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## CCOW Guide to Harvest Resources (2014)



### If you're looking for ...

#### Resources for a Full Harvest Service

- **All We Can (formerly MRDF)** has based its [harvest service](#) around its work in Burundi where partners have enabled local people to utilise the full potential of their land through modern cultivation methods. They have a film, PowerPoint presentation and adult and all age services.
- The **Arthur Rank Centre** has an enormous [variety of harvest services and prayers](#). Well worth a browse!
- **BMS World Mission's** theme this year is "[Share the Light](#)" focusing on mission in hard to reach areas and to marginalised people, particularly the villages in the Sundarbans, India. Materials include downloadable videos, children's activities, sermon prompts and prayers.
- **Bible Reading Fellowship's** Barnabas Children's Ministry has a number of all age [service plans and resources](#) including craft ideas and plans for Messy Church.
- **CAFOD's** [harvest resources](#) focus on 'making a place at the table' for those who do not have enough food. They include a talk, prayers, children's liturgy, and an illustration for children to colour. CAFOD also offers resources for schools.
- The **Canadian Food Grains Bank** has two complete services which could be used at harvest. One is for [World Food Day](#) (mid-October) and focuses on responding to hunger and climate change; the [other is for Canadian Thanksgiving](#) and focuses on gratitude. Each contains prayers, songs, suggestions for Scripture readings, notes/stories, and possible activities.
- **Christian Aid's** [resources](#) this year focus on South Sudan and projects which help support sustainable farming. Their materials include a film, prayers and sermon notes.
- **Christian Ecology Link** has a [harvest liturgy](#) with prayers, readings, material for an all-age talk, hymn suggestions, etc. The focus is on God's gifts & our "care for the earth."
- **CMS'** resource '[Grow and Behold](#)' focuses on cultivating creation in an industrialised world, with examples drawn from mission partners combating deforestation in Uganda and creating green spaces in an urban London setting. Materials include a Uganda factsheet, service outline, prayers, Sunday School activity, and some rather lovely creation quizzes.
- **Commitment for Life** has produced '[A Precious Resource](#)' focusing on the gift of water and the problems faced by those who lack water, or who contend with contaminated water or floods. Materials include a service outline, video reflection, powerpoint, stories, dramatized Bible reading, Bible verses and more.
- **The CTBI/Eco-Congregation Scotland** [resources](#) on the theme of "God, whose farm is all creation" include a full service plan and prayers.
- **The Farming Community Network** has a [superb collection of Harvest resources](#), with a wide variety of themes, prayers, Scripture readings, songs, services and more. While FCN's own work focuses on the UK, the material they've put together looks at the wider global context, taking in topics such as climate change and international trading relationships.

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- **Food Matters** has materials that you could use for a harvest service in its Lammas resource ([downloadable on the Food Matters website](#)) as well as in its Harvest resource, which focuses on sharing the harvest and responding well to food poverty locally and globally (email us for materials).
  - **Tearfund's** harvest focus is on their '[No Child Taken' campaign](#). While the campaign focuses on trafficking, the short film about Nang links into questions of poor harvests, and their children's resources also talk about difficulties finding food.
  - **Traidcraft** offers a number of resources, including [Abundant Life](#), which focuses on the organisation's work with craftspeople in Bangladesh and includes good prayers, reflections on the theme of "fishers of men" and creative ideas for all-age worship. You might also like the new "What would Daniel do?" [resource](#), which explores the connections between faithfulness and food via the Book of Daniel. Could be expanded to tie in local food, too.
  - **US (formerly USPG)** invites people to "[bring what you have to the harvest,](#)" drawing on the experiences of a community in the Philippines where people are encouraged to identify and share their gifts and talents to help develop the whole. Materials include three films, which can be downloaded; intercessions, a Bible study; all-age talk; sermon notes; and school assembly materials.

### A Harvest Prayer

Most of the above services contain prayers that can be used on their own. In addition, you might want to try:

- The **Diocese of Bath and Wells** has a strong selection of prayers, including harvest [prayers for children](#)
- **Candian Foodgrains Bank** has a [lovely prayer from the Ethiopian Orthodox Church](#), " We pray for the rain, the wind of the sky, the fruit of the earth, the fruit of the trees and vineyards ...." as well as a huge variety of prayers for those who are hungry and table graces.
- **Catholic Online** has a [collect for the Blessing of the Barn and the Stored Harvest](#)
- **CCOW's** [Fair Trade Prayers resource](#) contain a prayer for a fair sharing of the harvest.
- **Christine Sine of Mustard Seed Associates** has written a [beautiful responsive prayer, "Let us thank God"](#)
- [Emma Major](#) and [Liz Gentil](#) offer harvest intercessions that cover both local and global questions.
- **John Birch** offers [traditional and contemporary sequences of harvest prayers](#).
- **SPCK** has a lovely [collection of harvest prayers from around the world](#).

And don't forget the **CCOW** [powerpoint to accompany the hymn](#) "God, whose farm is all creation"!

*CCOW can help you with liturgical materials for different occasions. Look for seasonal guides on our website, or, if you have a specific request, get in touch: [coordinator@ccow.org.uk](mailto:coordinator@ccow.org.uk) or 01235 850267.*