



Year Planner for 2016

Collated by CCOW for Use in Churches

“Special Sundays” and days when churches might wish to focus prayer and/or action on a particular topic are in regular type. **Green** events relate to environment and food issues; **blue** to peace and peacemaking; **red** to health, **light blue** to Fair Trade. Some global events that churches might wish to pray about are in italics. Major events in the Church Year are in white on coloured backgrounds.

We hope this will be of use to churches planning their year and to people leading prayers and activities. To send in corrections or to suggest events/ resources for inclusion, email info@ccow.org.uk. To read or sign up to receive our weekly prayer email, go to **our website**.

JANUARY

1 January & first of each month – Pray and Fast for the Climate. Join people around the world praying & fasting for climate justice. Info: [Pray and Fast](#)

10 Jan 2016 – Plough Sunday

Also Plough Monday, Plough Wednesday. Pray for all who farm worldwide. [Worship resources from Arthur Rank Centre](#)

17 Jan 2016 – Peace Sunday

Theme: “Overcome indifference and win peace”
Materials: [Pax Christi](#)

17 to 24 January – Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

Theme: “Salt of the Earth” (local theme) “Called to proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord” (intl theme).
[Materials from CTBI](#) (local version), [World Council of Churches](#)

20 to 23 Jan 2016 – World Economic Forum Annual Meeting (Davos) Theme: *The Fourth Industrial Revolution* [Official Website](#)

24 Jan 2016 - Homeless Sunday
[Materials from sponsoring agencies](#)

27 January -- Holocaust Memorial Day

Theme: “Don't stand by” Materials from [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust](#)

31 Jan 2016 -- World Leprosy Day
Also observed 30 Jan. UK focus is on rebuilding Nepal. [Materials from Leprosy Mission \(UK\)](#)

FEBRUARY

1 February – Pray and Fast for the Climate

1 Feb 2016 – BMS Day of Prayer
[Materials from BMS World Mission](#)

7 Feb 2016 – Church Action on Poverty Sunday
Theme: “Bread broken for all: securing the right to food” [Materials from Church Action on Poverty](#)

7 or 14 Feb 2016 – Freedom Sunday
(Against modern slavery – can also be observed around 25 March, 30 July, 23/24 August, 18 October) Materials from [Church of England](#), [Stop the Traffik](#), [Tearfund](#), [CCOW](#)

8 – 13 Feb 2016 – People and Planet “Go Green Week” Nat'l week of climate action for schools, colleges, universities. Info: [People and Planet](#).

10 Feb 2016: Ash Wednesday

12 February – Red Hand Day
Campaign/pray for an end to use of child soldiers. Materials from [Child Soldiers International](#), [CCOW](#)

13/14 or 20/21 Feb 2016 -- CAFOD Lent Fast Day
[Materials from CAFOD](#)

18 Feb 2016 – Uganda General Election

20 February – World Day of Social Justice
[Info from the UN](#); opportunity for prayer and action on a range of social justice issues.

29 Feb to 13 March 2016 – Fairtrade Fortnight

Materials from the [Fairtrade Foundation](#), [Traidcraft](#) and [CCOW](#).

MARCH

4 March 2016 – Women's World Day of Prayer

Theme: “Receive children. Receive me” (country focus: Cuba) [Order materials from WWDP](#)

6 March 2016 - Mothering Sunday

Resources from [Mothers' Union](#), [All We Can](#)

6 March 2016 – Tearfund Sunday

8 March – International Women’s Day

14 to 24 March 2016 – UN Commission on the Status of Women. Theme: “Women's Empowerment: Sustainable Development” [Official Website](#)

19 March 2016 – Earth Hour

[Info from Earth Hour](#)

22 March -- World Water Day

Theme: “Water & Jobs” [UN Water](#) & [Water Aid](#) will have materials.

24 March – World TB Day

[Materials from Stop TB Partnership](#)

27 March 2016 - Easter

APRIL

2-3 April 2016 – Weekend of Prayer for People with Addictions (Worldwide)

7 April – World Health Day

Theme is diabetes. Material from [WHO](#). Chance to raise wider issues in health and healthcare. UK also has [Healthcare Sunday](#) in October.

10 April 2016 – Peru General Election

15/16 April – Hope in a changing climate

After Paris, how can Christians work together locally and globally to care for creation? Conference in Coventry. [Website](#)

24 April – Fashion Revolution Day

On anniversary of the Rana Plaza disaster, a campaign for fairness in fashion. [Website](#)

25 April – World Malaria Day

[Info from WHO](#). The [World Malaria Day website](#) will also have materials.

MAY

5 May – Internat’l Day of the Midwife

[Info from International Confederation of Midwives](#). Opportunity to focus on maternal and child health.

9 May 2016 – Philippines General Election

14 May 2016 – World Fair Trade Day

Theme: “Human chain for Fair Trade.” [Info and links](#).

15 May – Pentecost

[Info about Global Day of Prayer](#).

15 to 21 May 2016 -- Christian Aid Week

Resources on [Christian Aid Week website](#).

16 May – World Debt Day

Day to pray about unfair/unsustainable debt. [Worship resources on debt](#)

22 May – Internat’l Day for Biological Diversity

Theme: “Biodiversity for Sustainable Development.” Info from [CBD](#). Materials for churches: [A Rocha](#), [CEL](#).

26 to 27 May – G7 Leaders Summit (Shima, Mie Prefecture Japan)

JUNE

4-5 June 2016? – Viva Network World Weekend of Prayer for Children at Risk

[Viva Network website](#) will have materials.

5 June 2016 – Environment Sunday (closest to 5 June, World Environment Day)

[Links to worship materials](#)

8 June - World Oceans Day

Theme: “Healthy oceans, healthy planet.” Info: [World Oceans Day website](#)

12 June – World Day against Child Labour

Info: [International Labour Organization](#)

19 June 2016 – Father’s Day

20 to 26 June 2016 -- Refugee Week (incorporates 20 June, World Refugee Day)

Theme: “Different Pasts, Shared Future.” [Refugee Week website](#) will have info.

23 June – Internat’l Widows Day

[Info from UN](#). Widowhood in many countries brings vulnerability and loss of rights.

26 June – Internat’l Day of Support for Victims of Torture Prayer and action: [Action by Christians against Torture](#)

JULY

10 July 2016 – Disability Sunday (UK)

Materials will be available from [Churches for All](#) & [Livability](#). For internat’l materials, see 3 Dec.

10 July 2016 -- Sea Sunday

Materials will be on the [Sea Sunday website](#).

25 to 31 July 2016 – World Youth Day (Catholic – Krakow) A major conference for young people. Theme: “Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.” [Information and prayer points](#).

AUGUST

9 August – Internat’l Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples

11 Aug 2016 – Zambia Legislative and Presidential Election

12 August – Internat’l Youth Day

[Info from the UN](#). Could youth in your church lead prayers for young people worldwide?

19 August – World Humanitarian Day

Pray for humanitarian workers/efforts worldwide. [Videos from UN](#)

23 August – Internat’l Day for Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

Materials from [Human Rights Education Assn](#) ; [Stop the Traffik](#) (See also 15/22 February)

28 Aug to 2 Sept 2016 – World Water Week

Theme: “Water for sustainable growth” [Info from World Water Week website](#).

30 Aug – Internat’l Day of the Disappeared

Materials [from the UN](#) , [CCOW](#)

SEPTEMBER

1 September to 4 October – Time for Creation

Includes Day of Prayer for Creation on 1 September and opportunity to pray & fast on 1 Sept/4 October
Materials available from [CTBI's Creation Time page](#).

4 to 5 Sept 2016 – G20 Leaders Summit (Hangzhou, China) [Information](#)

11 Sept 2016 – Racial Justice Sunday

Info and materials will be on [CTBI's racial justice page](#).

11 Sept 2016? -- Education Sunday

Time to pray for education worldwide.

Materials from [Churches Together in England](#).

17 Sept to 2 Oct 2016 – British Food Fortnight

[Info](#). Good time to consider local food's benefits

18 September 2016 -- Peacemaking Sunday

(Closest to UN's International Day of Peace)

Materials from [the Joint Public Issues Team](#)

22 September – World Car Free Day

A chance to hold a “Walk to Church Sunday” ?

OCTOBER

1 October – Internat’l Day of Older Persons

Info from [UN](#), [Help Age Int’l](#)

4 Oct 2016 – Feast of St Francis, End of Creation Time, Pray and Fast for the Climate

Resources available from Pray & Fast

7 Oct 2016 – CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

7 October – World Day for Decent Work

[Info](#). Organised by the International TUC

9 to 15 Oct 2016 --Prisons Week

Materials from [Prisons Week](#); see also [Prison Fellowship Internat'l](#)

16 October - World Food Day

Materials: [Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance](#).

17 October - International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

[Info from the UN](#).

23 Oct 2016 – World Mission Sunday

(Roman Catholic Church) [Info/materials from Missio](#).

23 to 30 Oct 2016 – One World Week

(incorporates 24 October, UN Day)

Info: [OWW website](#).

23 or 30 Oct 2016? – Bible Sunday (Roman

Catholic Church celebrates in December)

Materials from [The Bible Society](#).

NOVEMBER

7 to 18 Nov 2016 – UN Climate Negotiations (Marrakesh)

8 Nov 2016 – US Presidential/Legislative Elections

13 Nov 2016 – Remembrance Sunday

[Resources from CTBI](#), [links from CCOW](#).

20 Nov 2016 – Women against Violence Sunday, 25 November – 10 December - Sixteen Days of Activism against Gender Violence

Info/materials from [Anglican Communion](#), [CABSA](#),
[CCOW](#), [Methodist Church](#), [Mothers' Union](#), [Restored](#).

20 Nov 2016 – Internat'l Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Materials: [CSW](#), [IDOP](#) and [Open Doors](#)

27 Nov 2016 – Advent Sunday

DECEMBER

1 December - World AIDS Day

Worship materials, resources and links: [CABSA](#).

Additional worship materials: [Diakonia](#)

3 December – Internat'l Day of Persons with Disabilities

Info from [UN](#), [Handicap Internat'l](#), [CBM](#)

4 Dec 2016 – Bible Sunday (Roman Catholic)

9 December – Internat'l Anti-Corruption Day

Info from [UN](#)

10 December – Human Rights Day

Info from [UN](#), [Human Rights Watch](#), [Forum18](#)

18 December – Internat'l Migrants Day

Info [from UN](#).

25 December - Christmas