Trinity Climate Action Prayer Support – Dec, 2024

Dear Supporter,

1. Give thanks for the inspiration to write “500 words” for the Gold Award supporting evidence pro forma on how we plan to continue our Eco Church journey. Pray for the success of our submission.

2. Pray for the Trinity Eco Group to have wisdom deciding how best to continue its Eco Church journey after, hopefully, achieving a Gold Eco Church Award.

 **COP29** (Conference of the Parties) took place this year in Baku, Azerbaijan, in November. The final communique said that no country got everything they wanted, and that the world leaves Baku with a mountain of work to do. The UK sent 470 delegates on 5,000 mile round trip – ‘hypocrisy’?

4. We pray that **those in positions of power** be held accountable for the targets set at COP29, working with conviction to go above and beyond them. For the sake of future generations. Amen

*We sometimes forget that there are poor and needy people in this country. Now there are several organisations that cater for them especially at Christmas, like the Salvation Army. Therefore, let us pray for those organisations we are aware of, and if we don’t know any……….*

5. Pray for **Crisis at Christmas** which helps provide food, welfare and help at Christmas to those experiencing homelessness. It operates primarily from four hubs in London plus centres in other cities (Birmingham, Edinburgh, Oxford and Newcastle) and some areas (South Wales and Merseyside) and relies mainly on volunteers – cooks, hairdressers, podiatrists, and all sorts of advisers. Pray for this enterprise and for all the volunteers. Pray that all those who use their services (known as guests!) will have a happy Christmas and be pointed towards a better lifestyle.

6. Pray for wisdom in our choice of **Christmas Presents -** Buy a charity gift – goat, chicken, beehive, tree, seeds etc. Or buy a Charity Gift Card to fund the fight back against climate change from a Fairtrade charity like Transform Trade. Other charities may be available.

7. Pray for wisdom in our choice of **Christmas Cards** and **Wrapping Paper –** cards for a charity? Wrapping paper without glitter? Plain brown paper? Recycle old wrapping paper?

8. Pray for wisdom in our choice of **Festive Food –** don’t buy too much? Plan your festive meals and make a shopping list?Donate things to food banks for those who have less? Use up leftovers?

*But then, why should we reinvent the wheel. I am a great fan of Martin Lewis and suggest you read on the internet his “Money Saving Expert’s 48 Christmas MoneySaving tips” and pray about which ones might apply to you and help you think (and pray) outside the box.*

Finally, let us end with a prayer that challenges, in part, the commercialism of Christmas:

“Lord, help us experience a sense of urgency about safeguarding your creation.

Challenge us to see that future generations are some of our neighbours Jesus urged us to love and help us to stop taking more than our fair share.

Challenge our assumptions, like whether we take a flight or how often we drive our cars.

Challenge our wastefulness, like our desire to buy new clothes and items for the home.

Challenge our complacency, like our choices about the food we eat and the energy we use.

Challenge our sense of entitlement, for the earth is not ours, but Yours. Amen”

*(Based on a Prayer from the ‘The Earth is the Lord’s’, Methodist Prayer Handbook, 2020/21, by Margaret Lee, Swanwick Methodist Church, Borders Circuit Mission.)*

Archie Whymark, Climate Action Champion.