

**Caring for God's Creation,** our collective home planet earth, is part of our Christian calling. The Chaplaincy's aim is to minimise the impact of our activities on the environment and encourage others to do so too. Many of you have contributed to developing our strategy to achieve this aim through the lent study, 'Caring for Creation', and the Environment survey sent to all sectors, thank you. Thus, as a Chaplaincy we aim to:

1.MINIMISE WASTE.

2. MINIMISE CO2 PRODUCING EMISSIONS.

3. PROMOTE RECYCLING.

4. ONLY WHERE NO OTHER OPTION IS AVAILABLE, OFFSET EMISSIONS GENERATED BY OUR ACTIVITIES

## 5. MONITOR PROGRESS AND HOLD OURSELVES TO ACCOUNT, ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND SHARE WHAT WE ARE DOING, KEEP THE ENVIRONMENT ON THE AGENDA AND THE CONVERSATION ALIVE.

The core suggestions made by chaplaincy members to help achieve our aims are:

- 1. Achieve Eco-Church bronze status thus contribute to the Diocese aim of being an Eco-Diocese
- 2. Encourage car sharing for church worship and meetings and continue with Zoom meetings if appropriate.
- 3. Avoid one-off printing, encourage recycling, no single use plastic or unnecessary packaging.
- 4. Hold services focusing on creation and introduce more creation liturgy and prayers in regular worship.
- 5. Find alternative venues for worship during the winter to avoid heating large buildings, use LED light bulbs
- 6. Form an environmental group including an 'Environmental Advocate' from each sector to raise awareness, encourage action, share ideas, and monitor progress.
- 7. Look for ways to lobby those who can positively impact the reduction in global warming.
- 8. Support communities impacted by climate change e.g. twin with a church, eco charities
- 9. Personally, calculate our household Carbon Footprint and identify at least one change to be made to the current lifestyle. Record it on the 'Personal Environment Commitment' as a reminder and keep it visible!
- 10. Talk to others about climate change and what can be done, support each other, talk to Jesus, and PRAY.

If would like to get involved or if you have questions, please contact Kathryn Carr <u>kathryn@enviro-advice.co.uk</u>



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## Personal Environmental Covenant



"The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it." (Ps 24:1)

If we want to change our church and our world we must, first of all, change our own personal lifestyles.

"We all need to make a complete, radical and honest audit of our lifestyles, their impact on the poor and on the planet, and ask God to pinpoint where we should start making changes."

Dave Bookless (Founder of A Rocha UK)

Every journey begins with just one step and so, as a personal undertaking to 'Caring for Creation'

we are all invited to commit to one action to undertake with immediate effect to start this mission.
I,
commit to taking the following action(s) as part of my commitment to the
care of God's creation:
Date Signature
Personal Environmental Covenant
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2021 - 2026
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Signature .....

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Date .....