

From: Operation Noah <admin@operationnoah.org>
Sent: 31 October 2024 20:00
To: Roger Mills
Subject: October 2024 Newsletter: Join the Global Divestment Announcement, Protecting Peatlands & Helping Us Reach Our £20,000 Fundraising Goal



October 2024

Dear Friends,

The UN says that international efforts to tackle global heating are insufficient as [new data shows greenhouse gases accumulating faster than at any time in human history](#). Current plans by national governments to limit carbon emissions would only cut greenhouse gas emissions 2.6% by 2030 – well short of the 43% reduction that scientists say will be needed by the end of this decade – which would upend efforts to keep warming under 1.5C.

We need only look at this week's catastrophic flooding near Valencia, Spain, where more than 150 people have already died, to imagine what exceeding 1.5C heating might mean. We can see that a world which, at present, has warmed 1.36C since the pre-industrial era is already too dangerous a place, with too many people suffering.

[As we celebrate our 20th Anniversary](#) of inspiring the Church to take action on the climate crisis, we are also marking 10 years of the faith-based fossil fuel divestment movement. And as we do, we are inviting your church, diocese or faith group to join our upcoming Global Divestment Announcement, [which will now be made on 12 November](#) and will coincide with the UN climate talks in Baku, Azerbaijan (COP29).

As the fossil fuel industry continues to explore for new oil, gas and coal – the burning of which is the driving cause of global heating and climate chaos – and as fossil fuel companies continue to have outsized political influence around the world, let it be said that the Church refused to finance or collude with fossil fuel companies, and that we did all we could to stop climate breakdown and to care for the people and planet God loves.

The Operation Noah Team



A Huge Thank You for Giving to our Anniversary Appeal

We're thrilled to announce that we are now more than halfway to meeting our £20,000 Anniversary Appeal target and are grateful to all who have contributed, with nine donations made just last week. We are now at nearly £11,700 raised; if you have yet to donate to our Anniversary Appeal, would you or your church help us reach our target by the end of 2024? [Donate here to support our vital work.](#)



New November Date for Global Divestment Announcement

The Global Divestment Announcement has been postponed to 12 November to allow more faith organisations to join the movement and make a powerful statement during the COP29 climate talks. This year, we're also marking 10 years of Christians declaring no faith in fossil fuels by taking their money out of fossil fuels. There's still time for churches and dioceses to join this upcoming announcement, which will be made alongside our international partners. [Sign up here.](#)



Operation Noah Launches Guidance for Churches to Protect Peatlands

Extensive forest fires and droughts in 2023 led to more emissions coming from land than were absorbed, meaning that our remaining functioning carbon sinks are even more precious than we previously thought. Peatland is a huge carbon store globally, but when it is degraded it turns from a carbon sink to a source of greenhouse gas emissions. We've released a new resource which outlines how churches and Christian landowners can protect peat locally, at landscape scale and through their investments. [Read more.](#)



Tree Planting with All Saints, Ascot

Our Campaign Director Clare Fussell writes: 'I was thrilled to join Operation Noah supporters at All Saints Ascot on Sunday to celebrate their Climate Sunday and Harvest Festival service – which included dedicating and planting a new crab apple tree in their churchyard in honour of Operation Noah's 20 year anniversary. The atmosphere was moving and beautiful, as around 90 parishioners gathered in the autumn sunshine listening to the junior choir sing a piece their director, Emily Blyth, had composed about the "seven generations rule", which is the idea that the actions we take should consider the impact on future generations.' [Read more.](#)

EPWORTH'S APPROACH TO CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

GREENCOAT UK WIND

Matthew Jones, CMA

David Britton, Operation Noah

Rosie Vennart, JustMoney Mission

Clare Pizzuti, Operation Noah

Catherine Fellows

Sharon Hall, Operation Noah

Green Investment Webinar: A Church Investor's Perspective

Earlier this month we hosted a webinar as part of Good Money Week called *The Green Investment Declaration: A Church Investor's Perspective* with a presentation by Matthew Jones of Epworth Investment Management. Epworth are investment managers for the Methodist Church Central Finance Board as well as for other smaller charities and organisations. Matthew's presentation included case studies of climate positive investments that Eworth have made as part of their multi-asset and climate stewardship funds, with insights into the investments' impact and performance.

[Watch the webinar on our YouTube Channel here.](#)

Nicky Bull Reviews *Life After Doom* by Brian McLaren

In his latest book, Revd Brian McLaren considers a range of issues that all pose significant threats to the future of existence as we know it – from increasing inequality and the rise of extremist politics to the climate and biodiversity crises. He does not hold back on outlining the scenarios that he sees as possible outcomes in the medium to long term and none of them are comfortable. However, the situation is not without hope. [Read more.](#)

Resources, news, events and opportunities

Britain's last remaining coal power plant generated electricity for the final time on 30 September, marking the end of Britain's 142-year history of coal power use. Coal is the dirtiest of all fossil fuels, and with the closing of the Ratcliffe-on-Soar, Nottinghamshire plant, Britain becomes the first major economy to stop using coal to generate electricity. [Read more.](#)

Operation Noah's Cameron Conant participated in a discussion on Christianity and climate change on Premier Christian Radio this month. [Listen to the full conversation here.](#)

Renewable energy is set to meet nearly half of all electricity demand by 2030, but falls short of a UN goal to triple capacity, according to the International Energy Agency. To meet this goal, governments need to intensify efforts to integrate renewables into power grids which will require building and modernising 15.5 million miles of electricity grids. [Read more.](#)

With the court case challenging the approval of the Rosebank oil field getting underway on 12 November, our partners Stop Rosebank will be celebrating the start of the proceedings with a rally outside the Court of Session in Edinburgh, where the case will be heard. Rosebank is a proposed North Sea oil field which was approved by the previous government but would increase the likelihood of catastrophic warming while doing nothing to lower energy prices. Sign up and learn more about the November rally in Edinburgh [here](#).

The UK needs to make huge cuts to its greenhouse gas emissions to help the world avoid the worst impacts of rising temperatures, the government's independent climate watchdog has said. The Climate Change Committee (CCC) says that the UK has the technologies to make the cuts, but doing so will require greater investment in renewable energy, electric cars and heat pumps. While the UK has already cut its emissions by more than 50% since 1990, the CCC says it should extend this to 81% by 2035. [Read more.](#)

Please support the work of Operation Noah

Our campaigns and activities rely on donations from individuals and organisations, so please consider giving a one-off or regular [donation](#).

You are receiving this newsletter because you signed up for updates on the Operation Noah or Bright Now websites, opted to receive updates when registering for a webinar run by Operation Noah or one of our partners, or asked for updates when you signed our Fossil Free petition. If you no longer wish to receive emails from us, please click the Unsubscribe button below.

Romero House, 55, Westminster Bridge Road, London, N/A, GB, SE1 7JB [unsubscribe](#)