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**Christian
Climate
Action**

NEWSLETTER
January 2023

Lent Protest Against Cumbria Coal Mine



On the first day of Lent, vicars and other members of Christian Climate Action (CCA) gathered at key locations across the country calling for an end to plans to open a new coal mine in Cumbria.

In Leeds, Manchester and Newcastle, CCA convened outside the offices of Ward Hadaway, lawyers for West Cumbria Mining Limited, while in London they made their way to the headquarters of Javelin Global Commodities, which has an exclusive marketing and offtake agreement with West Cumbria Mining. Holding banners with the message 'Coal is killing humanity', CCA delivered letters asking the organisations to end their involvement with West Cumbria Mining and cut their ties to the proposed plans.

In London, Rev Vanessa Elston and Rev Helen Burnett also held a service of lament outside the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, calling for planning permission for the mine to be overturned. During the service, crosses were marked on people's foreheads, using both traditional ashes and coal dust.

[Read more](#)

Photo Credit: XR Photographers

Other Actions



Planting Trees on Church of England Land

Martin Luther is reputed to have said that if the world were to end tomorrow, today he would go out and plant an apple tree. In this spirit a group from CCA, together with a group of Triratna Buddhists, spent last weekend planting trees at Summer Berry Farm in the Diocese of Chichester.

Over 1,000 native trees, Oaks, Sweet Chestnuts, Field Maples, Aspens, Alders, Hazels, Dog Roses and many others, will soon be growing in the clay soils of West Sussex as part of a project to encourage the church to use its land more sustainably.

[Read more](#)

Supporting Indigenous Communities

CCA has been supporting people from the front line of the climate crisis who have been visiting the UK to demand climate justice.

Following our [Saturday Session](#) on 14th January with indigenous leaders Pastor Peter Kallang and Celine Lim, hearing about the felling of the Borneo rainforest and the part that the UK plays in this destruction, CCA joined Celine and fellow Sarawak activist Komeok Joe in London.

CCA took part in their powerful solidarity rainforest ritual-ceremony in the Turbine Hall of the Tate Modern art gallery before walking with them in procession to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and on to Buckingham Palace, where letters were delivered to the UK Government and to King Charles.

[Find out more](#)



Forthcoming Actions

Church Divestment Day of Action 5th March 2023



Following CCA giving notice to the Catholic and Anglican churches that they plan to take action in cathedrals across the country on 5th March, calling the Church to break their links with fossil fuels, more and more dioceses have announced they are divesting.

The Diocese of London Bishop's Council have voted for disinvestment, a very welcome development after a series of actions by CCA at St Paul's Cathedral and over a year of negotiation. At the time of writing, good news has also come from the Bishop's Council for Lichfield and the Ely and Rochester dioceses.

This shows the impact CCA is having through peaceful protest and vigils in and outside cathedrals, at Synod and Lambeth Palace, as well as having meetings with Commissioners, writing letters and working with Operation Noah and Young Christian Climate Network.

Engagement with fossil fuel companies and continuing to invest Church funds and pensions in fossil fuels is no longer an option; BP have announced they will continue investing their record-breaking profits (\$27.7 billion) in oil and gas rather than use the profits to reinvest in green transition and they are not alone.

On Sunday 5th March 2023 action will still be going ahead at dioceses who have either not divested, or whose divestment is an act of financial "prudence" without a commitment not to reinvest. If you would like to get involved, there are a range of actions you can take, either alone or with others, from holding a vigil outside a cathedral to praying inside.

[Find out how you can get involved](#)

THE BIG ONE

From 21st to 24th April 100,000 people will surround the Houses of Parliament

In previous editions of this newsletter, we've been encouraging everyone to join The Big One: planned to be the UK's biggest climate protest yet. We're working to bring 100,000 people together outside the Houses of Parliament in London - taking our call for change directly to those in power.

The protest is going to be at its biggest for the four days of 21st to the 24th April. However the idea is that the protest will also continue after this.

Updates to news previously published:

- other groups joining CCA at this event will include Green Christian, Operation Noah and Student Christian Movement.
- CCA has created resources you can use in advance of the event: a flyer you can print off to share with family, friends and your community and a prayer book that you can use to pray alone or with others in the lead up to April 21st.

CCA is also holding planning meetings online in the lead up to The Big One and everyone is invited to attend.

Find out more about the event and/or register for the Zoom planning meetings [here](#).

Events

Saturday
Sessions

Hosted on Zoom at 11.00am each Saturday morning, these sessions offer the opportunity for CCA members to come together socially, to plan, to keep up-to-date with developments in climate activism and to consider how biblical teaching can help us shape our response to the climate crisis.

Forthcoming Sessions

For Lent we have a series of reflections from the CCA theology group:

Saturday 25th February

No session.

Saturday March 4th

Why we need to recover heaven

(or, we need heaven more than ever to be of use on earth)

with **Rev Vanessa Elston**

Saturday 11th March

Using this Kiaros moment

Developing ourselves as agents of change

with **Melanie Nazareth**

March 18th March

Building community

What in the Christian spiritual tradition can help us build community in a time of economic and social collapse?

with **Rev Hilary Bond and Rev Jonathan Herbert**

Saturday 25th March

No session.

[More information and advance registration](#)



Online Meeting

Thursday 2nd March 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Held the first Thursday of each month, this is a friendly meeting for anyone who wants a CCA group near them. It doesn't matter if you are completely new to CCA, everyone is very welcome to explore how to get a local group going. Let's say hello, get to know each other and help each other.

[Register here](#)

New to CCA - Online

Thursday 16th March 7pm - 8pm

If you've only just signed up to our newsletter and are interested in what CCA does but want to know more before you get involved, then come along. Grab a drink, get yourself comfy and meet some of our members online.

[Register here](#)



Daily Prayer

CCA's endeavours to combat the Climate Emergency are underpinned by daily prayer.

Morning Prayer: 9am every morning on Zoom.

Evening Prayer: Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, 9.15pm-9.45pm to pray for the Earth and the work we are called to do in CCA, and to replenish our spiritual wellspring at the end of the day.

[Register here](#) for both morning and evening prayer.



Please help us
to continue
supporting
Christians in
protest across
the UK...

As the climate crisis heats up, we are determined to take the action needed. To help us make that possible, we're [inviting you to become one of 60 people](#), each donating £15 a month

At the end of last year, CCA took the long awaited step of employing two people specifically to set up and support local groups of Christians protesting together across the

country. We can fund this for a year, but to continue beyond that, we need to secure 60 new monthly standing orders of £15 each.

If you think that you can set up a standing order with us, whether it is for this purpose or to support CCA activists and actions more generally, please do so by clicking through to our website [donations page](#).

Thank you!

KEEP UPDATED!

Do check out our [website](#). We update it regularly with blogs. Also view the [CCA YouTube](#) channel and find us at [CCA Facebook](#), [CCA Twitter](#) and [CCA Instagram](#)

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