

changing church

CLIMATE CHANGE

10 TOP TIPS FOR

CREATION CARE



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10 top tips for creation care

Over 79 per cent of all survey participants agreed that the church should be doing more in response to climate change. These top tips are designed to inspire and help the church think through practical steps that could be taken to engage our congregations in creation care.



1. Prayer

As with all things, continually ask for God's wisdom and help on how you might best address climate change and point others to Him as you seek to love your neighbour through creation care.

2. Audit

Assess what your church is and isn't doing to respond practically to climate change. Celebrate where action is already being taken and look at areas of church life where you could make changes to help tackle climate change.

St Paul's Leamington Spa - as part of their A Rocha Eco church journey – [designed their own super spreadsheet](#) for auditing and have given permission to share it with others.

3. Clarity

Once a year you could have a special focus on climate change and creation care. Why not make this a chance to celebrate what's been achieved in the past year and make new commitments for responding to climate change in the year to come?

Over 1000 churches have registered for a Climate Sunday this year!

[COP26 Church Service - Tearfund](#)

4. Cultural shift

By making small practical changes, like using re-usable cups, environmentally friendly soaps and putting out recycling bins, you can gently inform your church that climate change is something they should care about. Why not install bike racks outside the church building, have a vegetarian option at church events, create a community garden or install bird boxes?

5. Education

Spend time developing your theology of creation care. How might you educate yourself further on the issue? What resources are already out there that you could use? How could you integrate teaching on creation care into the wider teaching of the church?

Kerith church has been doing a creation care series and devoted a section of their website to a whole heap of resources for small groups. [Creation Care Course — Kerith Community Church](#)

6. Giving

Consider supporting a Christian charity that specifically looks to care for creation or those suffering because of climate change.

7. Advocacy

Invite your local MP to a church event where you can explain why you care about climate change and conduct a Q&A on how they're responding. Why not also open the invite to your wider community, so they can hear Christians advocating for the planet and those who will be affected by climate change.

8. Outreach

If your church is part of a community that cares deeply about climate change, perhaps start or join a local group. Why not hold an event centred around this shared interest, perhaps a litter pick or community cycle, followed by a picnic and a short evangelistic talk about the God who created all things?

9. Acknowledgement

In your times of corporate prayer, acknowledge and say sorry to God communally for the ways you have been careless towards His world, and those who will suffer because of it. Repent and re-orientate.

10. Partnership

If there are local community projects tackling climate change, consider getting together with some Christian friends to get involved. When people ask why you've got involved, be prepared to give an answer that includes your Christian faith. What Christian organisations are taking a lead on tackling climate change? Are there resources available to you or ways you could invite them to help your church as it thinks through the issue?

“In February I attended a seminar hosted by Tearfund entitled ‘Burning down the house’. The seminar was based on some research conducted between Tearfund and YouthScape which sought to understand the growing concerns our youth have towards issues of injustice and climate change.

As I listened to the stories I realised that I have very rarely considered climate change, creation care, and my response as a Christian.

Over the following months I have felt God bubble more consideration for this up within me, forcing me to engage with my presuppositions, bias’ and personal tendencies. I felt that this current moment was an opportunity for our church to reflect and teach in a way that, by God’s grace, may have a significant impact.

This led to the formation of a Creation Care Team (CCT), with one member sitting on our church council. Over the spring we have run a sermon series, built a resource hub on our website engaged in a local community garden project, explored recycling opportunities at church and more. Our church family have really engaged with this from the youngest to our most senior members. We have a long way to go, but we remember that God is good and gracious and He loves this world He made more than we do and is completely sovereign over it.”

– Aneal Appadoo, Associate Minister, Christ Church Surbiton Hill

Further reading and resources

Why care for creation? – OMF International

Our prophetic journey towards climate justice – Christian Aid

Taking action on climate justice – Christian Aid

Black lives matter everywhere – Christian Aid

Reboot campaign – Tearfund

Prayer for the climate – Tearfund

Climate factsheet – Tearfund

Climate church talk – Tearfund

Christianity and climate change, small group film series – Tearfund

How to pray for climate change – produced by Tearfund and 24-7 Prayer as part of the international Renew Our World campaign

Climate emergency toolkit – put together in collaboration with several organisations, as well as activists and church leaders

Climate change: Gospel motivation for a global issue – Evangelical Alliance

All of life, talk series – A Rocha

Creation care course – Kerith church

Thank you to our friends at A Rocha, Christian Aid and Tearfund who helped shape and inform these 10 top tips.

