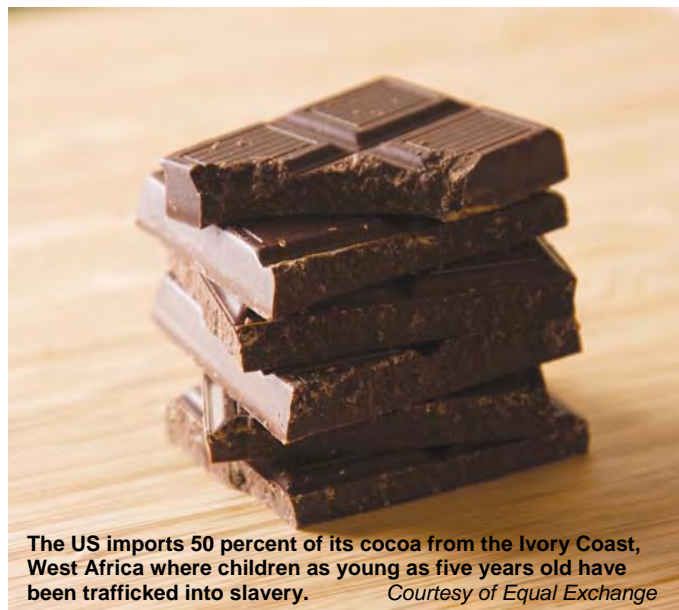


Fair Trade Chocolate: Reducing Child Slave Labor



As consumers, we spend more than \$16 billion dollars a year on chocolate alone. Fifty percent of cocoa comes to the US from the Ivory Coast, West Africa—where children as young as five years old are trafficked into slavery and forced to work on cocoa farms.

According to the the US Department of State, more than 109,000 children in Cote d'Ivoire's cocoa industry work under "the worst forms of child labor," and some 10,000 are victims of human trafficking or enslavement. In addition, cocoa farmers are paid low wages leaving their families in poverty each year.

Help reduce forced child labor by purchasing fair trade chocolate this Halloween.

Support Fair Trade

UMCOR, the General Board of Church and Society and Equal Exchange are encouraging congregations to purchase fairly-traded chocolate or cocoa products through the UMCOR Coffee Project. Supporting this fair trade system through your purchases, allows farmers to earn a stable and fair price for their crops while delivering a fair price to consumers. In addition, fair trade prohibits the use of abusive child labor, and encourages the adoption of safer, chemical-free farming methods. Here's how you can help:

Participate in Reverse Trick-Or-Treating

Participate in the Reverse Trick-Or-Treating campaign. This year, encourage trick-or-treaters to pass out fair trade chocolate and United Methodist informational cards to every home they visit. This will help raise awareness

about the poverty and child labor problems in the cocoa industry and how fair trade certified chocolate provides a viable solution. For more information about Reverse Trick-Or-Treating go to: www.reversetrickortreating.org.

Buy Fair Trade Halloween Chocolate & Trick-or-Treat Bags

Enjoy a fair trade Halloween by purchasing Equal Exchange chocolate minis and reverse trick-or-treat bags through the UMCOR Coffee Project. These sturdy off-white tote bags cost only \$3.00 and can be used for every day grocery shopping. Visit Equal Exchange's Interfaith Store at <http://interfaith.equalexchange.com> to place your order. By doing so, you help leverage fairly-traded products that help promote better lives for farmers in Latin America, Africa, Asia and the United States.

Take Action

Get more information about the chocolate industry and child labor, and learn about ways you can take further action. Visit the International Labor Rights Forum at <http://www.laborrights.org/stop-child-labor/cocoa-campaign>.

How to Give

United Methodists are encouraged to support fair trade. For every pound of fair trade product sold through the UMCOR Coffee Project, a portion goes to support small-scale farmers through the **Sustainable Agriculture & Development Program, UMCOR Advance #982188**. Write the Advance # and name on the memo line of your check.

Online

www.onlinegiving.org

By Offering

For local church and Annual Conference credit, put your gift in the offering plate on Sunday.

By Check

Make your check to **UMCOR** and mail to UMCOR, PO Box 9068, New York, NY 10087

By Credit Card

Call toll-free (800) 554-8583



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The United Methodist Committee on Relief delivers hope and enhances human dignity through food, shelter, health and peace projects.

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UMCOR is a part of General Board of Global Ministries.

