

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

In the Bible, in Deuteronomy chapter 16, we read about how the Israelites gave thanks to God for the harvest a long time ago. They called it the Festival of Tabernacles.

¹³ Celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles for seven days after you have gathered the produce of your threshing-floor and your winepress. ¹⁴ Be joyful at your festival – you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns. ¹⁵ For seven days celebrate the festival to the Lord your God at the place the Lord will choose. For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete.

¹⁶ Three times a year all your men must appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the Lord empty-handed: ¹⁷ each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you.

Our lives are very different from those of the Israelites some 3,500 years ago, but the instructions for Harvest Thanksgiving are the same – to show our thanks to God we must **celebrate, be joyful, bring a gift, think of others.**

Celebrate and be joyful by singing along with these songs....

Harvest Samba - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTdlrITIXks>

Cauliflowers fluffy and cabbages green -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PukdaXUzgOU>

Bring and gift and think of others...

All our local supermarkets collect food for the Galashiels Foodbank.

The church has supported the Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal for many years. You are asked to fill a shoebox with practical things like a toothbrush and toothpaste, paper and pencils, a hat and gloves. The shoeboxes will be given as Christmas presents to children in Easter Europe who may get no other gifts.. They will be much appreciated. We will be collecting the filled shoeboxes on Monday 26 October. More details later.

Find out more at <https://blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal/>