



Bread Festival Guide



HARVEST 2018

GRAINS OF HOPE
BREAD FOR LIFE

About this pack

This pack enables you to run your own bread festival that celebrates stories of generosity from around your community.

Why hold a bread festival?

We are often surrounded by stories of lack and scarcity, we hear them on the news and from our own communities. Harvest is traditionally the time of year when we celebrate God's abundant generosity from the land in the form of crops. We tend to celebrate this festival by thinking about how we can respond to those who have less than us perhaps by holding a charitable collection or donating canned food. A bread festival allows us to explore the Christian message of generosity in more depth.

The festival is similar to a Christmas tree festival and encourages each entrant to submit a personal story of generosity in the format of bread. This bread can take any form ranging from a home baked master piece to a creatively cut wrap or an arrangement of rolls.

The festival will be a celebration of God's generosity to us. It is a part of changing the story: from one where we believe that we do not have enough to do God's work on earth, to one where we recognise how abundantly we are blessed. Sharing stories of generosity is a powerful way we can explore the role it can and should have in our lives and faith.

When to run a bread festival?

The festival can be run alongside your usual Harvest activities and services. It would also work well as a standalone event or alongside interactive bread themed prayer stations (a guide to running this can be found on the Diocesan website <https://www.leicester.anglican.org/resourcing-your-work/generous-giving/havest2018/>). If you would like to experience the bread festivals and prayer stations but don't want to run them at your own church you can join in with one of the following events:

- 1st September, Leicester Cathedral, 7.30pm-9.30pm
 - 29th September, Holy Trinity Ashby, 7.30pm-9.30pm
 - 6th October, St Peter and St Paul Great Bowden, 7.30pm-9.30pm
-



How to run a bread festival

- Decide upon a time and date for the bread to be on show, this could be alongside your normal Harvest activities.
- Invite participants to create a story of generosity in bread. Remember to include community groups, your local school, individuals and local businesses. A sample invite is included in the appendix of this pack
- Provide participants with a card to write their story of generosity on. Let them know when they can drop their bread off and when they can come to the festival.
- Consider whether you would like to include refreshments or music at your bread festival and arrange these elements.
- Invite your local community to attend the festival.
- Order postcards from the Generous Giving Team to give away to those attending the festival (the postcards contain a prayer and a recipe for bread) by emailing generousgiving@leccofe.org or calling 0116 261 5339
- When setting up your festival put the cards with the stories of generosity in front of the bread creations. Be sure to protect the bread from any other activity happening in the building or from your church mouse!
- During the festival ensure there are some volunteers on hand to ask guests how the experience has made them feel about generosity and to give out the take away postcards.
- Make sure you take lots of pictures and let the Generous Giving team know how the event went.

Growth Fund Assistance

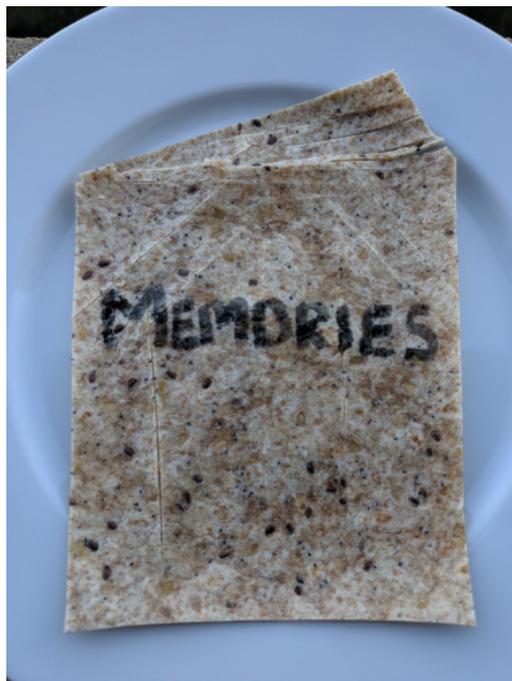
If you would like to apply for a grant to enable you to run a bread festival then the Growth Fund is offering grants of up to £250. Applications can be made between July 1st 2018 and September 1st 2018. Please email or call Poppy Woods for an application form (poppy.woods@leccofe.org, 0116 261 5376)



Some examples of what the bread creations may look like:



Celebrating the generosity of the feeding of the five thousand



Celebrating the generosity of time a Grandma put into compiling a book of all our memories together



Celebrating the generosity of a really thoughtful gift



Sample Invite

Dear *XX participant name XX*

This Harvest *XX church name XX* are celebrating by holding a bread festival that collects stories of generosity from around our community. As Christians we believe that we have a generous God and with our media and culture full of stories of the things we don't have we believe it is important and powerful to share stories of generosity.

We are asking participants to share these stories in the form of bread. The story can be anything from a life changing moment, to a small generous encounter to a story of generosity that inspires you.

We would like to invite you to enter our festival and to share your story of generosity. Don't worry if you aren't a master baker the bread can take any form ranging from a home baked creation to a creatively cut wrap or an arrangement of rolls.

If you would like to take part please drop off your bread creation along with the enclosed card that tells your story in words to *XX name XX at XX time, date and venue XX*.

If you have any questions or would like more information please get in touch with *XX name and contact details XX*

Best wishes

XX PCC of church name XX

