



Sacred Earth Camp

Group #5

Earthkeepers

2021 Feb 6

Outline

- Chris Wright on Creation, C.F. Henry talk
- What can we do
 - A Rocha UK - Eco Church
 - Climate Stewards
 - **Offsetting**
 - 360° carbon

Others

What about us?

Why Christians Care for Creation

Wrap-up

Chris Wright on Creation

the goodness of
Creation

the glory of Creation

the goal of Creation

the
goodness
of
Creation

- Creation is good in relation to God
- Creation is good in relation to us

the glory of Creation

- God's glory through the praise of creation
- God's glory in the fullness of creation
- Whatever destroys creation diminishes God's praise and glory

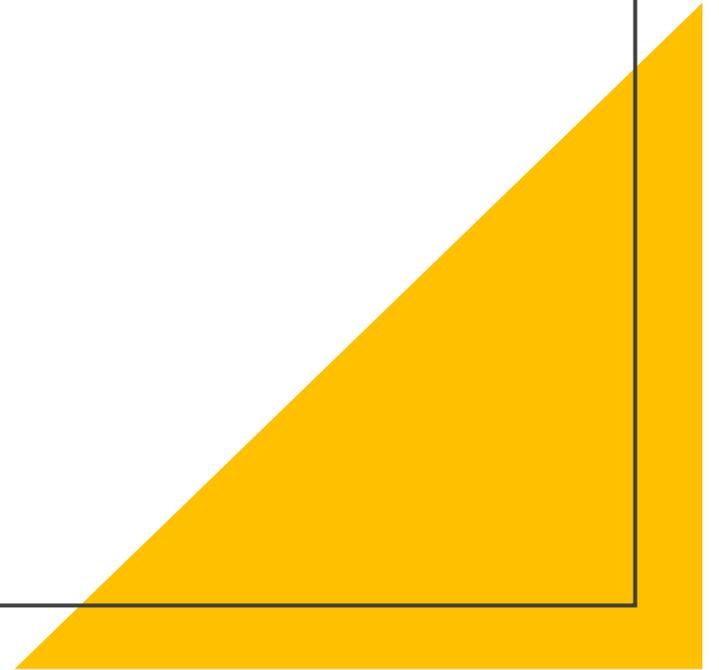
the goal of Creation

- All creation is included in God's plan of redemption through the cross and resurrection of Christ
- The redemption of creation will involve purging – not obliteration
- Creation has been reconciled to God through the cross and resurrection of Christ
- Our final destination – not just 'heaven', but the new creation

Conclusion

- Creation is included within the biblical gospel and the 'great commission', under the Lordship of Christ

What can
we do



A Rocha UK – Eco Church

- <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>
- Youtube
<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/frequently-asked-questions/>
- Questionnaire

Questionnaire



Worship and
teaching



Buildings



Land



Community and
global engagement



Lifestyle

Worship and teaching

1. Special Sundays relating to caring for God's earth (e.g. Creation Time, Environment Sunday, Rogation Sunday etc.) are celebrated in our church:
2. Hymns and songs, liturgies used in our church to enable us to celebrate God's creation
3. Our church prays for environmental issues
4. Caring for God's earth is preached in our church
5. Our church hosts guest speakers from A Rocha UK or other Christian environmental organisations
6. Caring for God's earth features as a teaching theme in our church's youth work:
7. Caring for God's earth features as a teaching theme in our church's children's work:
8. Our church's communications (e.g. newsletters, service sheets, magazines, social media etc.) include items relating to the theme of caring for God's earth
9. The leadership have made commitments to improving the environmental credentials of our church by endorsing the undertaking of work towards an Eco Church Award:

Buildings

1. Is your church responsible for the premises in which it meets?
2. **We have measured our energy use and calculated the carbon footprint of our church premises:**
3. We have set sufficient targets for reducing the carbon footprint of our church premises and achieving year- on-year improvements in energy efficiency:
4. We offset the carbon footprint of our church premises for those things we can't reduce:
5. The electricity supplied to our church premises is generated from renewable resources and/or charged according to our supplier's 'green tariff':
6. The gas supplied to our church premises is generated from renewable sources and/or charged according to our supplier's 'green tariff':
7. In terms of energy efficiency (an engineer should be able to determine this as part of the annual service) the main boiler on our church premises is ...

Buildings

8. Our church premises are insulated
9. Our church windows are double-glazed
10. The lighting in our main church premises uses energy-efficient light bulbs as follows...
11. We have a policy designed to limit the amount of energy consumed by floodlighting and/or security lighting around our church premises:
12. The water supply to our church premises is metered
13. Rainwater collection facilities are installed and used on our church premises (e.g. 'grey water' systems, water butts etc.)
14. The toilets on our church premises are fitted with dual-flush buttons or other water-saving devices
15. We have installed a composting/waterless toilet (see, for example, eco-toilets.co.uk) on our church premises

Buildings

16. Recycled toilet paper is provided on our church premises:
17. The cleaning products used around our church premises are environmentally-friendly:
18. The disposables (e.g. paper cups and plates etc.) used on our church premises are...
19. We are reducing our paper usage (e.g. through double-sided copying/printing etc.)...
20. Our church administration uses recycled paper...
21. In the event of the need to undertake a building/refurbishment project, our church would insist that it adhere to BREEAM (or similar) standard to ensure best practice in sustainable building design, construction and operation...
22. Cycle racks are available on our church premises...
23. Recycling facilities are available on our church premises...
24. Our church has given due consideration to the possibilities of generating renewable energy on our premises (e.g. air or ground source heat pump, solar PV panels, wind turbine, etc.):
25. Our church generates renewable energy on/for our premises (e.g. from air or ground source heat pump, solar PV panels; solar hot water; wind turbine etc.):

Land

1. Does your church have influence over any land? (e.g. churchyard, community nature reserve)
2. The land at our church is managed for the encouragement of native wildlife (birds, animals and plants):
3. We encourage native wildlife on our church land through provision of the following:
4. Stocked wildlife feeding stations are present on our church land (e.g. bird feeders, bird tables):
5. Our church land contains a pond or wetland area that is good for wildlife:
6. We grow plants on our land that benefit birds, bees, butterflies etc.:
7. Our church maintains an area of land for native wildflowers:
8. Our church has researched and established a mowing regime appropriate to the conservation of the grassland and wildlife present:
9. Our church avoids the use of harmful chemicals (pesticides, herbicides or fertilizers) in the management of our land (excluding paths and driveways)

Land

10. Our church participates in responsible native tree planting schemes in accordance with guidance from environment professionals:
11. Our church undertakes wildlife (birds, animals and plants) surveys on our land:
12. Our church participates in a scheme, other than Eco Church, designed to promote conservation on church land (e.g. 'Living Churchyards')
13. We grow fruit and vegetables on our land (including in planters, window boxes etc. as well as in a community garden/allotment)
14. Composting facilities are available on our church land:
15. Our church actively encourages members to use church land for recreation/contemplation (e.g. picnics, prayer etc.)
16. Our church actively encourages members of the local community to use the church land for recreation/contemplation:
17. Our church has established a management plan for the land for which we are responsible

COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

1. **Our church (either alone or as part of a local network) engages with our local MP, AM, local council or Public Service Board on environmental matters:**
2. **Our church arranges for local environmentalists to speak in our services:**
3. **Our church (either alone or as part of a network) works with local sustainability movements like David Suzuki Foundation, Georgia Straight, Wilderness BC**
4. **Our church (either alone or as part of a local network) organises environmental awareness-raising events (e.g. film evenings, Fairtrade events etc.):**
5. **Our church is involved with local conservation work (e.g., at an A Rocha Canada Partner in Action or nature reserve):**
6. **Our church has committed to pray for a specific overseas environmental project**
7. **Our church participates in regular sustainability initiatives (e.g. WWF's annual Earth Hour event):**
8. **Our church participates in campaigns concerning national environmental issues:**
9. **Our church participates in campaigns concerning global environmental issues:**
10. **Our church keeps the congregation informed about the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on communities elsewhere in the world:**
11. **Our church financially supports an environmental charity:**

COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

12. At least some of our church members (either alone or as part of a local network) have organised and/or participated in a community clean-up project (e.g. local litter-pick):
13. Our church (either alone or as part of a local network) hosts a green fair, showcasing local produce and highlighting local environmental issues:
14. Our church organises events providing an opportunity for local people to get out and enjoy God's earth in our local area (e.g. walks, cycle rides etc.):
15. Our church organises events providing an opportunity for local people to engage with local leaders on local environmental issues (e.g. local MPs, AMs or council leaders)
16. Our church either provides or supports a local car-share scheme (this includes members sharing lifts to church):
17. Users of our church premises are encouraged to minimise resource use (e.g. people are trained in reducing energy use, notices about turning off lights are displayed etc.):

COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

19. Our church is registered with the Fairtrade Foundation as a Fairtrade Church:
20. Wherever possible, Fairtrade and/or ethically sourced goods are used at church services and events:
21. Any meals provided by the church use food that is locally grown:
22. Any meals provided by the church use organic ingredients:
23. Any meals provided by the church use food that is animal-friendly:
24. Any meals provided by the church use Fairtrade ingredients:
25. Any meals provided by the church include a vegetarian and /or vegan option:
26. Our church takes steps to reduce food waste (e.g. through composting all waste, minimising leftovers at church meals, partnering with a local food waste scheme), and we encourage our members to do likewise:
27. Our church actively promotes Eco Church to other local churches:

Lifestyle

1. Our church has appointed an individual or group to champion the cause of our church community becoming more environmentally sustainable:
2. Walking and cycling to church services and events is promoted in our church
3. The reduction of car use is encouraged in our church:
4. **The members of our church receive encouragement to undertake a personal carbon footprint audit:**
5. Our church encourages members to reduce their personal energy consumption:
6. Our church encourages members to limit their waste by adhering to the principles of reduce, re-use, recycle:
7. Our church hosts activities and/or events that facilitate the recycling and/or reuse of goods (e.g. clothes swap events or 'give and take' schemes):
8. Our church operates a communal Christmas and/or Easter card scheme among the congregation:

Lifestyle

9. Personal use and consumption of Fairtrade and/or ethically sourced goods is promoted in our church:
10. Our church encourages members to use food at home that is LOAF (Locally grown, Organic, Animal- friendly, Fairtrade)
11. Our church runs or partners with other organisations in running a food cooperative that enables members to bulk buy ethically sourced produce at wholesale prices:
12. The ethical investment of personal savings is encouraged at our church:
13. Our church funds are ethically invested (e.g. current account and/or investments):
14. Practical lifestyle tips and advice on caring for God's earth are included in our church newsletters/on our church website:
15. As part of our life together, the members of our church undertake an environmental lifestyle audit:

Climate Stewards

<https://www.climatestewards.org/>

Reduce what you can

- In the air
- On the ground
- At home
- Food
- Waste & recycling
- Government & services
- Everything else



Climate Stewards – offset the rest

<https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/>



IN THE AIR

ON THE
GROUND

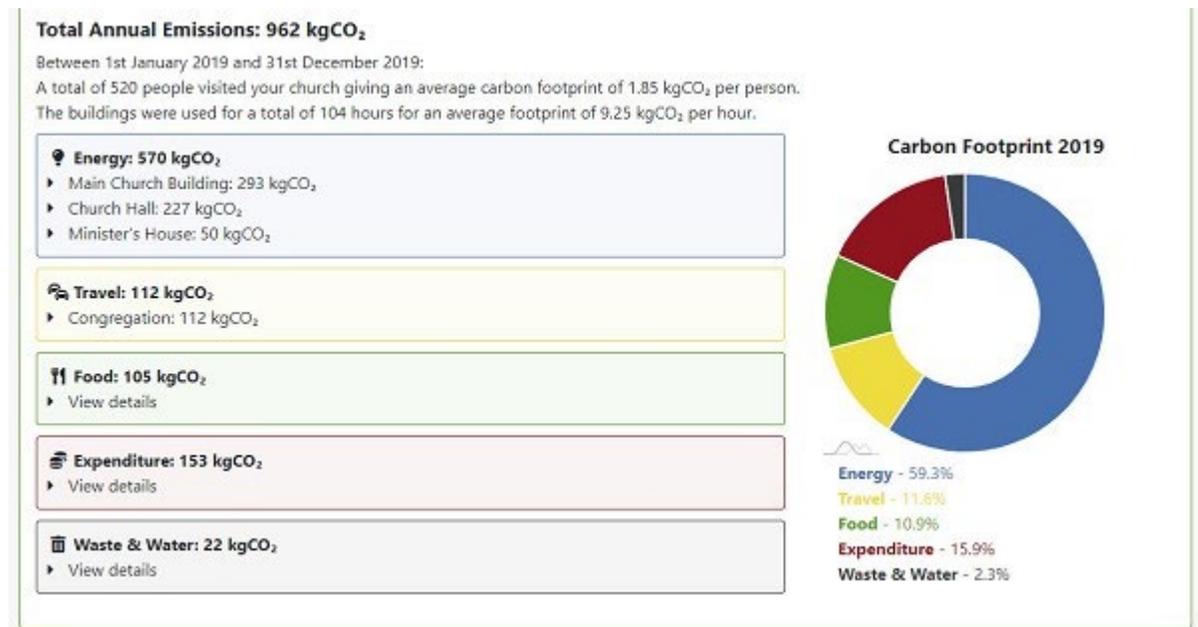
AT HOME

FOOD

OTHER

Climate Stewards - Church footprints

- – 360° carbon,
<https://www.climatestewards.org/resources/360carbon/>
- <https://360carbon.org/>
- User guide
- <https://360carbon.org/user-guide>



BC Anglican disose

- <https://bc.anglican.ca/resources/green-church/pages/10-ways-to-reduce-single-use-plastics--271>
- 10 ways to reduce single use plastics

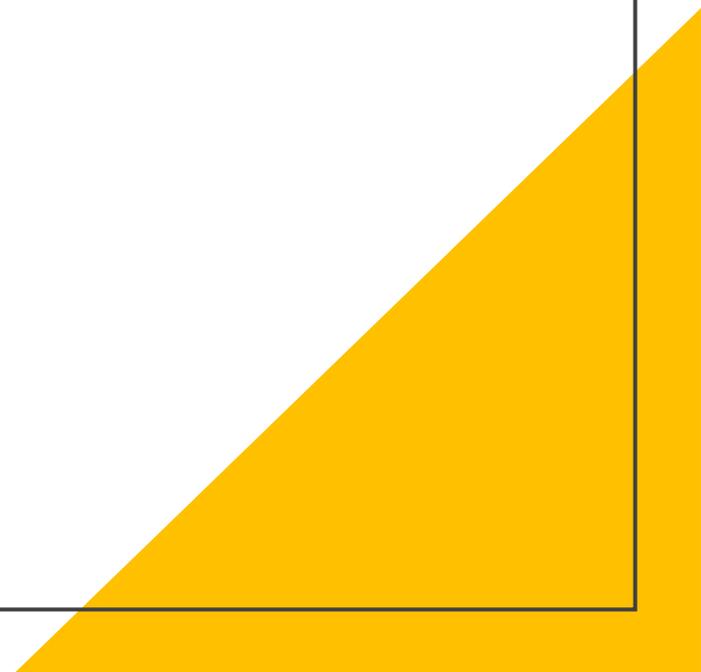
Search green church

- You'll find more
- <https://greenfaith.org/> for multi-faith

Earthkeepers

- Christians for Climate Justice
- Local ecumenical lay group
- www.theearthkeepers.org

What about
us?



Discussion

What can you do?

What would help you?

What is missing?

What will you do?

When will you start?

How will you start?

Who will you start with?

| # | what can you do? | what would help you? | what is missing? | what will you do? | When will you start? | how will you start? | who will you start with? |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | engage with our local MP, AM, local council or Public Service Board on environmental matters: | | | | | | |
| 2 | arrange for local environmentalists to speak in our services: | | | | | | |
| 3 | work with local sustainability movements like David Suzuki Foundation, Georgia Straight, Wilderness BC | | | | | | |
| 4 | organize environmental awareness-raising events (e.g. film evenings, Fairtrade events etc.): | | | | | | |
| 5 | get involved with local conservation work (e.g., at an A Rocha Canada Partner in Action or nature reserve): | | | | | | |
| 6 | commit to pray for a specific overseas environmental project | | | | | | |
| 7 | participate in regular sustainability initiatives (e.g. WWF's annual Earth Hour event): | | | | | | |
| 8 | participate in campaigns concerning national environmental issues: | | | | | | |
| 9 | participate in campaigns concerning global environmental issues: | | | | | | |
| 10 | keep the congregation informed about the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on communities elsewhere in the world: | | | | | | |
| 11 | financially support an environmental charity: | | | | | | |

Why Christians Care for Creation

1. Love for God – He created it and it all belongs to Him
2. Obedience to God – we have a mandate from the time we were made
3. Imaging God – we should behave like God, by His grace
4. Loving neighbour – all depend on creation
5. Loving selves – we depend on creation and we enjoy it
6. Loving Creation – loving creation is loving others and God
7. Creation will be our home forever

Wrap-up

Prayer

- God of all creation,
- How splendid and majestic is the world you created!
It reveals your glory; it teaches us about you.
- When you made us in your image,
you gave us this command:
care for the world and for all the creatures in it,
for this is our common home.
- Yet your holy creation cries out,
for our home is “burdened and laid waste,”
scorched and scarred.¹
- Come among us
that we might remember our interdependence.
Let us see the face of your Son in those who suffer
from the destruction of our common home.
- Help us to be stewards
who honor you in the world you have made
for the good of all creation
and for future generations.
- May your justice reign forever!
- Amen.
- ¹ Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, no. 2