From: To: Subject: Date: Christian Climate Action ctcinfohub@gmail.com CCA Newsletter June 2023 23 June 2023 15:11:21



# **Huge Progess in Church Stance on Fossil Fuels**



## The Church of England has announced that it is <u>divesting from fossil</u> <u>fuels</u>, an undertaking that comes after years of action by Christian Climate Action (CCA) on this issue.

By the end of 2023 the Church plans to have removed its £10.3 billion investments from all oil and gas companies unless they are in genuine alignment with limiting global temperatures to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels, a threshold which may have already been passed.

CCA's efforts to pursuade the Church of England on this point have included multiple actions at St Pauls (one pictured above) as well as actions at Westminster Abbey, Southwark, Lichfield, Wells, Derby, Exeter, Cardiff and Bristol cathedrals, York Minster, Lambeth Palace, several Synods and Church House, home of the Church Commissioners in London.

Val King, who has been central to CCA's church divestment campaign said: "This is a landmark step, one which may now give the Church of England the freedom and moral authority to speak out against the damage which fossil fuel companies are causing to God's world."

### Read more

In addition, earlier this month, the Scottish Episcopal Church Synod met in Edinburgh to vote on whether to adopt a Net Zero Plan. CCA Scotland were there to pray for the clergy and laity, and engaged with most of the Synod members over the day's proceedings.

Objective 10 in the Net Zero Plan motion was to build a movement and CCA Scotland encouraged Synod members in this, highlighting that combating climate change requires change at all levels, including individuals, communities, local authorities, Holyrood, Westminster, businesses, and more. CCA members were also encouraging the Synod to get behind Christian Aid's loss and damage campaign and were delighted that the Synod voted to adopt the Net Zero Action Plan with an 80% majority.

### Read more

# **RECENT ACTIONS**

# **Christians Arrested Urging Government to Just Stop Oil**



Eight members of CCA caused traffic disruption, and five were later arrested, marching to demand that the British Government halt all licences and consents for new oil, gas and coal projects.

The activists marched slowly in the road near West Kensington Station, carrying placards saying "For God's Sake, Just Stop Oil" and "Praying for a Future for Our Children". They later marched again in Parliament Square where at least five were subsequently arrested.

The group included three Anglican priests, a charity worker, a software developer and a retired teacher.

Read more.

**Oil Fountain at Bristol Cathedral** 

This month, CCA Bristol joined



Extinction Rebellion (XR) the Bristol Climate Choir, Bristol Cathedral, and artist Luke Jerram, to stage a launch ceremony for Luke's latest artwork, entitled "Oil Fountain", currently on display in the Cathedral.

It felt appropriate for XR and CCA to be working alongside Bristol Cathedral on this project. Bristol Diocese have completely divested from fossil fuels and have committed to not reinvesting and were the first diocese to declare a climate emergency in 2019.

#### Read more about the event

# FORTHCOMING ACTION

#### York Synod Saturday and Sunday, 8th and 9th July

The Church of England General Synod will be presented with the report on the Church Commissioners and Pension Board decision to divest from fossil fuels, and will also be considering its commitment to the environment. Join CCA in prayer outside and online to mark this.



### More information

# **RECENT CCA EVENTS**

## **CCA Visits Iona**

One of the Iona Community's concerns is the environment, acting in solidarity with victims of environmental injustice, supporting structural change in countries to reduce resource consumption, and rekindling community with the whole Creation.

People from CCA were therefore, delighted to accept the invitation of the Community to stay at their partner resource centre "The Mac" this month. While there we gave a presentation to members of the Community and their visitors about the work of CCA and led a short service focused on our mission.



Read more

# **CCA CENTRAL EVENTS**



Hosted on Zoom at 11.00am each Saturday 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**

## Saturday 24th June

Overcoming the Inner Critic When our self-critical thoughts stop us being the activist we want to be. with Holly Petersen

#### Saturday 1st July CCA's Core Mission

A session on our core mission of taking nonviolent direct action.

## Saturday 15th July Why We Need Everyone (to be an

activist) - discussion A chance to discuss the implications of research about civil resistance on the climate and ecological crisis in the changing landscape of a post COVID-19 world (this research was presented at the Saturday Session of 17th June). with Melanie Nazareth

#### with Caroline Harmon

#### Saturday 8th July Prayer for the York Synod

This session will be linking in with CCA on the ground at the Church of England General Synod in York and praying for the environmental matters on the agenda. Saturday 22nd July Non-Violent Direct Action A further session exploring taking nonviolent direct action. with Holly Petersen

### Register in advance for any of these Saturday sessions



Rediscover Your Best Self ONLINE Retreat Starting Monday 10th July, 7.00pm - 9.15pm

A three-part online retreat to create a safe, prayerful and creative space to reflect on who we are at our best.

This is an opportunity to connect more deeply to our God-given purpose, talents,

values and what we can bring to the climate change movement and CCA. This retreat runs over three sessions, with the second and third parts of the retreat will run Monday 17th July, 7.00pm - 9.15pm and Monday 24th July 6.30pm - 9.30pm.

More information and booking

Want a CCA Group Near You? Thursday July 13th, 7.30pm ONLINE

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.

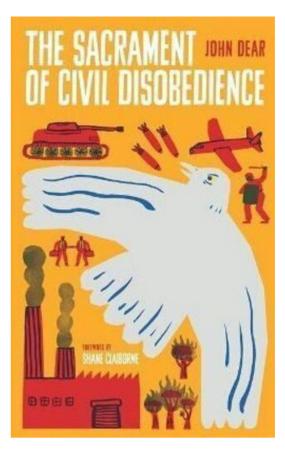
#### **Register in advance**

### John Dear Book Club

Are you considering arrestable actions? Would you appreciate the opportunity to discern the call to do this with others? This autumn CCA is running a Sacrament of Civil Disobedience book club for those who are considering taking arrestable and/or imprisonable action.



John Dear's book is a civil resister's field guide to nonviolent civil disobedience that is rooted in faith. It covers both the biblical roots of nonviolent civil disobedience and the practicalities of how to prepare for, do and deal with the consequences of, nonviolent civil disobedience. Originally published in 1994, it was updated in 2022 by Christopher David and CCA's very own Rev Sue Parfit. Join us over six evenings as we work through the book and discuss what it might mean for us. Several members of CCA, including Sue will facilitate different sessions. Express your interest here.



# For a full list of all CCA's events, please see our EVENTS PAGE

# LOCAL GROUPS

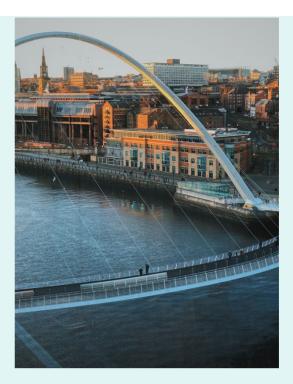
#### North East Gathering Saturday 22nd July Newcastle

This event is an opportunity to get to know people who live near by.

Find out more about CCA, share ideas and plan for possible actions in the North East.

Anyone interested in attending please sign up via Eventbrite.

For more information: email Anne.





CCA Bristol Picnic Social Saturday 1st July, 12 noon Ashton Court Estate

A social event for CCA members, and newcomers. All welcome.

For more information, **email <u>CCA</u>** <u>**Bristol**</u>.

# 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.

**<u>Register here</u>** for both morning and evening prayer.

CCA also participates in a number of **Earth Vigils**, including outside



Parliament and other locations across the UK. Find these listed amongst our events.



# We'd like to give a huge thank you to everyone who responded to our recent fundraising email.

It's not too late to donate to CCA, either with a one off gift, or by setting up a regular standing order, simply by visiting the **donations page** on our website.

Your gift will go towards any of the following: supporting a small number of paid freelancers who provide essential support and infrastructure to our many volunteers, providing the necessary kit and materials to carry out actions, reducing travel and accommodation costs to enable more people to take part in action and publishing this newsletter.

Thank you!

# **KEEP UPDATED!**

# Do check out our <u>website</u>. We update it regularly with blogs. Also view the <u>CCA YouTube</u> channel and find us at <u>CCA Facebook</u>, <u>CCA</u> <u>Twitter</u> and <u>CCA Instagram</u>

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From: To: Subject: Date: Christian Climate Action ctcinfohub@gmail.com Oops - we forgot some links! 25 June 2023 21:48:54



# **Oops - we forgot some links!**

In our recent June newsletter there were a couple of items with either a missing link or a link that went to a date that didn't work properly. Sorry about that.

Here they are with correct links.

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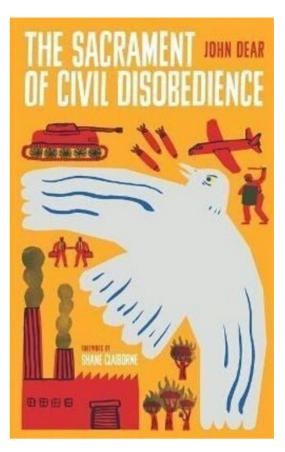
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