

# Vicar's Blog

February 2019

## Choices

Daily choices can easily be taken for granted. The simple things like tea or coffee; chocolate cake or biscuit; when to have a holiday; whether to join a gym. The list goes on. We do inevitably face constraints such as affordability and existing commitments, yet there are many things we choose to do without worry.

During January, along with Kendal Road Baptist Church and Lonsdale Road Methodist Church, we took part in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme was Only justice, and the material was provided by Christians from Indonesia. In addition to exploring and reflecting prayerfully during the week, we were invited to consider what we can 'go and do' to make a difference: to live simply so that others can simply live.

During January, I also received notification that Holy Trinity Church has been awarded status as a Fairtrade church. This award reflects our continuing and growing commitment to support fair trade and its objectives of enabling families in other parts of the world to find justice so that they may live simply and well.

It took little effort for us to earn that Fairtrade certification. We sell, buy and use Traidcraft goods. The money raised is then used by the charity Traidcraft to 'fight poverty through trade, practising and promoting approaches to trade that help people in developing countries to transform their lives.'

The simple choice of buying something through Traidcraft, rather than at the local shop is helping people to escape the injustice of exploitative labour. By making good daily choices, we honour our commitment to be a Fairtrade church. These choices are founded on a commitment to look beyond our own needs to bring justice and opportunity to others.

Such choices are founded on readiness to reach out and enable others to live a better life.

Such choices are a commitment to selfless love.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. - John 13 v34

*Gwyneth*