

Maidstone Deanery: Steps to becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030

1. Put Creation Care on your PCC agenda.
2. Nominate someone in the congregation to be your Environment Officer and affirm and support him/her.
3. Establish a small group (a Green Team) to start the conversation on climate change, pray about it and move it forward in your parish. See the Church of England webinars on getting started:
[Webinars on getting to net zero carbon | The Church of England](#)

[Take a look at a Net Zero church from outside and inside](#)
4. Register your church as an Eco Church and begin to work through the survey with others such as a lay minister/Reader, church warden, Treasurer and someone connected with fabric. Along the way, you will be able to make changes at little or no cost.
5. Become informed on climate change:
 1. [Tearfund's Factsheet](#)
 2. [Diocese of Canterbury's Factsheet](#)
 3. John Houghton's book, *Global Warming*
 4. Mark Maslin, *Climate Change*
6. Calculate your carbon footprint using the [Church of England's Energy Footprint Tool](#)

Set a target as determined by PCC and a timescale to reach it.
7. Look at the following online resources:
 1. [Church of England Environment programme](#)

[Diocese of Canterbury Care for Creation web pages:](#)
 2. [Pray and Fast for the Climate](#)
 3. Biblical Reflection: Ruth Valerio's book, *Saying Yes to Life*
 4. Worship/Bible Study Resources:
 - i. Organise a [Climate Sunday](#)
 - ii. [Christian Aid – Talking Climate Justice](#)
 - iii. [Tearfund – sample sermon](#)
 - iv. Sermon Series/Group Study – using *Planetwise*, by Dave Bookless
8. Work out your action plan. The things that will make a difference are:

1. Know your carbon footprint.
2. Eco Church survey: Set targets towards reaching awards as along the way, you will progress in becoming more green.
3. Use the [***Practical Path to Net Zero***](#) to identify what actions you can take
4. Help every household in your church to make lifestyle change with the Creation Care survey: [Welcome to Creation Care | Creation Care](#)
5. Calculate the cost of offsetting emissions you can't avoid with [Climate Stewards](#)
6. Make the switch to a green energy supplier: [The Big Clean Switch](#)

or check with the Diocese for further information and on taking an Energy Audit.
7. Contact your local MP about climate change.
[MPs — Hope for the Future \(hftf.org.uk\)](#)
8. Support campaigns by:
 - i. Operation Noah: [Get involved - Bright Now](#)
 - ii. Christian Aid: [Campaigns toolkit - Christian Aid](#)
 - iii. Tearfund: [Take action - Tearfund](#)
 - iv. Green Christian: [THE CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY BILL – Green Christian](#)
9. Establish the risks your church faces: flooding, overheating, overflowing gutters during extreme rainfalls, foundations swelling/shrinking etc. and how to tackle them.
10. Join with like-minded community organisations and discuss: food/water/power shortages, migrations, energy insecurity.