

CHURCH SERVICE AND RALLY 'PUT PEOPLE FIRST' 28TH MARCH, CENTRAL LONDON

The date had been in my diary for weeks and I had been watching the weather reports with a prayer for a good day.

A good day would mean more people willing to get out there and be seen. One week before it seemed my prayers were to be answered. We had the first warmish week of the year and even the sun had come out

Then just a few days before 'Our' day, the weather people started to say that on that day, just that day, the clouds would be back, the rain would fall and the lovely temperatures of the past week were to tumble; which they did. Saturday arrived so cold, very grey and drizzle down my windows.

But undaunted, just more prepared, I set off to Westminster to the Central Methodist Hall to join in the Ecumenical Service arranged for 11.00 am from which we were to then join the March.

And what a wonderful, inspiring and uplifting gathering it was...[click the link](#) below to hear the songs we sang that set us all in a good mood for the march. Below that is the report on the various speakers who gave an insight into why we, as Church, have a part to play in this movement of people from many different organisations; of how Christians are called to take action as part of our Gospel Values and beliefs.

<http://www.putpeoplefirst.org.uk/2009/03/standing-for-justice-united-in-hope-church-service-report/>

Right at the bottom of the page is another link to a moving video shown on the stage at Hyde Park of the reality of our economic crisis for real people, it is well worth clicking onto .

Once the service was over, everyone made their way outside to link up with whichever group they were connected with to take their place in the march

It was good to see so many Christian organisations together with all our banners making a clear statement that 'We Are Here'. Tearfund, CAFOD, Progressio, Christian Aid to name a few.

I found the CAFOD banners and set off with a group of people who I discovered had come from Wales and Manchester and who became my marching companions for the four miles to Hyde Park. And a great walk of witness it was.

But most wonderfully of all, when we stepped out of the Methodist Central Hall, the sun was out and the sky had become a glorious blue! And it stayed that way all the length of the march for us.

Below are some more web links I've selected that will inform of the events of that day and which may hopefully inspire anyone who has felt unsure about taking such

action to see what a powerful and also enjoyable way of taking Action with a capital A this can be and one that can really make a difference.

<http://www.putpeoplefirst.org.uk/>

<http://www.putpeoplefirst.org.uk/2009/03/jobs-video-from-put-people-first-rally/>

<http://www.cafod.org.uk/climate-change/g20-action>

<http://www.cafod.org.uk/resources/video-galleries/put-people-first>

<http://www.cafod.org.uk/take-action/put-people-first>

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