

September 2022 Newsletter

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- **Transitions** we say farewell to Nana Francois and welcome Mathew Jensen, CFA, in his new role



The end of an era

FaithInvest is deeply sorry to hear of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on Thursday September 8. We offer our sincere condolences to her family.

For many people in the UK and across the world, Her Majesty's 70-year reign – the longest in British history – was a rock of stability in a turbulent world, and an inspiring example of faithful service.

Our CEO Martin Palmer met the Queen many times through his long association with Her Majesty's husband, the late Prince Philip, who was the inspiration behind FaithInvest. Martin has been in demand by the media, from UK to Australia, over the last week sharing his memories of the Queen.

To read more click here.

A busy autumn planned for FaithInvest

As this newsletter goes to press, our annual **Global Investment Forum** series moves to Chicago, US, where we'll delve into a range of faith-consistent investment and impact investing topics at the Wespath campus just outside the city. Check out the <u>agenda</u>; the materials for all sessions will be available to view shortly afterwards.





Then we're off to Bali, Indonesia, for the **TBN**(**Transformational Business Network) Asia conference.** FaithInvest CEO **Martin Palmer** will
moderate a panel on values-driven investing and **Mathew Jensen** – who we are delighted to announce is our new Director of Investment Solutions (of which more below) – will take part in an impact enterprise pitch session. You can see the full agenda here.

While we're in Indonesia, we'll deliver a lecture on faith-consistent investing to the **Indonesia Banking School** in Jakarta, with key representatives from the Indonesia's top Muslim clerical body present. And we're convening an **Asia Hub meeting** of our key Asia-based faith partners – the first time we've been able to meet them in person since the pandemic.

Also in September, Director of Movement Building **Lorna Gold** is taking part in an AMRI (Association of
Missionaries and Religious of Ireland) meeting. Really
exciting discussions and developments have been
taking place in the Catholic community in Ireland.





On October 4, Lorna will be in Rome, Italy, for the premiere of *The Invitation*, a documentary film about how Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical, Laudato Si', inspires people to rethink their relationship with the planet. The film, which features both Lorna and Martin, follows several ecological activists who receive an 'invitation' to meet Pope Francis. Pictured left is Arouna Kande, a climate refugee from Senegal.

Lorna Gold is back in Ireland for in October for a joint FaithInvest, CIIC (Catholic Impact Investiong Collaborative) and AMRI (Association of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland) event. Like we said, exciting things happening in Ireland!



Bold Plans and Faith-consistent Investing: October 2022

And finally, we're especially looking forward to our high-profile London event on October 26-27. Titled **Bold Plans and Faith-consistent Investing**, it will kick off a year-long programme of activities designed to accelerate the faith-consistent investing movement and showcase major new developments in faith-based action.

The title – 'Bold Plans and Faith-Consistent Investing' – is drawn from the Multi-Faith Statement issued by over 40 faith representatives from many different religions, led by Pope Francis and issued at the Vatican last October in response to the 2021 Glasgow COP26 climate conference.

A year later, our Bold Plans event brings together faith leaders, faith finance professionals and the broad financial world with the aim of looking at how we can catalyse the ecosystem of faith-consistent investing for people and planet.

Contributors to the event include, amongst others, the COP26 Presidency, HM Government; the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development; Accounting for Sustainability (A4S); and the World Bank's Climate Investment Fund.

'Our aim is to announce and showcase major new developments in faith-based action, including what has developed out of the Multi-faith Statement signed in October 2021. The summit will bring together faith-based asset owners, values-driven investment organisations, philanthropies, and NGOs,' said FaithInvest CEO Martin Palmer.

To read more about this exciting initiative, visit our News section.

Transitions at FaithInvest

It is with a sense of pride and some sadness that we announce that our Director of Investment Solutions Nana Francois has accepted the position of CEO at Opportunity International UK – a charity focused on microfinance in Africa and the global south. This is an area that those who know Nana have long been aware is dear to her heart, said FaithInvest CEO Martin Palmer: 'We owe Nana a huge debt of gratitude for defining the role of FaithInvest in the financial world, and we congratulate her on this significant new role.'



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Our new Director of Investment Solutions



We are very pleased to announce that our own Mathew Jensen, CFA, is taking on the role of Director of

FaithInvest CEO Martin Palmer said: 'I am delighted to welcome Mathew as our new Director of Investment Solutions. Mathew brings a depth of knowledge not only of the finance world but now especially of the challenges and possibilities for faith-consistent investing.'

Mathew has two decades of engaging institutional investors and consultants worldwide. His expertise includes multi-asset global investing, product development and management, and consulting across global institutional markets.

Investment Solutions.

At FaithInvest, Mathew has been integral to the establishment and development of the Investment Solutions team, and a significant contributor to our proprietary research and thought leadership, including the groundbreaking study <u>Good Intentions - What faiths say about how they invest and how they can do more.</u>

'Our aim is is very straightforward – we're here to help faith-based asset owners align their assets with their values,' says Mathew.

We know Mathew's enthusiasm and dedication to the mission of FaithInvest will contribute to a whole new level of growth and support for faith-organisations seeking to become more faith-aligned.

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.









