

Annual review
for 2019: pages 7-10

spark

news from Church Action on Poverty
winter 2020

Church Action on
Poverty Sunday –
page 14

Reviewing the decade
– page 11

Church on the
Margins – page 6



**Sending a message loud and clear:
End Hunger Week of Action**

Page 4

We support

**END
HUNGER
UK**

Untold Stories

scripture from the margins

Five Bible studies on the Gospel of Matthew

By Chris Howson, Nick Jowett, Marie Pattison, Sue Richardson, David Rhodes and Ruth Wilde



Listen to unheard voices and new perspectives – explore the challenge to be on the side of people on the margins

Great for individual reflection or as a Lent programme in your church

Download free from www.church-poverty.org.uk/bible

A decade of speaking truth to power



This may feel like a dark and difficult moment, but our Director **Niall Cooper** is looking ahead.

As a new decade opens out before us, it's natural to spend some time reflecting. We've been asking some partners and supporters what they would like to change in the 2020s, and how we might get there. Indeed, you might want to consider that yourself.

One of the most moving responses was from a food bank volunteer in Sheffield, who had been approached by a six-year-old boy in town one day. She couldn't quite place him at first, but the boy recognised her, threw his arms around her, and said: "You do know me miss – you give my mummy food so I can have my tea." Her hope for the 2020s was simple: "I don't want that young man, when he is 16 or 17, having to come to a food bank for food."

Our work must always be grounded in the lived reality of poverty, as experienced by people who struggle to make ends meet on a daily basis. Their wisdom continues to shape our work.

But as Christians, we must always be driven by a vision of a better future, and shine a light on the path that gets us there. Social justice campaigning can take years to achieve results, but when change happens it can have a huge impact on hundreds of thousands of people on low incomes.

Time will tell what new challenges and opportunities arise in the 2020s, but let's ask where we want to be when this decade ends. Do we want to be reassessing the same challenges? Or do we want to be reflecting on a decade in which we collectively removed the need for food banks, ended in-work poverty, and designed a welfare system that enables everyone to achieve their potential? Do we want to be able to say that we are part of a genuine 'Church at the Margins' that truly recognises the gifts of all people, expresses solidarity with those struggling to make ends meet and seeks to work with others to transform the unjust structures of society? And do we want that young boy in Sheffield to be playing a full part in society, free from the threat of hunger?

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give

Raise funds on **Church
Action on Poverty
Sunday**

See page 14

act

Read and share our new
report **Why End UK
Hunger?**

See page 5

pray

Use our new **Bible
studies** this Lent

See opposite

news

Hellos and goodbyes

The autumn brought several changes to the staff team here at Church Action on Poverty.

We said a sad farewell to Sue Cockerill, who has been our Programme Manager for the last two years, and to Annie Connolly, who has stepped down from being our Community Campaigner in order to complete her PhD. We wish them both every success and happiness.

And we were pleased to welcome Kathryn Cheetham as our new Programme Manager, and Felicity Guite, who joins us as a Campaigns and Events Intern for 2019–20.



Sue Cockerill



Annie Connolly



Kathryn Cheetham



Felicity Guite



A week of action

In October, with Church Action on Poverty's support, over 50 groups took part in the End Hunger Week of Action 2019, by challenging the government to ACT NOW TO END UK HUNGER. People took photos in front of castles and community centres, around statues and in schools.

The photos flooded Twitter and Facebook, and were featured in local papers around the country. Folk spoke on the radio, made videos and gave interviews to the press. Together we got the message out loud and clear that action must be taken to end food poverty in the UK, and the Government must set out a strategy for how this will be achieved.

See all the photos at www.endhungeruk.org/campaigns/week-of-action-2019



Fruit of your labours

Around the Week of Action, supporters of Church Action on Poverty and End Hunger UK also generously gave their time and creativity, to knit and crochet an enormous variety of foodstuffs. If you were one of those who contributed, thank you very much!

End Hunger UK will be delivering one food item to each MP in the new Parliament, with a reminder of the urgent need to Act Now to End UK Hunger. We'll report back on this action next time.



Why end UK hunger?



Dr Hannah Lambie-Mumford, a leading expert on food poverty, has been working with Church Action on Poverty and End Hunger UK on a new publication, which will be invaluable for anyone working for food justice.

We support
END HUNGER UK

In November 2019 we launched *Why End UK Hunger?* – a report which sets out seven cases for ending hunger in the UK. This new report follows on from the publication of *Step up to the Plate* in 2018, which called for comprehensive government thinking on responding to hunger in the UK. Whilst household food insecurity is now being measured in the UK, comprehensive policy responses are still lacking. *Why End UK Hunger?* brought together leading thinkers to make renewed arguments for why it is so important to address the root causes of hunger on the basis of seven key ‘cases’.

Dan Crossley and Liz Dowler from the Food Ethics Council make ‘the moral case’ for tackling the root causes of hunger. Rebecca O’Connell, Abigail Knight and Julia Brannen from University College London make ‘the child’s case’, alongside Alison Garnham from Child Poverty Action Group arguing for action on child food poverty. Rachel Loopstra from King’s College London and Claire Greszczuk from the Health Foundation make ‘the health case’, outlining why food security is fundamental for health. Donald Hirsch makes ‘the income case’, arguing that it is time to realign social security and food security. Hannah Lambie-Mumford from the University of Sheffield, Kartik Raj from Human Rights Watch and Pete Ritchie from Nourish Scotland outline ‘the human rights case’ for action on hunger and the importance of realising the right to an adequate standard of living and the right to food. Frank Field MP and Heidi Allen MP make ‘the political case’ for ending hunger; and Elizabeth Clery and Jane Perry make ‘the public opinion case’, outlining public attitudes to poverty and food insecurity.

This report further supports End Hunger UK’s new campaign goal: that the UK Government should commit to developing a cross-departmental action plan to halve household food insecurity by 2025, by addressing the underlying causes of poverty and destitution, in order to make good on its existing commitment within the Sustainable Development Goal to end hunger by 2030.

To celebrate the launch of the report we held an event at Church House in Westminster. Baroness Ruth Lister, Heidi Allen MP and Dan Crossley from the Food Ethics Council were panellists, providing their reflections on why it is so important to set out the cases for ending hunger and working towards solutions to its root causes.



Using *Why End UK Hunger?* to work for change

Perhaps you’re meeting your MP to talk about food poverty. Perhaps you’re part of a local food poverty alliance that wants to speak out for food justice. Perhaps you want your church or food bank to take action. If you care about food justice, the articles in *Why End UK Hunger?* will help you persuade other people to join you. You can draw on a range of arguments and evidence, choosing the elements that will connect best with the person you’re talking to.

Download *Why End UK Hunger?* and the preceding report *Step Up to the Plate* at www.endhungeruk.org/local-groups-campaigners/resources

Poverty, Faith and Justice



Research and Information Officer **Sarah Purcell** has been developing resources to help people reflect on what it means to be 'Church on the Margins'.

www.church-poverty.org.uk/poorchurch

Church on the margins

Church Action on Poverty recently developed training resources to help people to explore the connections between their faith and justice issues. The *Poverty, Faith and Justice* workshops were originally designed for Leeds Justice and Peace Commission for delivery across the Diocese of Leeds, but have now been expanded for churches and different denominations across the UK.

The resources comprise a series of five workshops which take people through the Pastoral Cycle: experience, analysis, theological reflection, action and evaluation.

Using a combination of video, case studies, biblical reflection, exploration of poverty and marginalisation, and church teaching from across the denominations, the course enables groups and individuals to identify local and national justice issues, and develop action to challenge injustice.

Leeds Justice and Peace Commission have successfully run the course in a number of churches across Yorkshire with positive feedback from participants – see below.

In October, we held a training day to equip people with the skills to deliver the workshops in their own churches. People travelled from across the country to attend the day at Luther King House in Manchester. Participants enjoyed sampling the range of activities from the workshops, discussions and practical examples. People went away feeling confident to take the workshops back to their own area.

Thank you to Joyce Kay, our Community Link worker, and Sister Anne Stewart SHCJ for helping to organise and deliver the training day with Sarah Purcell. We are planning to hold more training days in 2020 and roll out the training resources across the UK.

If you are interested in further training days and running the workshops for your own church or group, please contact Sarah Purcell on 0161 872 9294 or sarahd@church-poverty.org.uk



"Great balance of content - informative, practical and theological"

"How to take action. It was simplified and made action seem accessible and possible"

"I really enjoyed the mixture of activities: icebreakers, videos, discussion, information, slides, etc."

"Practical, bite-size, manageable approach to social justice issues"

How we loosened the grip of poverty last year

These are highlights from Church Action on Poverty's annual review for 2018–19. Download the complete document at www.church-poverty.org.uk/annualreviews

We campaign for Government action to tackle poverty and hunger

Everyone should have access to good food. No one should go to bed hungry.

Church Action on Poverty plays a leading role in End Hunger UK – a coalition that brings together grassroots campaigners and all the UK charities concerned with food justice, to call for Government action to end hunger. 2018–19 was a successful year:

Our **campaigns** secured several significant advances. The Government agreed to measure household food insecurity on an annual basis, which will provide valuable evidence for future action. The Department of Education agreed to fund pilot holiday food and activity programmes, a valuable first step towards ensuring children have access to good food all year round. And in the autumn 2018 budget, the Government committed £1.5 billion of additional funding to start fixing the problems with Universal Credit.

150 people attended our End Hunger UK **national conference** in October 2018, including 15 experts by experience, a number of MPs and a Government minister, Nadhim Zahawi. This raised the profile of the campaign, cemented relationships within the End Hunger UK alliance, and incentivised and energised grassroots campaigners. It also generated significant media coverage, including footage and interviews with conference delegates that featured on Channel 4 News and the main BBC1 News at 6pm and 10pm on the day.

We co-created a **photo exhibition** that toured nationally and was very well received by local groups. Rachel McGrath of End Hunger Northamptonshire reported that:

"It was a useful vehicle with which to engage with politicians and local citizens who would not normally get involved in anti-poverty activities."

We recruited a dedicated Community Campaigner, who has run workshops to support local groups, and sent regular emails to 4,400 End Hunger supporters.

We support
END HUNGER UK

Our impact at a glance

- An annual Government measure of household food insecurity
- Government funding for pilot programmes across the UK to tackle holiday hunger
- £1.5 billion of additional funding to start fixing the problems with Universal Credit

We delivered an End Hunger UK petition to Fix Universal Credit to Downing Street



People with experience of poverty take the lead in our programmes, as active agents and experts

Tackling food poverty through people-powered change

Food Power, our joint programme with Sustain, supported four local food alliances this year to empower people with lived experience of food poverty.

In Blackburn with Darwen, we worked with young people who had experienced food poverty, running 'empowerment exchanges' and making a short film. The young people became activists when they launched their own #DarwengetsHangry campaign, and went on to feature in local and national media. Two of them became ambassadors to the Children's Future Food Inquiry and gave evidence at a hearing event in Westminster, delivering a report to 10 Downing Street with Dame Emma Thompson (see below).

"Food Power has given the Children's Future Food Inquiry crucial access to young people with lived experience of food insecurity. Their knowledge and experience was a central component in developing policy recommendations for tackling children's food insecurity in the UK."

Pandora Hayden, Food Foundation

We also supported experts by experience in both Blackburn with Darwen and Newcastle to co-design tools for capturing and telling stories about food and food poverty, which will be launched in a toolkit and shared widely.

In Newcastle, we supported mother and daughter Heather and Penny to become active members of the city council's Financial Inclusion group, ensuring their grassroots voices are amplified amongst key decision-makers working in the sector. They also featured on Channel 4 News talking about Universal Credit and the impact it had on their lives, and later in the year Penny spoke on Sunday Politics.



A step out of poverty

"The biggest thing I'll never forget in my life are the words being used for me, 'You are an inspiration for other women.'"

Summara, SRG member

We have built a flourishing movement of Self-Reliant Groups (SRGs) in Greater Manchester, and we are now expanding the movement into Lancashire.

SRGs allow people on low incomes to support one another, share skills, and save money or build small business ventures.

Our SRGs receive support and training, and attend peer meetings at hubs and gatherings. There are members and groups from many different backgrounds, for example: migrant workers; people seeking sanctuary; residents in supported housing; and homeless people.

We have SRGs engaged in creative writing, crafts of all kinds, cooking and catering, performing arts, DIY and decorating, and video and media work.

They also do their own community work, for example advocating on mental health issues, and providing a 'pay as you can afford' lunch for isolated older people and others who can't access good food.



voices from the MARGINS

Our Poverty Media Unit works with people in poverty to challenge stigma, improve public understanding, and identify solutions that will unlock poverty. Much of our attention over the year centred on the impact of welfare changes sweeping people into poverty.

In the autumn, we worked with *The Yorkshire Post* to publish a week-long series exploring the impact of Universal Credit across Yorkshire, featuring first-hand stories from a couple in York and two individuals in Harrogate, and contributions from emergency food providers, the Archbishop of York and researchers. The stories were seen by tens of thousands of people, greatly enhancing public understanding of the issues and impact of the policy. The couple from York, Tony & Sue, joined us when we presented the Fix Universal Credit petition at 10 Downing Street (picture on page 7), and we secured powerful coverage of their story in the *Daily Mirror*, *Metro* and *Sun*.

Separately, we worked with Joseph Rowntree Foundation to place powerful stories in the media around the launch of their annual report. This included local BBC radio interviews with Becky, a young mum in York, and Claire, a teaching assistant in Greater Manchester.

We have also continued to work with the National Union of Journalists on guidelines for journalists on reporting poverty. By distributing these guidelines widely to journalists, we can help to improve the reporting of poverty in the national and local media.

We have begun working with a network of community groups, working together as APLE (Addressing Poverty through Lived Experience), particularly to provide media advice. This including helping to place a story and letter in *The Times*.

Other pieces of work undertaken by the Poverty Media Unit include comprehensive research into the erosion of localised crisis support in England, which was reported on by *The Guardian*, the BBC and by around a dozen local media outlets.

What if people living in poverty were really listened to? What if we worked with them to change the story?

Our impact at a glance

- Young people launched their own campaign against food poverty in Lancashire and made national headlines
- Young people took their call for action on childhood hunger to Westminster
- 12 Self-Reliant Groups helping over 50 people take a step out of poverty in Greater Manchester
- Tens of thousands read about the impact of Universal Credit in their local paper
- People with experience of poverty have shared their stories and called for change through national TV news and papers



**When people
come together to
help each other
as a community,
everyone benefits**

Steve Coogan, patron of the Lighthouse Pantry

More than a full tummy

Interest in our 'Your Local Pantry' network of member-run food shops keeps growing, and this year enquiries reached us from every nation of the UK. New sponsors included housing associations, churches, community cafés and parish councils. New Your Local Pantry shops in Preston, London and Cardiff have scheduled launches for the 2019-20 financial year.

TV's Steve Coogan fronted the launch of the Lighthouse Pantry in Middleton, Rochdale, in December 2018. This Pantry is housed in an established food bank, debt advice and skills centre – a project initiated by local churches. Organisers were attracted to the friendly shop/food club concept for low-income families.

Meanwhile in Stockport there are four Your Local Pantry franchises and a fifth in the pipeline. Stockport Homes recorded 8,000 visits from members, who, according to their figures, saved more than £97,000. A growing team of volunteers donated 4,000 hours and promoted events supporting Nutrition and Hydration Week in March. Your Local Pantry in Stockport has been featured in the media by ITV and *The Observer*.

In the spring, we launched a new website at www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk which will drive the national roll-out of Your Local Pantry by informing and supporting potential franchisees.

We have now developed a full user guide to help people set up their own Your Local Pantry projects. We provide an operational manual and software package; marketing and promotion materials; and a volunteer training package and manual.

We work to build true 'churches of the poor'

Supporting churches on the margins

Our 'Church on the Margins' programme (formerly 'Church of the Poor?') encourages churches to go beyond seeing people in poverty as passive recipients of charity, so that we can become what Pope Francis calls "a poor church that is for the poor".

We designed a set of resources (commissioned by Leeds Justice and Peace Commission) on 'Family Poverty' / Poverty and Justice and Catholic Social Teaching. The five workshops are based on the pastoral cycle (experience, analysis, theological reflection, action, evaluation) and can be used by churches or groups to explore their faith and how it relates to social justice and inspires action, through a range of activities, input, reflection and discussion. The resources have been piloted in Leeds, and we plan to publish a version that is more suitable for an ecumenical audience in 2019–20.

We have been collecting stories and experiences from people involved with 'churches on the margins', including Sunderland Minster, Yardley Wood Baptist Church (Birmingham), Parson Cross Initiative (Sheffield) and St John's (Manchester). We will publish and share the stories during 2019–20, making a wider audience aware of what a true 'Church of the Poor' looks like.

We began working as active partners in 'Life on the Breadline', a research project about church responses to austerity, based at Coventry University. The project was launched at a National Poverty Consultation which we organised in November 2018. It brought together theologians, clergy and practitioners to share information and discuss current work on the theme.

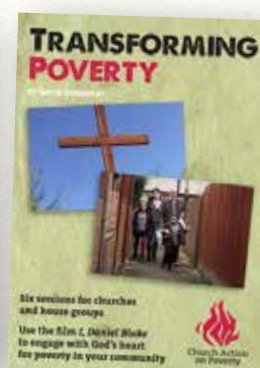
In Sheffield, we have piloted the creation of a 'Community of Praxis' (or 'Church Community Network'), bringing together people from churches in marginalised areas and/or 'alternative' models of church. The aim is to form a network that will provide mutual support, opportunities for sharing information and resources and meet once or twice a year for reflection and inspiration.

We support local groups to work for change

Groups of committed Church Action on Poverty supporters are working together to tackle poverty in Sheffield and the North East.

Dedicated local groups are a vital part of our movement, linking grassroots local action in communities with our national campaigns for policy change.

- In Sheffield, many local people took part in the local group's 11th annual Pilgrimage in October (see opposite). They visited projects dealing with the impact of the roll-out of Universal Credit in their communities.
- Our group in the North East has been campaigning to persuade more local employers to pay the real Living Wage.
- Church Action on Poverty North East's 'Prison Matters' project has set up a drop-in to support ex-offenders, and is training church volunteers to work with them.
- Church Action on Poverty North East is also supporting a new Poverty Truth Commission, being launched in Gateshead.



Give, act and pray with us

Individuals and churches can become part of our movement by making a donation, taking action through our campaigns, or by including us in their prayers and worship.

To achieve lasting change that unlocks UK poverty, we need as many people as possible to give, act and pray with us. Every action makes a difference.

- We published new resources to help churches reflect on how they put their faith into action. *Dangerous Stories* is a collection of Bible studies which help people to see the radical messages about poverty and injustice in Jesus' parables. Over 600 copies have been downloaded or ordered.

Transforming Poverty is a course that uses Ken Loach's film *I, Daniel Blake* to help churches reflect on their commitment to loosen the grip of poverty locally. Almost 300 copies have been downloaded or ordered.

"My small group is loving this resource, which speaks pertinently – and sometimes painfully – into our lives and experiences."

Revd Kate Watson, Curate at St Matthew with St Martin and St Paul, Tipton

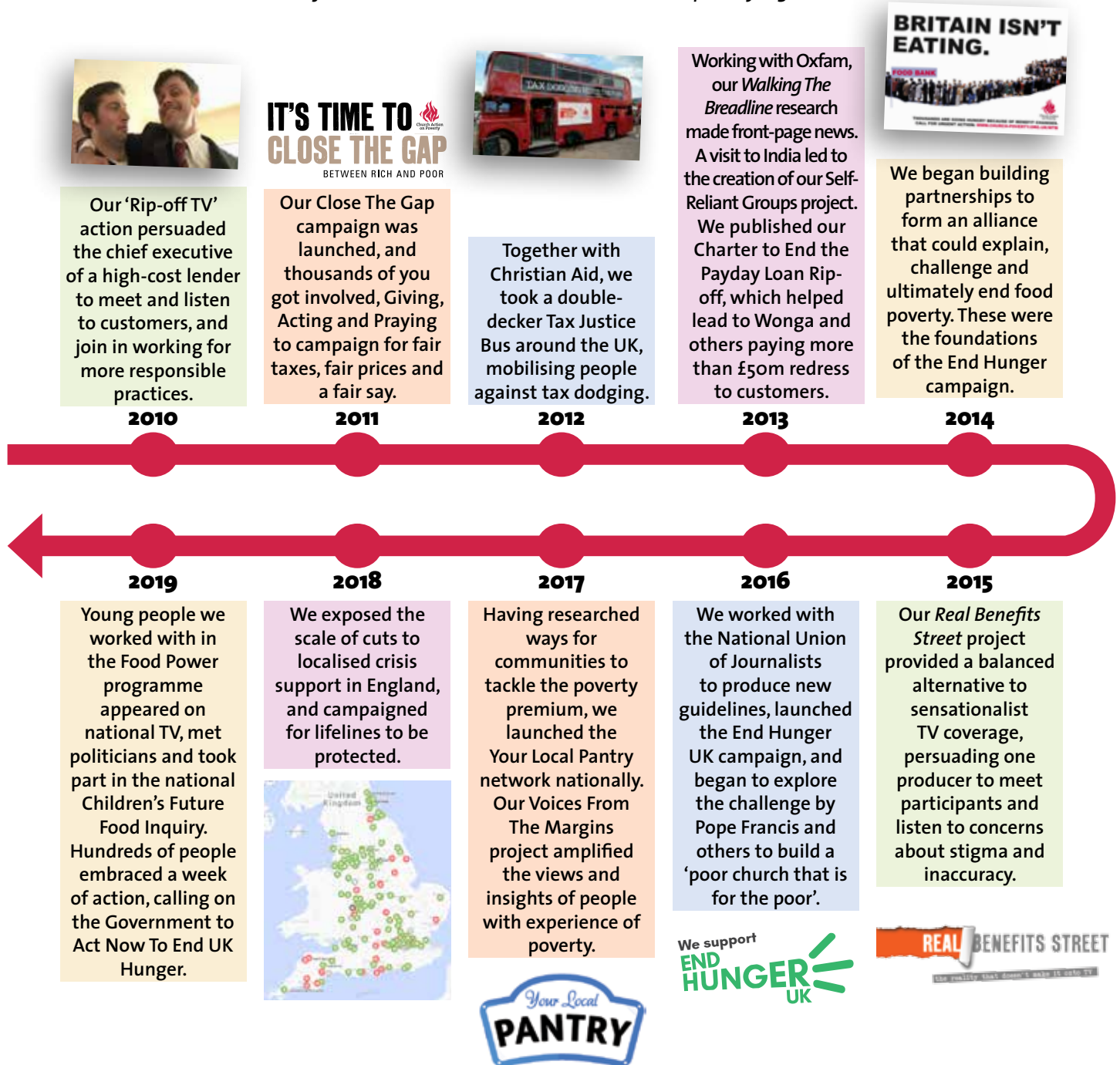
- In November, supporters from across the UK gathered alongside participants from our Food Power and Self-Reliant Groups programmes for a conference designed to help everyone look at poverty in a 'Different Light'.
- Churches and individuals marked Church Action on Poverty Sunday by raising thousands of pounds and praying for change.
- Our new Churches Engagement Officer carried on with the hard work of building relationships with our supporters in the South of England, gathering people at events for prayer and discussion, and listening and learning what people need to help them do more to loosen the grip of poverty.

A decade of action on poverty



Poverty Media Coordinator **Gavin Aitchison** says: Just like that, another whole new decade is upon us. Ten years lie ahead like unfilled journals – but before the 2020s gather pace, let's briefly look back at some of the work you enabled in the 2010s. Thank you!

You can see a more detailed version of this timeline and the stories at www.church-poverty.org.uk/2010s



How YOU help people speak truth to power

When you make a donation to Church Action on Poverty, your money really does help to loosen the grip of poverty on communities. Here are a few examples of how our grants, training and support have recently helped people speak truth to power.



End Hunger Cornwall

Church Action on Poverty plays a lead role in the national End Hunger UK coalition. But we can only end UK hunger if we build a powerful movement for change in communities across the country.

Church Action on Poverty helped people in Cornwall to build their own local End Hunger group, which launched with an inspiring event in October 2019.

Join the campaign at www.endhungeruk.org

Food Glorious Food, Sheffield

With our support, 'Food Glorious Food', the UK's first 'food bank choir', gave an inspirational performance at Sheffield Cathedral for the launch of End Hunger UK's new campaign in October 2019.

Choir leader Yo Tozer-Loft said: "People were really motivated by the chance to lobby their MPs about food poverty. Even people who didn't think they were singers said, 'I want to raise my voice somehow.'"

Watch the choir sing their own special version of a Beatles song, 'With a Little Foodbank Help', at www.voicesfromthemargins.org.uk/2019/12/04/foodbankchoir



Edgelands, Blackburn

Having worked alongside young people in Blackburn-with-Darwen on their 'Hangry' food poverty campaign, in 2019 we supported them to work with a local film-maker on a powerful short film.

In the Edgelands, a land of forgotten estates, the film demonstrates the grim reality of issues surrounding food poverty, homelessness, and welfare. Edgelands contextualises these topics and uses them as a backdrop to put forward a message of resilience as one of the many creative ways the #DarwengetsHangry campaign is working to loosen the grip of poverty. *Edgelands* highlights the issues the young people are concerned about: food poverty; drugs and knives; homelessness; disability and carers.

Watch *Edgelands* and download resources to help you use it to spark discussion:
www.church-poverty.org.uk/edgelands



Here's how YOU can help people speak TRUTH to POWER

1 Raise funds in your church on Church Action on Poverty Sunday...

On 23 February, help us kickstart our 2020 funding appeal. Be one of the churches across the UK that pray together and raise funds to help people speak truth to power.

If 200 churches hold 'power lunches' or collections on Church Action on Poverty Sunday to raise funds, we can help many more people and groups to speak truth to power, and loosen the grip of poverty in their communities.

Visit www.church-poverty.org.uk/sunday to let us know you'll be taking part, and order your pack of fundraising and worship resources.

2 ...Or make a donation yourself...

50 people giving £10 each could pay for another local partner to launch an initiative like the ones opposite, speaking truth to power and tackling the root causes of poverty.

Contact 0161 871 9294 to request a donation form – or donate securely online at www.church-poverty.org.uk/truthtopower

3 ...Or make a long-term commitment

Eradicating poverty and building a just, compassionate society is an ambitious vision. It needs ongoing support and commitment. Five people each giving £10 a month could ensure that every year, at least one more local partner like those opposite gets the chance to speak truth to power.

Contact 0161 871 9294 to request a standing order form – or create a direct debit at www.church-poverty.org.uk/truthtopower



**Church Action
on Poverty
Sunday**

Let's organise 200 FUNDRAISING
EVENTS on 23 February!

FIFTY people giving £10 each could
support another local partner to
speak truth to power!

Just FIVE committed givers could
support another partner to speak
truth to power every year!

speaking **TRUTH** to **POWER**

Church Action on Poverty Sunday
23 February 2020



Could YOU help kickstart our 2020 appeal and campaigns by being one of 200 churches to run events on Church Action on Poverty Sunday this year. Here are some excerpts from the worship materials in our resource pack for the day.

(Get the full pack now at www.church-poverty.org.uk/sunday)

Speaking truth to power: a pair of prayers

Gathering prayer

Listen:

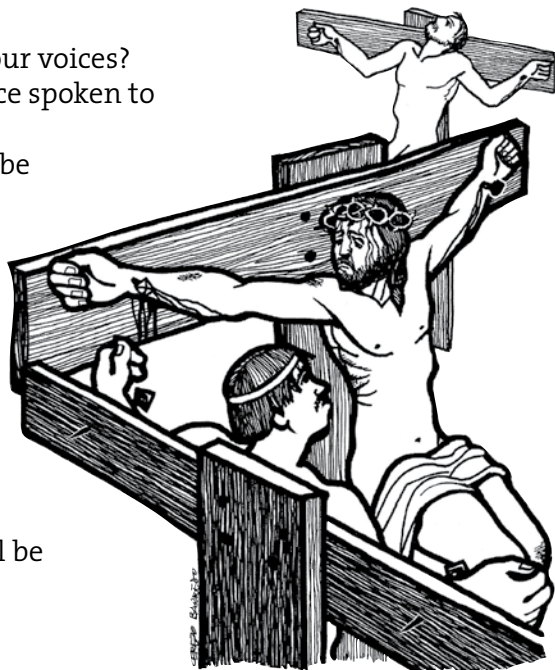
I cannot recommend speaking truth to power.
Speaking truth to power...
will get your head served on a plate
will see you hiding in a cave in the wilderness
will land you in the lion's den
will take you to the cross.

But listen:

What if there was nothing to hear?
No truth to power...
no voice crying out into the silent wilderness?
no one to check the idolatry of corrupt rulers?
no one to defend our freedoms?
no news of resurrection joy?

Listen:

What if we raise our voices?
Echo the truth once spoken to
power...
the kingdom will be
proclaimed
the still small
voice of God
will comfort
the exile
the roar of the
righteous
will drown
out the wicked
the hope of
resurrection will be
sung out.



Closing blessing

Let us pray.

Give us the spirit of John the Baptist
May we prepare your people for a new
kingdom

As we speak out for change

A voice cries out

We will speak your truth

Give us the faith of Elijah
May we challenge the worship of false gods
As we name money, power and fame as idols
A voice cries out

We will speak your truth

Give us the courage of Daniel
May we see what is real in a world of
corruption

As we stand up for what is right

A voice cries out

We will speak your truth

Give us the mission of Jesus
May we bring people healing and wholeness
As we practice resurrection
A voice cries out

We will speak your truth

Marie Pattison, Katherine House (www.katherinehousefcj.org)

The powerless whisper: a hymn for Church Action on Poverty Sunday

The powerless whisper in the void, the powerful take the stage.
God give us courage and the voice to share and speak our rage.
Then may that rage, inspired by grace, mould, challenge and persuade,
until decision-makers hear, and love those they betrayed.

When wealth is allied to the cause of politics or class,
God give insightful empathy to clear the misted glass,
to help us see with clearer sight, the way another lives,
to recognise that we can change the fate that history gives.

Give credence to the claim we make: we share a common birth,
that all are equal under God upon this ravaged earth.
Let actions magnify the words, the arguments we make,
until decision-makers feel their old assumptions quake.

Tune: SOLL'S SEIN (StF 53 or H&P 8) or KINGSFOLD H&P 113ii)

Meter: CMD

By Andrew Pratt, 1 November 2019. Words © 2019 Stainer & Bell Ltd, London, England, www.stainer.co.uk. Please include any reproduction for local church use on your CCL Licence returns. All wider and any commercial use requires prior application to Stainer & Bell Ltd.)

How YOU can help more people speak truth to power



Power lunch

Organise a soup lunch after church, and collect donations from everyone who attends.



Coffee

Use Church Action on Poverty's fairtrade coffee at your event – and stock it on your fairtrade stall at church! Every bag sold raises money to help more people speak truth to power. Order your supply at www.church-poverty.org.uk/give



Gifts and prayers

Take a collection in church – and invite people to support Church Action on Poverty directly too.

speaking **TRUTH** to **POWER**

Through our
gifts and
prayers, we
can help
people like
Martin take
opportunities
to speak truth
to power

I just snack, I don't eat proper meals.

The children always come first

and I just eat small bits here and there.

Church Action on Poverty Sunday 23 February 2020

Order a resource pack at www.church-poverty.org.uk/sunday
or call 0161 872 9294

