Climate Action Prayer Support – March, 2024

Dear Supporter,

We have completed our submission for the A Rocha Eco Church Silver Award. It only remains for it to be confirmed by our Minister, Rev Ian and submitted to A Rocha. Watch this space.

1. Pray that our **A Rocha Eco Church Silver Award** **submission** will be well received.  Pray that our submission will be successful. Give thanks for the 3000+ Eco Churches in England.

From a recent report by Green Christian, it is estimated that 2023 was the hottest year in 125,000 years (The EU Copernicus Climate Change Service, 9 November 2023), and was an unprecedented year for climate-related disasters. At the beginning of this year, the atmospheric carbon dioxide was at 421.31 parts per million (daily reading, Mauna Loa, Hawaii). A decade ago (395.64ppm). Climate scientists were concerned about what would happen if we passed the 400ppm mark. Atmospheric levels of greenhouse gases carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide are higher than at any time in the past 125,000 years, with a sharp recent spike (climatelevels.org). Also in 2023, the IPCC stated that global warming can no longer be limited to 1.5 degrees.

Participating in Eco Church demonstrates both our care for God’s earth and acknowledges that Global Warming is a serious matter that we must address. We do that in a variety of ways:-

1. We want to fire people’s imaginations about the beauty and wonder of creation by thinking “outside the box”. We have asked members, young and old, to send us pictures of **Spring Flowers** that we can display on the church website in time for Easter. Pray that they will catch the vision and send us photos. Pray that those who view the photos will be reminded of the beauty and wonder of creation and be drawn to the links with Easter.
2. Thinking ahead, please pray for an **Eco Prayer Walk** around the church and Castle Park. Pray for wisdom about when to walk, what to pray about and for good participation in the walk.
3. We have been praying that **sufficient funding** will be forthcoming for the Trinity Eco Community Garden for several months now. Give thanks that we have been successful in obtaining a grant of £10,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. (Note. The Methodist Church have changed their former ruling and now allow churches to accept such grants.)
4. Pray that the Eco Group members involved in the “garden” project will be guided to spend the £10.000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant wisely.
5. **Trinity Eco Community Garden,** continue to give thanks for all the people who have volunteered to help set up and work in this garden. Bless, enthuse and empower them. Pray for their future monthly meetings at Trinity, may they be fruitful(!). Pray that the Security Gate will be sensibly re-positioned and effective. Pray for the Eco Group members involved in bringing the project to fruition, that they will have the necessary skills and wisdom needed.
6. Dear Lord, thank you for the wonderful glories and treasures within the UK’s 46 **Areas of** **Outstanding Natural Beauty** (e.g. Forest of Bowland) and 15 **National Parks** (e.g. Lake District and Yorkshire Dales) and the staff and volunteers who look after them. We pray that the millions of visitors will continue to respect and appreciate these places and help to support local communities. For Christ’s sake. Amen

“God of field and farm, forest and ocean, you entrust to us the stewardship of this incredible planet. We remember before you those whose work is to husband and harvest it, and pray that you will teach us again, each one, to love your world, to love each other, to love ourselves and above all, to love You. Amen”

*(Prayer from the ‘The Earth is the Lord’s’, Methodist Prayer Handbook, 2020/2021, by Jennifer Hurd, Synod Cymru Chair, 2021 .)*

Archie Whymark, Trinity Climate Action Champion