

Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

21st October 2021

Environmental Updates

As COP26 in Glasgow approaches, various events and challenges are taking place. The SEC has committed to achieve Carbon-Zero by 2030: becoming carbon neutral in our church lives. Work is taking place at Provincial level and is planned at Diocesan level to produce guidance on how to achieve this.



Weekly Climate Challenge: “Live Simply”

The Eco-group from St. Paul’s Cathedral have launched a weekly climate challenge in the lead up to COP26, the Climate Change conference being held in Glasgow in November 2021. People are encouraged to take part in weekly challenges that will be on a variety of different topics. They ask you to make at least one change each week to reduce your climate impact, learn more about the climate crisis and the COP26 UN Climate Conference, reflect on our own responses to the climate crisis, pray for those most impacted by it and pray for the success of the conference.

The flyer attached with the bulletin contains practical steps you can take to reduce your climate impact. This week’s challenge: “Live Simply” - [available online at this link](#).

Each week another challenge, set by the Cathedral Eco-group, will be shared.

Church & Academy Seminar: Responding to the Fifth Mark of Mission - the Green Anglicans Movement

The next meeting of the Church & Academy Seminar will take place on Thursday, 21 October, at 5.30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Canon Dr Rachel Mash, Environmental Coordinator for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa and a leading figure in the Anglican Communion Environmental Network (A.C.E.N.). Dr Mash hails from Scotland, and is a Mission Partner of St Paul’s & St George’s, Edinburgh. The title of her presentation is: **Responding to the Fifth Mark of Mission - the Green Anglicans Movement**.



Canon Rachel Mash

Further details and the Zoom link can be found on the website below.

Zoom Link: <https://www.churchandtheacademy.org/next-meeting.html>

Green Anglicans: <https://www.greenanglicans.org/>

Dundee City COP26 Events

Dundee City Council is hosting events to raise awareness about the meeting and the urgent need for action to be taken at international level to combat climate change and temperature increase. The events are in the weeks running up to the start of COP26. The full events schedule can be found on their website.

<https://www.dundee.gov.uk/sustainable- Dundee/dundee-cop26-events-programme>

Black History Month

Bishop Andrew writes: October is 'Black History Month' in the UK—see <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk> for more details about this important campaign.

The Scottish Episcopal Church is working on our understanding and awareness of our own historical roots in the many and complex issues of racial justice, so we have commissioned a prayer that can be used in our churches to help us in this awareness:

God of our Salvation,
you have created the people of the world
in your own image:
Give us grace, we pray,
to rejoice in the differences of culture,
language, and colour
by which you have enriched humanity;
to repent when we fail to recognise
Christ in one another;
and to commit ourselves to pursuing justice
and peace for all your children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who took our human nature,
died upon the cross, rose again,
and lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for eternity.
Amen.

University of Dundee Chaplaincy: Margaret Harris Lecture on Religion

Weds 27th October at 6pm

The Sacred Task of Black Religion: Speaking Black truth to White power: Reassessing the legacy of James H Cone

This year's Margaret Harris Lecture on Religion is taking place as part of Festival of the Future 2021 and Black History Month.

James H Cone was an African American theologian and scholar who is widely considered to be the founder of Black liberation theology. His work focused on black power, looking at the role of religion and the preaching of a gospel which is based on white supremacy.

In this talk, Professor Anthony Reddie, Director of the Oxford Centre for Religion and Culture, will look at the role of religion within black communities and



Prof Reddie

examine the legacy James H Cone left following his death in 2018. Himself a renowned theologian, Professor Reddie specialises in undertaking action research and works predominantly with poorer Black communities in the UK looking at racial justice and equality and seeking to explore how the Christian tradition can become more inclusive.

Registration for this online event can be done [here](#).

Advanced Notice: Memorial Service - The Reverend David Shepherd

A Memorial Service is being held on Sunday 21 November at 4 pm in St. Mary Magdalene's Church. This is to give thanks for the Life and Ministry of the Reverend David Shepherd. The service will be a Choral Evensong and Clergy are invited to robe (Choir Robe). An invitation is extended to our wider Diocesan family to attend. Refreshments will be served afterwards. For further details contact Rev Canon Kenneth Gibson at kenneth.gibson1@btinternet.com

Afghan Refugee Response Update: How can we offer help?

This has left the news cycle but remains very relevant for us all. There are various local schemes in place to support areas where refugees are being housed. Contact your local church for details.

Some larger, national financial appeals for the refugee crisis can be found at:

<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/afghanistan>

<https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/afghanistan-crisis-appeal>

<https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/afghanistan-emergency-appeal>

<https://act.refugeecouncil.org.uk/donation/refugee-crisis-appeal>

Any news to share in the Bulletin?

Please send news and photos to Elliott in the office at office@brechin.anglican.org.

Upcoming local events in charges can be shared by the office via email—the Bulletin will advertise Diocesan events or events that are of interest to all in the Diocese.