

Eco Newsletter November 2021

Welcome to the first Eco Newsletter. To keep you updated on all the Eco Activity at KPC, we will be publishing an Eco Newsletter once a month. You can also visit the [Eco Page](#) on the church website for more resources and updates.

What's been happening?

This term, homegroups have been studying how the Climate Emergency challenges us as Christians. If you're not in a homegroup and would like to find out more, you can access the resources via the [Eco page](#) on the church website.

In August, we welcomed a group of pilgrims from the Youth Climate Change Network walking from the G7 summit in Carbis Bay to COP26 in Glasgow. This relay pilgrimage was to raise awareness of the seriousness of the Climate Emergency and highlight the issues of social justice around climate change. We are grateful to Peter Lewis for organising this and for his write up in the Parish Magazine.

In September Jack Wakefield from Tearfund spoke to us at our Sunday Services for Harvest. He talked about the impact the climate emergency is having on those in the Global South and how we are called to action.

Mothers' Union hosted a talk by Dame Caroline Spelman on What is a Carbon Footprint? Anyone is welcome to attend talks by Mothers Union and details are published in the notice sheet.

In October, we continued to pray for COP26 and joined in a [national ringing of the church bells](#) on 30th October to highlight the urgency of the climate situation.

Since Climate Sunday, we have been incorporating more prayers and reflections on the Climate Emergency into all our Sunday Services. We will also be praying regularly for issues surrounding climate change at the church monthly prayer meetings on the first Wednesday of the month.

Upcoming

We have been busy preparing a calendar of events for the next 9 months. The ongoing uncertainties around COVID have meant we have not been able to organise any 'in person' events this side of Christmas. However, we hope in the New Year to run a variety of different events as well as engaging talks from outside speakers. All details will be published on the church website and we will confirm details as soon as we are able.

Resources

We have been working on a series of resources with our friends at St Philips Dorridge to help with various aspects of reducing our carbon footprints at home. Please see the Eco Page for a full list of these resources.

A Sustainable Christmas

As we start to think about Christmas, there's lots we can do to have a more sustainable Christmas. These are some of the most common questions we have received.

Gifts

When it comes to present buying, you can find lots of ideas for zero waste, sustainable and ethical ideas [here](#) Each year around £700 million is spent on unwanted presents and 21 million of us will receive unwanted gifts. Finding alternatives to 'stuff' can really help.

Christmas Trees

Real Christmas Trees have a lower carbon footprint than artificial trees. However, if you already own an artificial tree, then keep on using it for as long as possible.

Try to source your Christmas tree from a sustainable farm and look for a supplier that replants trees.

When it comes to disposing of your tree, keeping it out of landfill is key as this produces the most CO2. A 2 metre tree will produce around 16kg of CO2 in landfill compared to 3.5kg of CO2 if for example it is chipped.

And finally, KPC's Sustainable Christmas Card!

This year, we are pleased to announce that the children at KPC will be producing our first sustainable giant Christmas Card. This is something recommended by Eco Church as a sustainable alternative to sending lots of individual cards. The children will produce one giant card and there will also be an e-version as well. Every year, over 1 billion Christmas Cards are sold in the UK. A giant Christmas card gives everyone the opportunity to write a Christmas message to others in the church and the card is displayed for all to see. We do of course recognise that some people may still like to send individual cards.

Getting Involved.

As an Eco Church we are keen to involve as many people as possible in our Eco activities. If you have any ideas or suggestions, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Claire Carter via the Parish Office: office@kpc.org.uk