

# West Auckland Vineyard Church

To DECLARE and DEMONSTRATE the Kingdom of God in the community

## Fairtrade Policy

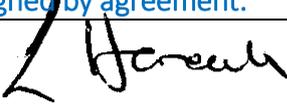
“ West Auckland Vineyard Church (WAVC) is committed to supporting Fairtrade in all its internal and ‘public facing’ activities.”

In a nutshell, Fairtrade is about guaranteeing a better deal for third world producers.

In particular, WAVC will:

- use Fairtrade products for all our activities where such products are available.
  - tea, coffee, sugar and biscuits
  - in all internal activities
  - if / when uniforms or other clothing products are provided or endorsed by WAVC we will source Fairtrade cotton or other materials where possible
- ensure learning about Fairtrade happens as appropriate through teaching and our digital and non-digital communications channels.
- promote Fairtrade in our properties through fixed displays and posters.
- support at least one Fairtrade charitable organisation / producer / promoter as part of our regular giving
- appropriately promote Fairtrade to, and the use of Fairtrade products by, the church community

This Policy is supported by:

	Signed by agreement:	Date
The Senior Leadership		March 8 <sup>th</sup> 2017
The Trustees		March 8 <sup>th</sup> 2017

Micah 6:8

What does the LORD require of us? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.

### Why this policy?

We have this policy because we believe that supporting and encouraging Fairtrade is part of our mandate in scripture. We have an obligation to do what is within our power to actively stand against injustice, oppression and particularly those practices that single out the poor and needy for unjust and unfair dealings.

At the end of this document there are several references from the bible that show the priority of actively supporting the poor and those suffering injustices and there is a link for anyone who wants to study this further.

### What is 'Fairtrade'?

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers.

It's about supporting the development of thriving farming and worker communities that have more control over their futures and protecting the environment in which they live and work. Supporting Fairtrade is our opportunity to connect with the people who produce things we all depend on.

When you buy products with the FAIRTRADE Mark, you support farmers and workers as they work to improve their lives and their communities.

The Mark means that the Fairtrade ingredients in the product have been produced by small-scale farmer organisations or plantations that meet Fairtrade social, economic and environmental standards. The standards include protection of workers' rights and the environment, payment of the **Fairtrade Minimum**

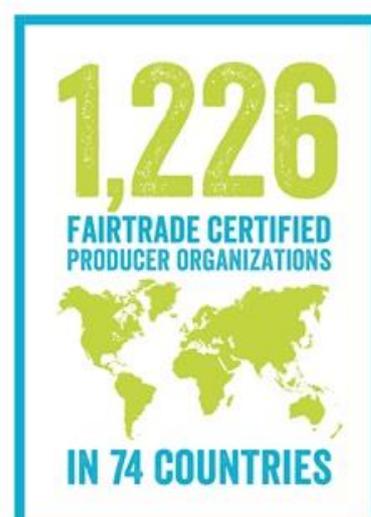
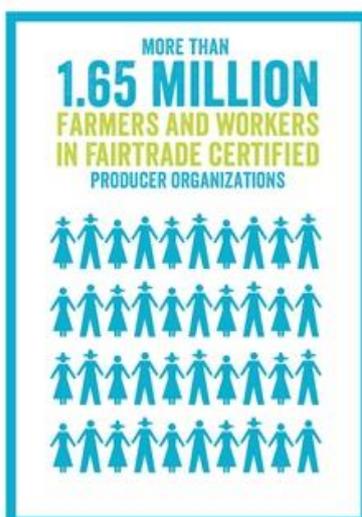


**Price** and an additional **Fairtrade Premium** to invest in business or community projects.

50%

is the percentage of the global Fairtrade system owned by Farmer and worker organisations.

### FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT FAIRTRADE





If you would like further information: <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/en/what-is-fairtrade>

Our mandate and requirement to care and be involved:

[Proverbs 14:31](#)

Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honours him.

[Deuteronomy 15:10-11](#)

You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore, I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'

[Isaiah 58:10](#)

If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.

[Matthew 25:31-46](#)

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ...

[Isaiah 25:4](#)

For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat; for the breath of the ruthless is like a storm against a wall,

[Deuteronomy 15:7-11](#)

"If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be. Take care lest there be an unworthy thought in your heart and you say, 'The seventh year, the year of

release is near,' and your eye look grudgingly on your poor brother, and you give him nothing, and he cry to the LORD against you, and you be guilty of sin. You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'

#### [Psalm 82:3-4](#)

Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

#### [Luke 3:11](#)

And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise."

#### [Isaiah 58:6-7](#)

"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?"

#### [Proverbs 31:8-9](#)

Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Further information:

[https://www.openbible.info/topics/serving\\_the\\_poor](https://www.openbible.info/topics/serving_the_poor)