

# Rise to the Moment

Your prayer boat activity pack  
in the run-up to COP26

## It's time to be heard

The climate crisis is a storm we all face, but we're not all in the same boat. For some, the storm is stronger and the waves are already breaking.

Every day, people living in poverty battle the worst of a crisis they did not create. This is deeply unjust.

But a better way is possible. Together we can tackle the inequalities in wealth and power that have led to this climate crisis – **starting now**.

In November 2021, the UK Government will host the United Nations' key climate talks, **COP26**.

This is a decade-defining opportunity to impact and influence the decisions made. We must ensure our global neighbours are heard.

Christian Aid is supporting Young Christian Climate Network (YCCN) for **Rise to the Moment** – a journey of prayer and action in the run up to COP26. Together we can amplify our prophetic voices and create one unified movement for change.

From now on, every moment matters and every action counts in the fight for climate justice.

**Will you rise to the moment?**



**#RiseToTheMoment**



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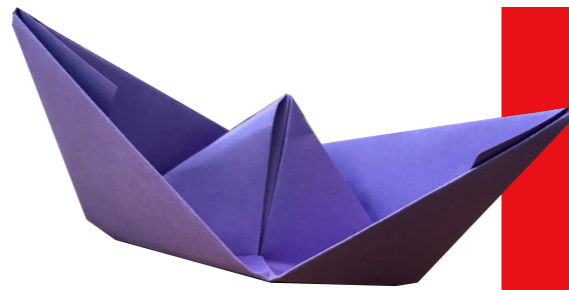


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# Rise to the Moment



Here's what **Rise to the Moment** is all about and how you can get involved.

## The relay

Christian Aid is supporting YCCN for an exciting relay across the UK to raise the message of climate justice ahead of COP26.

The relay kicked off in Cornwall after the G7 Summit in June and will make its way across the UK until it reaches Glasgow, the host city of COP26, in November.

Follow the steps in this activity pack to support the relay. Together, we can all demonstrate that we care about climate justice and creation. And that we want to see systems change on a global scale.

## The boat

For the relay, YCCN have built a model boat that will be journeying across the country with them.

This boat represents our hope that we will rise to the moment and use this year to set sail towards a more just future.

## Your voice

We cannot rise to the moment without you. In this pack you'll find lots of different ways to use your voice to call for climate justice ahead of COP26 – and it all starts with a paper boat.

**Taking inspiration from YCCN's boat, this pack will show you how to create your own prayer boat and how you can use it to demand climate action.**



## Who is YCCN?

**YCCN is an action-focused community of people aged 18-30 following Jesus in the pursuit of climate justice. They share Christian Aid's determination to bring about a fairer world. Visit the YCCN website at [yccn.uk](http://yccn.uk) to learn more.**

# Together we stop this climate crisis

You are not alone in speaking out for justice. Your energy and action is led by our global neighbours all around the world.

Many are already experiencing the impacts of the climate crisis, even though they have done the least to cause it.

In Kenya's Kitui County, Naomi Mumo and Rosalia Kusungo Ndangihi are two women determined to raise awareness about the issues their communities face.

Long periods of drought mean people go hungry when crops fail. The rains used to be reliable. Now they are fewer and unpredictable. Without crops, families have lost livestock too. Many struggle to make enough money to send their children to school.



**'I am worried,' said Rosalia. 'I am not sure if it will rain in the coming season. Because of drought, people are forced to cut down trees and burn charcoal.'**

These women cannot control the weather. But they are seizing control where they can, raising awareness and advocating for change.



Naomi is the chair of her local women's advocacy group on climate change which Rosalia is part of. They pass on their knowledge to others through song.

**'We want to be a good example: we want to lead in climate advocacy so that the other members of the community also take action,' Naomi explained. 'I pray God gives us strength to continue with the work of climate advocacy.'**

When you call for climate justice you are standing with people like Naomi and Rosalia.

As Naomi said: **'The whole world is polluting the environment. The responsibility is everyone's.'**

# Create your boat

It all starts with a boat...

Your prayer boat is the start of several ways you can rise to the moment and call for climate justice ahead of COP26: from creating a display of boats in your church, to adding it to our online fleet, to using it to catch your MP's attention.

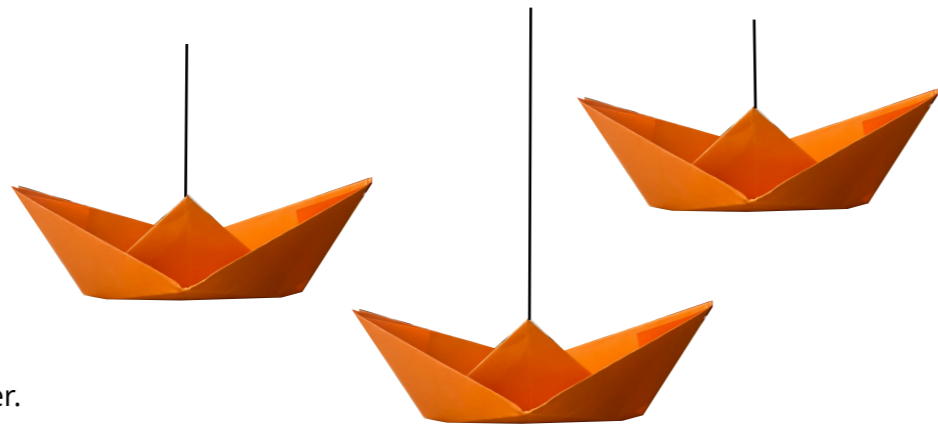
See page 7 for full details on how to use your boat. But first, here's how to make it.

## You will need:

- A pen
- A piece of paper (A5 recommended. Scrap paper or newspapers work well)

Extras:

- If you decide to make a display of boats, we recommend a hole punch and some string/ribbon.



## Step 1

### Write a prayer on your paper.

You can write your own using our prayer points or use our example prayer.

#### Prayer points

Focus your prayer on one of the following themes:

- The impact the climate crisis is currently having on vulnerable communities around the world.
- The safe passage of the YCCN volunteers as they take part in the relay.
- The willingness of decision makers to listen to our calls for climate justice and make bold commitments to change at COP26.

Or use our example prayer:

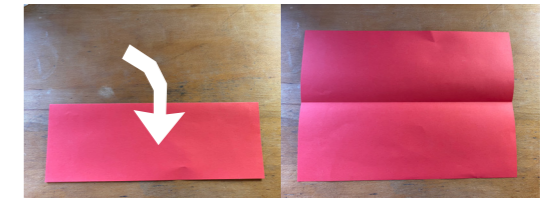
God of hope,  
We pray for world leaders attending COP26. Bless them with wisdom, creativity and a shared vision of hope for all creation. May they find the determination to take strong action to halt the destructive effects of climate change and the political will to act together for the common good. Amen.

For more inspiration, take a look at our monthly prayer points at [caid.ie/cop26prayers](https://caid.ie/cop26prayers)

## Step 2

### Fold your piece of paper into a boat.

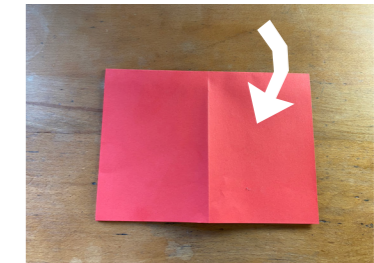
Here are our step-by-step instructions for folding your piece of paper into an origami boat.



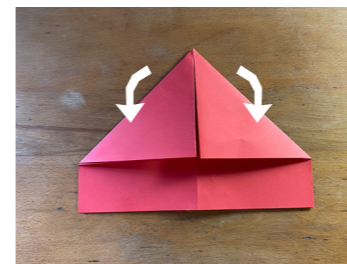
1. Take your sheet of paper and fold it in half length-ways, then open it up again.



2. Fold your sheet of paper in half width-ways. Leave folded.



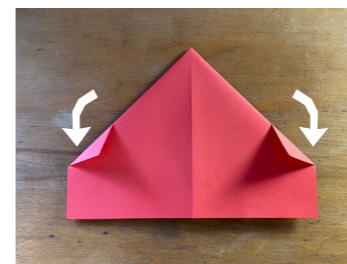
3. Rotate your piece of paper so the long, folded side is at the top.



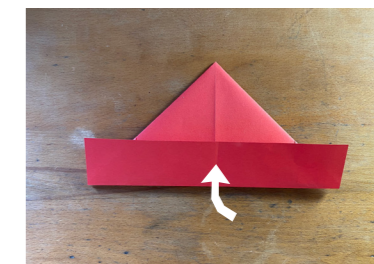
4. Take each of the top corners and fold them downwards, lining each edge up with the centre fold. You should now have a triangle shape with a rectangle underneath it.



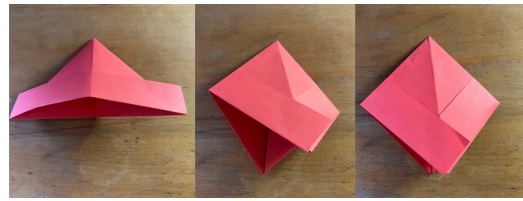
5. Take one layer of the bottom flap and fold it upwards.



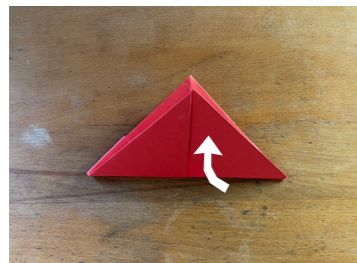
6. Flip the folded paper over. There should be two little flaps showing behind the triangle shape. Fold those little flaps over diagonally.



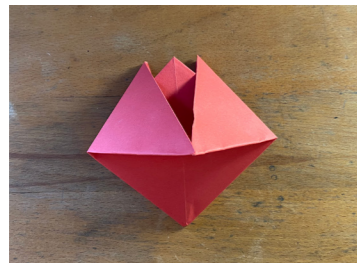
7. Take the remaining bottom flap and fold it upwards. It should now look a bit like a hat!



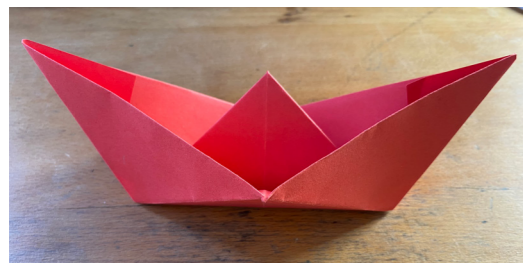
**8.** Place your thumbs into the opening at the bottom and slowly open it up. Keep pulling until the paper is flat again. It should be a square shape. Run your fingers along all of the folds, pressing to make sure it is flat.



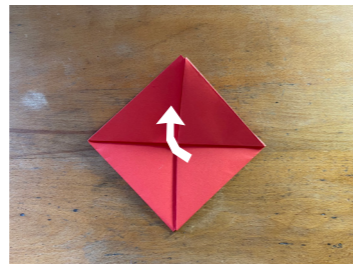
**10.** Flip the paper over and do the same again.



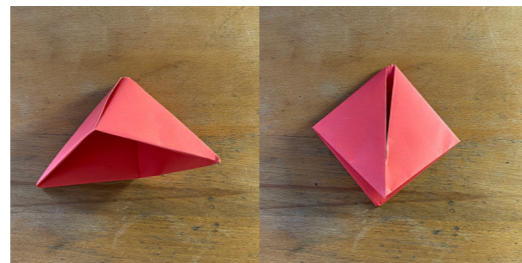
**12.** Pick up the folded piece of paper. At the top point, pull the two sides of folded paper outwards. As you pull it apart, it should open up into a boat shape.



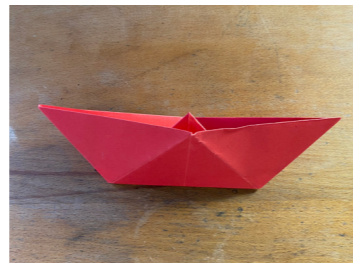
**14.** Your paper boat is complete!



**9.** Rotate the paper so it looks like a diamond shape with the opening at the bottom. Starting at the bottom point, take one layer of the folded paper and fold it up to meet the top point, making sure all of the edges line up. Press along the edge to make a fold.



**11.** Place your thumbs into the opening at the bottom and slowly open it up. Keep pulling until the paper is flat again. It should be a square shape. Run your fingers along all of the folds, pressing to make sure it is flat.



**13.** Adjust the paper if needed to make sure it's boat-shaped, then pinch along the bottom edges to make a fold on each side.

## Struggling to fold your boat?

You can watch a demonstration at [onelittleproject.com/how-to-make-a-paper-boat](http://onelittleproject.com/how-to-make-a-paper-boat) or on our website at [caid.org.uk/rise](http://caid.org.uk/rise) Alternatively, you can use our boat template at the back of this pack or draw one yourself.

# Set sail for climate justice

Use your prayer boat to take action on climate justice ahead of COP26. You'll be joining thousands of others and can take part as an individual, group or church. Here's how you can rise to the moment:

## Send your boat to COP26

- Thousands of boats from across the country will come together in a special installation at COP26 to deliver your prayers and messages to world leaders.
- To add your boat, send it to Belfast: Linden House, Beechill Business Park, BT8 7QN | Dublin: Canal House, Canal Road, Dublin 6, D06 FC93. Please ensure your boats arrive by 15 October to be part of the fleet.

## Make a display or installation of boats

- Create a visual display or installation of boats in your church or window at home. This will help raise awareness about climate justice in your community, and keep the relay in your hearts, minds and prayers as we journey to COP26.
- This activity can be done as an individual, group or church. If you want to start an installation people can add to, leave paper and pens out for visitors to create their own boats.
- There are lots of creative ways you can make a display or installation. One is to create a garland of boats by using a hole punch and linking the boats together with string.
- If your church has already created a 'Prayer Wall of Hope' to celebrate Christian Aid's 75th anniversary, this could be a great place to add your boats.
- You could choose to make a display as a focal point for prayer before sending the boats to COP26 (see **Send your boat to COP26** above).

## Share your boat on social media and join our online fleet

- Make your action visible to decision makers by snapping a photo of your boat and sharing it online.
- You can share it on social media using the hashtag #RiseToTheMoment and #PrayForCOP26 Don't forget to tag @ChristianAidIrl. If you don't use social media, you can email your photo to us at [hnewell@christian-aid.org](mailto:hnewell@christian-aid.org)
- By using the #PrayForCOP26 your tweet will automatically be added to our online fleet helping to demonstrate to decision makers the depth and breadth of support.

## Use your boat to engage your MP

- Your MP works for you – tell them that you care about climate justice! MPs get lots of messages everyday so use your boat or church display as a conversation starter to help catch their attention.
- Find out more on how to approach your MP and what we're asking them to do in our MP engagement blog at [caid.org.uk/cop26mp](http://caid.org.uk/cop26mp)

**Whatever you choose to do, every action counts in the fight for climate justice.**

# Boat template

Making an origami boat from scrap paper or drawing your own is kinder on the environment. But if you need to, you can print and use this cut-out template.

