

ECO CHURCH

OUR JOURNEY TO NET CARBON ZERO

COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Quick wins:

- Commit to praying for specific overseas environmental projects
- Engage with local MP or local council on environmental matters
- Arrange for local environmentalists to speak at services
- Encourage congregation to minimise resource use (e.g. signs reminding people to turn lights / projectors off, signs reminding people to turn taps off, signs reminding authorised people to turn the heating down after services)
- Promote Eco Church to other churches
- Keep your congregation informed about the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on communities across the world
- Wherever possible, use Fairtrade and/or ethically sourced goods
- Use locally grown / organic / animal-friendly foods in meals provided by the church
- Organise a community clean-up / local litter-pick
- Provide vegetarian and/or vegan options for meals provided by the church
- Host a green fair, showcasing local produce and highlighting local environmental issues
- Organise an event that allows your local community to get out and enjoy God's earth in your local area (e.g. walks, cycle rides etc.)
- Take steps to reduce food waste (e.g. composting, minimising leftovers, partnering with a local food waste scheme) and encourage your congregation to do so at home



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Long term plans:

- Organise events which provide an opportunity for your community to engage with local leaders on local environmental issues (e.g. local MPs or council leaders)
- Either as a church or as part of a local network, work with local sustainability movements like Transition Towns
- Get involved in local conservation work (e.g. A Rocha UK Partner in Action or RSPB / Wildlife Trust)
- Participate in regular sustainability initiatives (e.g. Carbon Fast, WWF's annual Earth Hour event)
- Participate in campaigns concerning national and global environmental issues
- Engage with Tearfund's 'Toilet Twinning' scheme
- As a church, financially support an environmental charity
- Organise environmental awareness-raising events (e.g. film evenings, Fairtrade events etc.)
- Register with the Fairtrade Foundation as Fairtrade Church
- Take steps to reduce food waste (e.g. composting, minimising leftovers, partnering with a local food waste scheme) and encourage congregation to do so at home
- Provide / support a local car-share scheme (including members sharing lifts to church)

