

Christian Aid Scotland Annual Review 2019



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Welcome

All around and in us, life moves, ebbs and flows. Sometimes it seems to rush blithely ahead while at other times, it tenses up in a knee-jerk desire to put on the brakes and slow the forward momentum. This year, change seems to have taken centre stage.

Our politics is in transition with the world gathering in Madrid to discuss our global response to the climate emergency, Brexit rumbles on and we return to the polls. In the structuring of our churches, we continue to discern how to empower and envision the work of today's communities of faith: the Church of Scotland's Radical Action plan and the revisioning of ACTS (Action Together of Churches in Scotland).

And 2019 has been a year when Christian Aid's work has begun evolving globally and in Scotland. Our new global strategy, Standing Together, aligns Christian Aid's work on programmes, partnerships and team priorities under a shared vision with three underpinning pillars: poverty, power and prophetic voice.

We will focus on communities living in extreme poverty – those hardest to reach and most marginalised, living on less than two US dollars a day. We will continue to speak truth to power, working to magnify and empower the voices of those with lived experience of poverty.

Poverty is political and can only be eradicated when the systems and structures that keep people poor are dismantled. We are called, with our church partners and communities, to use our prophetic voice to call out those systems, to name them and be part of the changes needed.

This transition means we are shrinking our global footprint, going deeper rather than wider.

This transition means we are adapting our UK and Scotland teams to maximise efficiency and deep partnerships with our supporting churches.

Change is always difficult, but as you read this Annual Review, which highlights the amazing work of Christian Aid Scotland powered through and with you, please know there has never been a time when your partnership and solidarity has been more important. As ever, we are thankful for the insight and energy of the Scottish Advisory Committee. Our special thanks to the Very Rev Dr Alan McDonald who has led our team for many years.

Thank you for your love, passion and commitment to our shared global family.

Warmest regards,
Sally



Sally Foster-Fulton
Head of Christian Aid Scotland



Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive.

But together we have the power to transform lives. Stand together for dignity, equality and justice.



Our Vision

Is a world where everyone has fullness of life; a life lived with dignity, free from poverty and need; where global resources are equitably shared and sustainably used; and where the voice and agency of the poor and marginalised are fully realised.

Our Mission

Everyone is equal in the sight of God, yet we live in a world where the scandal of poverty, inequality and injustice persists. We act as a global movement of people to respond in practical ways to alleviate suffering; to expose and eradicate misuses of power; to provide humanitarian support in crises and emergencies; and to work for sustainable and long-lasting change.

We are a faith-based organisation, anchored in thousands of church congregations and a wide network of trusted partnerships with organisations across the world who hold the same values. We bear witness, amplifying the voice of the marginalised and using our global presence to create a movement of people who passionately champion dignity, equality and justice for all.

Our Values

We were established as the international development agency for 41 sponsoring churches so that they and others 'could respond to Christ's command to care for all in need'. Our values are rooted in the deep and diverse Christian tradition which informs our belief in the inherent dignity and equality of every human being, that we are called to live in just and loving relationships with all people, and as stewards of God's creation.

Our faith in God, and in God's loving relationship with us, gives us confidence and hope that poverty can be ended, despite all that might stand in the way. It also gives cause to the core values, underpinned by love, that guide everything we do.

Our global strategy (2019-2026) expresses our commitment to eradicating extreme poverty, dismantling its root causes across the world, and enabling the voice and agency of the poor and marginalised to be fully realised.



Read more at:
christianaid.org.uk

Christian Aid Global Strategy 2019 - 2026

Standing Together

For dignity.
For equality.
For justice.



Church partnerships

Throughout 2019, the Christian Aid Scotland team has worked closely with churches in Scotland on a local, regional and national level.

In February we hosted our annual supporter gatherings in Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Inverness and Glasgow. Jeanne Kamara, from Christian Aid Sierra Leone, spoke with great compassion at each of these packed events about her team's work to reverse her country's vulnerability to infant and maternal mortality. Ten women each day die in childbirth and 10% of all children die before their fifth birthday. And yet, women are resourceful and, with the establishment of savings schemes and gender-modelling programmes and improved health care, the situation is becoming less dire.

As climate change has seized the public conscience over the last year, Christian Aid has been reinvigorated in its decade-long campaign for those who feel its impact first and worst.

Our harvest stories this year focused on partners in India who enable vulnerable farmers to make a profit from growing organic vegetables. We joined Kelvinside Hillhead and some churches in Glasgow's west end to celebrate this work at a harvest supper

In December, congregations lifted their voices to sing the Christian Aid carol, *When out of poverty was born*. This song, inspired by the Magnificat and written by Kathy Galloway, chimes with our Christmas appeal to give mothers the chance to use their life-changing gifts and create new lives for themselves and their families. We again joined forces with ALTERNativity to consider how we can celebrate Christmas well in the midst of injustice.

In June, Mary Mulligan visited Brazil with the Scottish Episcopal Church. Mary met with church and community leaders and NGOs to share thinking on gender justice, economic and environmental justice and the role of young people in church. Here they are visiting a recycling plant in Sao Paulo.



Read more at:

[caid.org.uk/
scotland-churches](http://caid.org.uk/scotland-churches)



Events

Once again, churches and communities across Scotland pulled out all the stops to make Christian Aid Week successful and memorable

Our team travelled the length of the country to share about the incredible restorative work happening in Sierra Leone. Thanks to our generous supporters, local partners are developing well-resourced health clinics which women are being empowered to attend.

This year Scottish Churches raised a phenomenal £1.1 million through door to door collections, plant sales, coffee mornings, high teas, lunches, swims, curry evenings, supermarket collections and, of course, book sales. Christian Aid book sales seem to be thriving. The world-renowned sale at St Andrews and St Georges continues to draw in large crowds, while elsewhere in Edinburgh the Methodist Church and Holy Corner are growing in enthusiasm and expertise.

We love getting out and meeting supporters and getting new ideas.

Book-selling supporters in Aberdeen and Falkirk are also doing very well. Thanks to all those who have the patience to collect, sort and sell books!

We had high hopes for this year's Kelpies Canter with an enthusiastic local committee on the case and 100 people signed up to the event. Unfortunately, torrential rain and localised flooding stopped play, but didn't dampen spirits. This lively, local team have walked the Kelpies in their own time and raised over £2,000 in the process. Well done Falkirk!

We love getting out and meeting supporters and getting new ideas. Our community fundraiser, Charlie Meiklejohn, is supporting churches to create local fundraisers that give life to the community and brings people together. Please drop her a line on cmeiklejohn@christian-aid.org



In 2018, supporters old and new crossed the Erskine, Tay and Forth Road Bridges on the Saturday before Christian Aid Week. Our CEO, Amanda Mukwashi (pictured above with supporters) joined us at the Erskine Bridge to share some of Christian Aid's vision of eradicating poverty. So far, our bridge crossers have raised almost **£48,000!** Thank you!



Pop our events in your diary:

caid.org.uk/scotland-events

In Memory

Gifts made in memory are very special gifts. Every year at Christian Aid Scotland we make space to remember and celebrate the lives of those we have loved.

Another Way to Remember is our annual in memory walk, which takes place every September. This year we started the day with a short service in Logie Kirk by Stirling and had the opportunity to light candles and add a message to the prayer tree. After the service we walked in glorious September sunshine, following a 9-mile route from Logie Kirk up to Lossburn Reservoir in the Ochil hills.

It was wonderful to welcome back faces from last year as well as some new faces, with different stories. Elspeth from Glasgow joined us to remember her mother Majorie, who died in 2018 and was a Christian Aid supporter for many years.

'My mum was so passionate about the work of Christian Aid and always very creative in the ways she raised money. One year she stuck single grains of rice to cards and sold them. Another year she sold cups of water to remind people that not everyone has access to clean water. I'm so glad I took part in the Another Way to Remember walk, it was a really special day.'



Find out more:

Next year will be the fifth anniversary of Another Way to Remember. Register your interest by emailing our In Memory Coordinator, Jo, at jdallas@christian-aid.org



Find out what your legacy could be:
caid.org.uk/gifts-in-wills



Scottish Government

In October 2019 Keryn Banks, Scottish Programmes Officer, travelled to Zambia to visit a Scottish Government-funded project supported by local churches.

Christian Aid works in partnership with DanChurchAid and Norwegian Church Aid, forming a Joint Community Programme (JCP). The project aims to harness the potential of small-scale farmers, transforming them into champions of economic development. The JCP works with 211 groups - about 4000 people in total - with a particular focus on women, young people and those with disabilities.

The work of the project includes installing 5 farming demonstration plots serviced by solar pump irrigation drip systems. Each 2-acre plot is split into 4 zones with groups allocated a zone. Each group decides what to plant and when, how much water is required and how long the growing cycle will be. A roster is then drawn up to ensure that each zone effectively uses the drip irrigation systems for their crops.

This climate-smart resource means that communities can grow food outwith the rainy season or during periods of drought.

Groups are also trained and resourced to start small businesses such as goat rearing, poultry farming or sunflower oil pressing. The next stage is to build refrigerated bulking centres and dry stores at each of the plot sites so that farmers can store their fresh produce, bulking it ready for sale.

Working together this way will ensure that they can make agriculture a business, not just a means to survival.



Read more at:
caid.org.uk/scottish-government



Effeness (pictured above) takes care of 16 orphans and vulnerable children. Money is tight but, thanks to the climate-smart watering systems, her garden is flourishing.

'I have always been passionate about gardening but the MAB project taught me the value of taking farming as a business.'

Campaigns

Since 2017, our supporters have met their MSPs, signed petitions, demonstrated outside the Scottish Parliament and taken to the streets in their local towns and cities.

Christian Aid campaigners in Scotland have been speaking up for our global neighbours affected by the current climate crisis. We are thankful for their time, energy and commitment which has made all the difference.

On 25 September the Scottish Parliament passed the Scottish Climate Change Bill, demonstrating how small actions can lead to a big shift in attitudes and legislation. This Bill sets a strong long-term target to reduce emissions to net-zero by 2045, and drive action in the crucial next decade. We were particularly pleased to see all parties coming together on the day to increase the 2030 target to 75%.

Around the world, the effects of climate change are felt most acutely by people who are least responsible for causing the problem.

Around the world, the effects of climate change are felt most acutely by people who are least responsible for causing the problem. Climate justice recognises that wealthy, industrialised countries like Scotland have a historical responsibility for causing climate change, and a moral responsibility to act faster and to go further in cutting emissions. One of our campaign successes was the Government agreeing to put its own version of the principle of Climate Justice into the new law.

This year, we have been thrilled to welcome campaigners from all ages and stages of life: walking together at the Global Climate Strikes and protesting against the Church of Scotland divestment decision. Other supporters have gently but firmly lobbied HSBC branch managers against their intention to build power stations. We urged MSPs to consider political responses to the global new debt crisis and exhorted our church partners to take seriously the ethics of investment and the importance of renewable energy.

Christian Aid supporters joined the Global Climate Strikes on Friday 20 September in Glasgow and Edinburgh.



Find out how you can become a Christian Aid campaigner:
caid.org.uk/campaigns



Gender justice

In September, we were delighted to welcome to Scotland two inspirational women who work globally on gender and development.

Memory Kachambwa, Executive Director of FEMNET in Nairobi, is an intersectional feminist and women's rights activist. Dr Marianna Leite is Christian Aid's Global Lead for Gender and Inequality - an international human rights lawyer, activist and specialist in gender and development based in Brazil.

Marianna joined the Take One Action Film Festival panel after a showing of the film 'Facing the Dragon'. This documentary spotlights the ongoing struggles faced by two women juggling their fight for democracy in Afghanistan with caring responsibilities. Memory gave a keynote speech on women's and girls' rights at the annual conference of Scotland's International Development Alliance whose theme was 'Putting Gender Front and Centre'.

Both women met with Ruth Maguire MSP, Convener of the Committee on Equalities and Human Rights, at the Scottish Parliament. They shared their experiences from Kenya and Brazil and discussed the role Scotland plays in advancing women's rights and gender equality. Their visit to Scotland ended with a partnership event with Engender Scotland entitled 'Women Making Change'. This well-attended event examined the role of intersectional feminism around the world and is available as a podcast from the Engender website.

Meanwhile Side by Side, the movement for gender justice, continues to bring faith communities together to discuss gender justice work. The group hosted an excellent event at the Scottish Parliament on the theme of 'leave no-one behind' which was attended by church leaders.



Read more at:

[christianaid.org.uk/
campaigns/gender-justice](https://christianaid.org.uk/campaigns/gender-justice)



'Women must be recognised as key economic agents of development in their own right.' Memory Kachambwa

Education and Youth work

Christian Aid Scotland works with youth workers and educators to help children here understand the poverty and injustices in the lives of many children around the world. We support teachers and pupils to develop skills for life in a complex world.

In this the final year of the Church of Scotland's National Youth Assembly, we were invited to attend and support a workshop led by Operation Noah and Church of Scotland on encouraging the Church to divest its funds from fossil fuels. This was a great opportunity to hear the concerns, frustrations and enthusiasm of young adults in the Church. Their energy and voices will be essential as we build a movement ahead of the General Assembly in 2020.

In May, we ran a successful Safe Place Challenge event with 80 Boys at the BB's Cumbrae Camp, engaging the group with the challenges faced by refugees and displaced people through an interactive challenge. We hope to run a similar event at a national Scout Camp in 2020.

We are reaching out to universities, chaplaincies and young adult networks to engage new audiences with the global justice movement. We held successful meetings with the 2050 Climate Group and their Malawi Climate Leaders Project, and we are considering how best to collaborate with their youth network.

Christian Aid recently launched a year-long campaigning scheme which offers young people the opportunity to develop and shape campaigning in 2020. Centred around collaboration and co-delivery, the Prophetic Activist programme links young adults with a network of like-minded activists to explore the connections between theology and advocacy for social justice. We are delighted that at least 5 young people from Scotland will take part in the scheme.



In 2019 we launched Fumes or Futures, a new climate change resource for schools which tells the stories of young people like Glory and Lanie from the Philippines. In Scotland we delivered over 300 packs to teachers through the regional Development Education Centres, with whom we work closely via the IDEAS (International Development Education Association Scotland) network.



Learn about our work in schools:
christianaid.org.uk/schools

Pray

During 2019, as we integrate our new global strategy into our worship materials, we've been considering Christian Aid's role as a prophetic voice.

The prophetic voice rises up at moments of crisis. It starts from a position of God's vision of creation and its inspiration that a more just world is possible. It tackles difficult topics and challenges the conscience of nations and people to shift the status quo. It is not moved in the face of threat and derision but spurred-on by a devotion to justice. As we move into 2020, we stand together in solidarity against the climate crisis, raising our prophetic voice as one to create lasting change.

The Just Scripture project, which brings together bible study groups from across the world to discuss justice issues, has continued to thrive in 2019. Sessions linking groups in Ireland, Scotland and England with those in Bolivia, South Africa and Haiti shared from their own contexts about issues such as gender, climate and justice.

The Worship Collective continues to bring inspiration to the worship resources for key moments in the church calendar: Lent, Easter, Harvest (featuring Eva and Lope, pictured right), Christmas and Christian Aid Week. Wendy Lloyd curates all of the daily, weekly and monthly reflections as well as the prayer diary. These are all accessible on the Christian Aid Scotland website.

Our mission to challenge faith to action continues on into 2020. Will you be inspired with us?



Discover our worship resources:
caid.org.uk/pray



When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.

Isaiah 43:2-3

Contact us

Katie Mathers, based in Edinburgh, is our first point of contact for supporters in the East of Scotland, from the Scottish Borders to Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray, Orkney, Shetland, Angus and Perth & Kinross.

Fiona Scott, also based in Edinburgh, manages supporter relations work across Scotland.

Colin Dowse, based in Glasgow, looks after supporters in the West of Scotland, from Dumfries & Galloway right up to the Highlands and the Western Isles.

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Over the last ten years, Christian Aid has taken bold and creative approaches to tackling poverty with people like Don Esteban, a Fairtrade coffee and cocoa farmer in northern Nicaragua.

Find out more about this pioneering approach at:
christianaid.org.uk/about-us/programmes/their-lifetime-it/



Fit the Sco

BAN FRACKING NOW

SYSTEM CHANGE NOT CLIMATE CHANGE

Global Justice Now

NO NATURE = NO FUTURE

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME

CLIMATE ACTION NOW

CLIMATE JUSTICE

CLIMATE ACTION NOW

SYSTEM CHANGE NOT CLIMATE CHANGE
Global Justice Now



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