



January 2023 Newsletter

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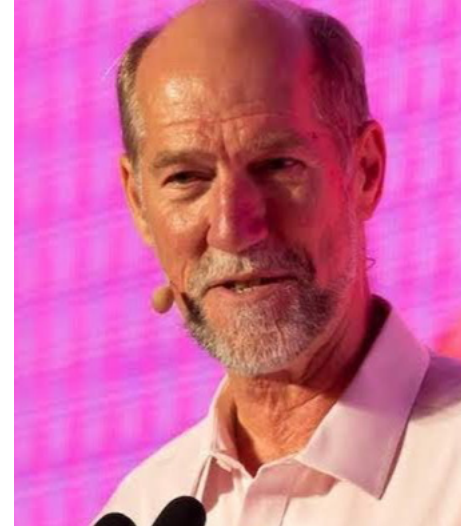
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Faith in the Future: A reflection from FaithInvest CEO Martin Palmer

I have chosen a deliberately ambiguous title for this first newsletter of this new year. Can we have faith in the future and what will be the nature of faith in the future?

Addressing the first of these two, I was very struck by a line I heard coming from the Global Joy Summit, held in parallel with COP 27 in November last year.

In a world where doom has always been the more exciting narrative – stories about Hell are far more popular in religious literature than stories about Heaven! – the very idea of a Global Joy Summit almost seems like blasphemy to many.



Yet without a celebration of the wonders and wonderfulness of life on earth, our lives and the lives of all of the rest of creation, nature – call it what you will – the question would be why bother?

So taking the notion of a Global Joy Summit as essentially a good thing, this line from the event is for me a real challenge in terms of how to think about the future. The quote is "Perhaps the best is yet to come!"

Click below to read more

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FULL REPORT: Bold Plans and Faith-consistent Investing

As we shared with you recently, we had a great Bold Plans and Faith-Consistent and Faith-Consistent Investing gathering on 26-27 October 2022, with more than 100 people coming together at the beautiful venue of Christ Church Spitalfields, London, UK.



The event brought the faith-consistent investing ecosystem – including representatives of faith groups, the finance industry, faith-based environmental and development NGOs and networks – to discuss the challenges and opportunities for faith-based investors.

We've now produced a full report on the event, with a real flavour of the proceedings, such as the advice below from Mark Campanale.

'The world of investment consultants and asset managers is very intimidating and it can be difficult to find your voice [as a faith-based investor]...

'So find advisors who understand the direction of travel and surround yourself with people going on the same journey.'

– Mark Campanale, Carbon Tracker

For key take-aways, images, and follow up action items from this powerful event, download the full report in our news story on the event.

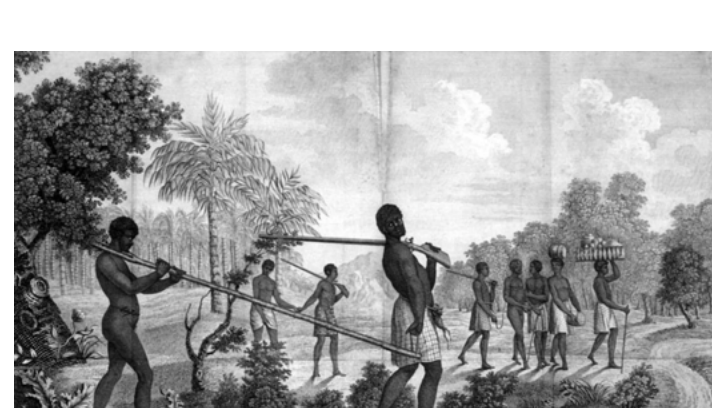


[FULL REPORT](#)

A good start but not enough: We respond to the Church of England's announcement of £100m to address historic slavery links

FaithInvest very much welcomes the announcement from the Church of England that it will spend £100m, including setting up an impact fund, to 'address past wrongs', after its investment fund was found to have historic links to slavery.

But as FaithInvest CEO Martin Palmer told [Pioneers Post](#), this can only be the start of a very long journey – not least because we know that individual churches in one major UK city involved in the slave trade are already looking at setting up similar funds.



Martin adds: 'If churches in Bristol are talking about a fund of potentially £50m (possibly £25m from one church alone) then I really think the Church Commissioners' £100m is the beginning of a much longer journey.'

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FaithInvest mourns the passing of Sr Patricia Daly, pioneer of corporate responsibility and socially responsible investing

Patricia Daly, a Dominican Sister of Caldwell, New Jersey, for 47 years and a pioneer of corporate responsibility and socially responsible investing, died 9 Dec 2022. She was 66 years old. We at FaithInvest mourn her passing and praise her tireless work.

In her decades of advocacy, she worked to hold corporations responsible for environmental degradation, human rights abuses and myriad other issues.

Colleagues and friends describe her as a 'fearless and tireless' force in socially responsible investing, waging campaigns through shareholder resolutions and dialogues with corporate chieftains to hold them accountable for their companies' actions.



There are several excellent obituaries, including one in the [Global Sisters Report](#) and [this tribute](#) by Cliff Rosenthal who recalls how it was courageous investments by faith-based organisations, especially Catholic women's orders, led by the Dominicans, that enabled credit unions to flourish in the US.

'They were guided not by the "prudent man" rule, but truly, by faith,' he writes. 'The blessings of that faith have been multiplied many times over.'

FaithInvest research publications

Proprietary research and thought leadership publications are a cornerstone of FaithInvest's mission to support faith-consistent investment.



This year, we have several compelling publications planned, including an exploration of **resources available for smaller faith investors**, due out in the first quarter.

In the second quarter we'll publish a **revised and updated edition** of our groundbreaking research report on the extent of faith-aligned investing by faith organisations, **Good Intentions - What faiths say about how they invest and how they can do more**.

This research analyses publicly available investment policy and guidelines statements to determine the extent to which an organisation's faith values play a role in the principles and guidelines that govern their financial assets.

In the second half of the year, we'll bring to you research on best practices for **Faith-consistent Governance and Communications**, work that will represent a continuation of the series that began with [From Faith Values to Investment](#), a guide to faith-consistent investment policy and guidelines.

Find our published research on the [RESOURCES](#) section of our website.

The FCI interest group: meetings with affinity and purpose

Did you know that as a subscriber to the FaithInvest network you are eligible to participate in the Faith-consistent Investing Interest Group?

This group, which meets on a quarterly basis, helps faith-based asset owners integrate their faith values into their investment programmes.

It identifies resources for integrating values into key investment governance documents and processes through examples and guidance from – and active engagement with – other faith investors, and outside experts.

Past events have explored topics such as whether ESG investing impacts the real economy, the underlying motivations and drivers for implementing faith-consistent investing, the use of FaithInvest's proprietary analytical framework to assess the faith-alignment of investments, and more.

Not part of the FaithInvest network yet? You can sign up easily [HERE](#).

Are you part of the network and interested in becoming active in the FCI Interest Group? Contact steven.owen@faithinvest.org

Our next FCI Interest Group will meet on 9 March 2023

FaithInvest supports faith-based asset owners to align their investments to their faith values. We support the rapidly growing movement of faiths actively using their investments and other assets to create a better world – for the benefit of people and planet. Visit www.faithinvest.org for more information.

