Towards an environmentally sustainable church

Ruth Knight, Environmental Policy Officer
June 2018

L-OTI (°C) Anomaly vs 1951-1980

0.78
‘As people of faith, we don’t just state our beliefs — we live them out......The moral crisis of climate change is an opportunity to find purpose and joy, and to respond to our creator’s charge. Reducing the causes of climate change is essential to the life of faith. It is a way to love our neighbour and to steward the gift of creation.’
Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby
https://www.parishbuying.org.uk/categories/led-lighting
St Wenn, Truro Diocese

https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/infrastructure/renewable-energy/microgeneration/
Projects coming out as (relatively) low cost / high impact – so generally worth implementing

1. Better heating controls / zoning
2. Pipe lagging
3. Replacing old boilers
4. Draught-exclusion
5. Low energy lighting – *bulb replacements*
Projects coming out as high cost / high impact – so generally worth investigating

1. Solar panels
2. LED lighting – *where fittings need changing*
3. Far infra-red radiant panel heaters – *sometimes*
4. Insulation – *where you have a roof void and safe access*
High cost / low impact projects; be cautious here ....

1. Secondary-glazing / double-glazing
2. Roof insulation where there is no roof void
3. Internal / external wall insulation
4. Ceiling fans

... although they can be valuable in some circumstances.
Plus lots of steps which are low cost / low impact – just do them!

1. Turning off equipment when not in use
2. Reduce hours for the floodlighting
3. Get TRVs for radiators and turn down rooms which aren’t in regular use
4. Turn down the thermostat
5. Regularly review the on / off times of heating
6. Service the boiler, clear dust from heaters
Shildon Alive! Guerilla Gardening Team

http://shildonalive.org.uk/community-gardens
Letters for Creation

A global conversation on the impact of climate change across the Anglican Communion
‘On the eastern coast of southern Africa, Mozambique has been devastated by flooding. In contrast, in Namibia, Swaziland and South Africa the greatest impact has been that of crippling drought. In northern Namibia and southern Angola, people have been forced to slaughter their cattle, destroying their future economic stability.’

Most Reverend Dr Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop of Cape Town
‘A true ecological approach always becomes a social approach, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. Everything is connected... Thanks to our bodies, God has joined us so closely to the world around us that we can feel the desertification of the soil almost as a physical ailment, and the extinction of a species as a painful disfigurement.’

Most Revd Zacharie Masimango Katanda, Archbishop of the Congo & Bishop of Kindu
‘In the Tongan island Pangaimotu, where as a boy I used to fish with my father, coconut palms stand stripped of fronds as the salt water encroaches and eats at root systems below the earth and cyclones ravage above….People in vulnerable communities need a voice’

Most Reverend Winston Halapua, Bishop of Polynesia & Archbishop of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
Creationtide resources
1st September – 4th October

Creationtide / Background / Discussion materials / Resources / Letters for Creation
**Creationtide actions & reflections**

"Creationtide" or the 'Season of Creation' is the period in the annual church calendar (from 1st September to 4th October) dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. For Anglicans it is also a time when we celebrate Harvest, give thanks for the food we have and take action for those in need.

"To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth" is the Anglican Communion's Fifth Mark of Mission.

Our food is one of the largest sources of carbon emissions from UK households. At the same time it is an area of our lives where we can all make a difference. Globally, even without climate change, the world food system faces a challenge: experts estimate that global food production will need to increase by 70 percent by 2050 to feed a growing population and satisfy shifting diets.

For Creationtide or harvest liturgies, prayers, café reflections and discussion documents visit the Church of England Environment Programme site at www.shrinkingthefootprint.org

Celebrate with Christians around the world through the Season of Creation resources and global prayer events.

### Lifestyle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday 2 September</th>
<th>Use what you buy. Try using a meal planner to help avoid wasting food you don’t eat.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. Deut. 6:9. Celebrate - could you build a community bring &amp; share lunch or harvest supper, try the big lunch tool to get everyone involved.</td>
<td>4 Try to buy local and seasonal food - not only are you minimising transport miles but you’re also supporting the local economy.</td>
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<td>5 Avoid excess packaging wherever possible to reduce plastic waste and if you can’t make sure you recycle it.</td>
<td>6 Drink water from your tap, use a jug; add a slice of lemon or use a water filter if necessary. Bottled water has a carbon footprint of 320 g &amp; tap water 0.24 g per litre.</td>
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### Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday 9 September</th>
<th>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above. James 1:17 How can you support others as a church? Can you use Heritage open day to share your work?</th>
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<td>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above. James 1:17 How can you support others as a church? Can you use Heritage open day to share your work?</td>
<td>10 An estimated 8.4 million people struggling to afford to eat in the UK. Find out how you can help from End Hunger UK and sign the petition calling for Government to fix Universal Credit to prevent more people going hungry.</td>
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<td>11 Does your church have any land? Could you grow food or develop a sensory garden - being outside and taking part in a community garden has been shown to be good for physical and mental health.</td>
<td>12 Is there somewhere in your community you could sow wild flowers to help encourage wildlife and pollinators? You can get advice from Grow Wild.</td>
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<td>13 The perfect day for a random act of kindness. You could bake someone a cake, prepare some food for someone who is a full-time carer or even just share some biscuits.</td>
<td>14 Today is National Quiet Day &amp; Holy Cross Day - take a moment of reflection today to consider what action you can take within your community or lifestyle to be a witness to your faith.</td>
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<td>15 Join the Great British Beach Clean - there are lots of events taking place helping to keep plastic waste out of the food chain. If you’re not near a beach organize a litter pick locally or just take a bag with you when you go out.</td>
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**Date**

**Event**

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Sunday 16 September

**Event**

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@CofEEnvironment

www.churchofengland.org/environment