts go out to the world's oppressed women.

We pray for our sisters subjected to the cruelty and abuse of men, and for those confined to the kitchen but excluded from councils of decision.

Strengthen women who fight for their families today and for justice tomorrow, and all agencies dedicated to their help. We pray that every woman may share in the bounty of God's freedom.

We offer these prayers in your name, Lord Jesus, for you came that all might have abundant life.

Amen

Feed The Children (UK) Collection Points

Feed The Children, Twyford

2 Tavistock Industrial Estate,
Ruscombe Lane, Ruscombe, Twyford,
Berkshire, RG10 9NJ
Tel: 0118 932 0095

National Windscreens Ltd

(Listed branches only)

National Windscreens kindly acts as a collection point free of charge.

The company requests that goods are securely packed in **THICK** plastic bags, or **sealed boxes no heavier than 20kg**, clearly labelled "Feed The Children". Your package should include a note with your name and address, so that we can thank you for your donation.

PLEASE DO NOT PACK GOODS IN FLIMSY KIND BIN BAGS, CARRIER BAGS, OR UNSECURED BOXES, AS THE CONTENTS EASILY SPILL AND CAUSE ANNOYANCE.

The branches have requested that we do not ask them to handle money. Please send your financial donations directly to FTC Head Office in Twyford, at the address above.

Please telephone before dropping off goods, as a courtesy.

Aylesbury

Unit B, The Merlin Centre, Gatehouse Close, Aylesbury. HP19 8DP
Tel: 01296 338352

Banbury

Unit 2, Thorpe Way, Banbury, Oxon OX16 4SP
Tel. 01295 269111

Bath

4 Stable Yard, Windsor Bridge Road, Bath, Somerset, BA2 3AY
Tel. 01225 335335

Barnstaple

11 Taw Mill Business Park, Howard Avenue, Barnstaple, Devon, EX32 8QA
Tel. 01271 379070

Birmingham

Unit 20 Phoenix Park, Avenue Road, Aston, Birmingham, B7 4NU
Tel. 0121 3337070

Bournemouth

475 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH1 4AD
Tel. 01202 393228

Brighton

Unit 4, St Joseph's Business Park, Hove, Brighton, East Sussex, BN3 7ED
Tel. 01273 220200

Crawley

11 Forge Wood Ind. Est., Gatwick Road, Crawley RH10 9PG
Tel. 01293 540660

Coventry

Newport Road, Holbrook, Coventry, Warks. CV6 4BQ
Tel. 02476 638901

Dorchester

Unit B5 Marbout Ind. Est., Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1YA
Tel. 01305 269888

Exeter

Summerland Street, Exeter, Devon, EX1 2AT
Tel. 01392 215215

Gloucester

Unit 1B Northbrook Road, Eastern Avenue, Glos. GL4 3DP
Tel. 01452 502902

Halesowen

Unit 4, Block 6, Shenstone Trading Estate, Halesowen. B63 3XB
Tel: 0121 550 6005

Hastings

3 Brunel Road, Churchfields Ind Est, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex, TN38 9RT
Tel. 01424 855200

Hereford

Unit 11 Station Approach, Hereford, HR1 1BB
Tel. 01432 359161

Isle of Wight

2a Rink Road Ind. Est., Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 2LT
Tel: 01983 613791

Newbury

36 Queens Road, Newbury, Berks, RG14 7NE
Tel. 01635 49494

Oxford

Unit 3 Chiltern Bus. Centre, Garsington Road, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 6NG
Tel. 01865 779797

Plymouth

24-26 George Place, Plymouth, Devon, PL1 3NY
Tel. 01752 268282

Portsmouth

Warren Avenue, Warren Avenue Industrial Estate, Portsmouth, Hants, PO4 8PY
Tel. 02392 755655

Reading

Unit 5 Mayfield Trade Centre, Acre Road, Reading, RG2 0RJ
Tel: 0118 931 4500

Redruth

1 Cardew Ind. Estate, Redruth, Cornwall, TR15 1SS
Tel. 01209 313344

Salisbury

Stephenson Road, Churchfield Ind. Estate, Salisbury, Wilts SP2 7NP
Tel. 01722 329696

St. Austell

78-80 Stennack Road, Holmbush Ind. Estate, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 3JQ
Tel. 01726 72232

Southampton

12 City Ind. Park, Southern Road, Southampton, Hants SO15 1HA
Tel. 02380 338555

Swindon

Unit 19, Central Trading Estate, Signal Way, Old Town, Swindon, Wilts SN3 1PD
Tel. 01793 537606

Tamworth

Unit 12 Ariane, Lichfield Road Industrial Estate, Tamworth, Staffs, B79 7XF
Tel. 01827 310721

Taunton

58 Station Road, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 1NX
Tel. 01823 284321

Torquay

Unit 8, Chatto Way Industrial Estate, Torquay, Devon TQ1 4UE
Tel: 01803 315265

Trowbridge

4a British Row, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 8PB
Tel. 01225 777277

Tunbridge Wells

Unit 6 Colebrook Ind. Est., Longfield Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 3DG
Tel. 01892 515000

Weston Super Mare

3 Glencoe Business Park, Warne Road, Weston Super Mare, Somerset, BS23 3TS
Tel. 01934 414818

Worcester

11 Shipton Close, Worcester, Worcs, WR4 9XN
Tel. 01905 755455

Yeovil

2 Brympton Way, Lynx West Ind. Estate, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 2HP
Tel. 01935 426633