

Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

27th October 2021

COP26 Glasgow Special Edition

COP26: 1—12 November 2021

COP26 is a vital meeting of world leaders to reduce the rate of climate change in the world. The meeting, starting this weekend in Glasgow, is being challenged and supported by faith groups including the SEC. 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 from Cathedral Eco-Group: “Climate Gardneing”

The Eco-group from St. Paul’s Cathedral have launched a weekly climate challenge in the lead up to COP26. People are encouraged to take part in weekly challenges that will be on a variety of different topics. The flyer attached with the bulletin contains practical steps you can take to reduce your climate impact. This week’s challenge: “Climate Gardneing” - [available online at this link](#) and attached to the covering email.

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

Other Ways of Getting involved:

Edinburgh Diocese (thank you!) have shared the following ideas in their Diocesan Publication:

Some ways in which your church could take part in COP26:

- Join the “Faiths and Beliefs Bloc” @ COP26 at the COP26 Coalition demonstration in Kelvingrove Park on Saturday, 6 November. More details of this Glasgow-based initiative are [here](#).

- Organise a socially distanced event outside your church where people come together to pray for justice for the poorest and for our planet. You could hold a vigil outside your own church on Saturday, 6 November, and you could involve other churches, faith groups and community organisations.
- Pray for/preach on: the integrity of Creation; the wonders of our planet; those affected by climate injustices; the importance of preventing global warming; the leaders involved in making momentous decisions; and those working on behalf of our Church in relation to COP26.
- Make a banner to hang outside your church to tell everyone about the climate emergency.
- Speak up for the poorest and most marginalised. You could show these four short videos created by Christian Aid, SCIAF, Tearfund, the Church of Scotland and the Glasgow Churches Together COP26 Group to your congregation and community. The links are here: [Ethiopia](#), [Honduras](#), [Malawi](#) and [Zambia](#)

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>

COP 26 - Eucharist, Presentation and Discussion

St. Mary Magdalene’s Church invites you to join us on Tuesday, 9th November at 7pm as we reflect and pray at this vitally important time. Eucharist will be celebrated, with prayers for COP 26 and afterwards there will be an opportunity to view and discuss the recent Church and Academy Seminar ‘Responding to the fifth Mark of Mission - The Green Anglicans Movement’ by Rev Canon Dr. Rachel Mash. ALL are welcome. Tea and coffee will be provided. For cater-

ing please email rev.roxanne.campbell@gmail.com to let us know you're coming.

A flyer for the event is [here](#).

Prayers for eSwatini

People in our companionship Diocese of Swaziland are reported to be under threat with new civil unrest and violence in the Kingdom of eSwatini. A BBC report into the violence is [here](#).

The small Southern African country has been the scene of unrest in the past few months with protests at the extremes of poverty and the apparent affluent lifestyle of the king, one of the few absolute monarchs in the world. The country, badly affected by the Covid pandemic, has seen strong and violent crackdowns on the unrest by government forces.

Please keep eSwatini and our friends in the Anglican Diocese in your prayers: and you could lobby the Foreign Office to raise the profile of the issues and to bring pressure to bear on the king and his government.

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

Tonight: 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 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](#).

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 Dress—cassock, surplice/cotta and scarf). 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

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.