

## **Climate Change Bill**

The Climate Change Bill is being scrutinised in the House of Lords, and is expected to reach the Commons in the next few weeks.

We are asking all readers urgently to write to their MPs asking that they consider supporting amendments to the Bill. The Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church and the Quakers have produced a special briefing with our concerns about the Bill and suggestions on what to say to your MP.

Contact us for a copy of the briefing (details on the next page), or see the briefing online at: [www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/jpit\\_climate\\_change\\_bill\\_ch\\_members\\_briefing\\_150108.pdf](http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/jpit_climate_change_bill_ch_members_briefing_150108.pdf)

## **A Matter of Life and Debt**

18% of adults in Britain have £10,000 or more of unsecured debt, according to Credit Action. As a response to rising personal debt and the struggle to maintain sound finances, the Church of England has prepared new online resources for people worried about money.

'A Matter of Life and Debt' is the name given to the website, which has information and advice. This includes case studies, links to helpful organisations and prayers for people in debt.

The website can be viewed at [www.cofe.anglican.org/debt](http://www.cofe.anglican.org/debt)

## **MRDF Lent Pack**

'What does the Bible have to say about climate change?' is the theme of this year's Lent study material produced by the Methodist Relief and Development Fund.

The topics are themed in six sessions, making them ideal for weekly use during Lent by small groups, or for individual reflection. Alternatively, get the study packs now for use later in the year.

'What does the Bible have to say about climate change?' can be downloaded from [www.mrdf.org.uk](http://www.mrdf.org.uk) or free copies are available from MRDF – telephone 020 7467 5132 - Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR

## **Micah Challenge**

Micah Challenge is an international coalition of Christian organisations and churches united to fight global poverty by supporting the Millennium Development Goals. Micah Challenge UK has a helpful website with resources, information, videos and campaign material to help individuals and local groups take action for economic justice

Visit their website – [www.micahchallenge.org.uk](http://www.micahchallenge.org.uk) – or call 020 7207 2130 for further information.

## **The Iraq War – Five Years On**

Pax Christi and the Fellowship of Reconciliation are hosting a seminar on Tuesday 12 February from 1400-1700 at St Vincent's Centre, Carlisle Place, London SW1P 1NL.

The seminar will look at the fifth anniversary of the invasion of Iraq and is titled 'The Iraq War - 5 years on: A continuing challenge to Christians - what is our response today?' Speakers include Paul Rogers, Professor of Peace Studies at Bradford University, Suah Rassam, formerly of the University of Baghdad and author of 'Christians in Iraq' and writer Milan Rai.

There will be opportunity to engage in discussion with the speakers and also to talk about practical responses that churches, groups and organisations might make in the approach to the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the war on 20 March 2008.

Booking is essential. Please contact Pax Christ – [info@paxchristi.org.uk](mailto:info@paxchristi.org.uk) – telephone 020 8203 4884 – St Joseph's, Watford Way, Hendon, London NW4 4TY

## **Thames Valley Christians Together on Climate Change**

There will be meeting for Christians in the Thames Valley area on Saturday 16 February from 0930 to 1600 at Greyfriars Church, Reading. The day will look at how to make a difference on climate issues.

To book, contact Helen Keely – [helen.keely@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:helen.keely@oxford.anglican.org) – telephone 01865 208214  
Cost is £5, and includes tea and coffee.

## **Teaching Conflict Resolution in the Classroom**

A day course arranged by Craven Development Education Centre and aimed at teachers, teaching assistants and students. The event will take place on Thursday 28 February from 1030-1600 pm in Leeds (venue to be confirmed).

For further information contact Judy Rogers – [jmr10@bigfoot.com](mailto:jmr10@bigfoot.com) – telephone 01729 830372  
– Craven DEC, Tennant House, Malham BS23 4D.

## **Caring for Creation**

A day conference will be held at Oxford Town Hall on Saturday 29 March from 1030-1700. Admission is free, donations are welcome. This is an inter faith event exploring peace, justice and sustainability. The day will include speakers, music, workshops and an exhibition. The event is sponsored by Christian CND, Christian Ecology Link, Fellowship of Reconciliation and Pax Christi.

## **Home – an epic journey from slavery to promise**

'Home' is a new play based on the book of Exodus, performed by Rhema – a Christian professional theatre company. 'Home' will be touring from March to May. If you are interested in booking a performance for your church, please contact Rhema for further details – [admin@rhematheatre.org](mailto:admin@rhematheatre.org) – telephone 0870 421 4565.

Performances cost £420 plus travel expenses. Rhema provides publicity material and a guide on how to make the most of the event. For more information see [www.rhematheatre.org](http://www.rhematheatre.org)

## **Contact**

If you would like to receive the Joint Public Issues Team Newsletter, or would like to publicise an event or project, please contact Wendy Cooper – [wendy.cooper@urc.org.uk](mailto:wendy.cooper@urc.org.uk) – telephone 020 7916 8632 – United Reformed Church House, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT