

16. RESOURCES: STUDY PROGRAMMES AND BOOKS

ECO-CONGREGATION

The programme is organised by a series of modules grouped into four sets:

SET 1: GROUNDING IN FAITH

Module 1: Ecological audit - this helps churches to identify what they are already doing to help the environment and what more they could do. It begins by asking the church to assess what activities are taking place in each of the five Marks of Mission categories and whether sufficient weight is given to the fifth Mark (To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation; to sustain and renew the life of the earth). It reminds us that a church with a holistic mission has activities relating to each of the Five Marks

Module 2: Celebrating Creation - ideas for worship

Module 3: Creation and Christianity – theological perspectives

SET 2: GROWING IN FAITH

Module 4: Acorns to oaks – ideas for children’s work

Module 5: Tread gently, go green – ideas for youth groups

Module 6: Exploring God’s green word – Bible study

SET 3: MANAGING IN FAITH

Module 7: Greening the Cornerstone – caring for church premises

Module 8: Greening the purse strings - finance

Module 9: Planting and Conserving Eden – caring for church grounds

SET 4: LIVING IN FAITH

Module 10: Green Choices – personal lifestyles

Module 11: Community matters – projects with the local community

Module 12: Global neighbours – worldwide focus

The modules are resources for guidance only. Each church is free to use them, adapt them or create their own. To gain the award there needs to have been progress in three areas:

- Worship and teaching

- Practical action with church buildings and church management
- Outreach to the local and global community

Contact: Jo Rathbone, Eco-congregation, The Arthur Rank Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, CV8 2LZ
Tel: 024 7685 3061

Website: www.ecocongregation.org

RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

Environmental awareness is taught throughout the school - for example: at age 5 “pupils should be taught what improves and harms their environments and about some of the ways people look after them” (KS1 Citizenship). Between 5 and 11 children should learn “knowledge and understanding of environmental change and sustainable development” as a key theme of geography at KS2. And renewable energy is a specific requirement for KS3 Science. And so on! Sustainable development is also included in the values, aims and purposes of the National Curriculum. For fuller information on the curriculum and sustainable development please see www.teachernet.gov.uk/sustainableschools

Sustainable Schools Strategy and Consultation document can be found on www.publications.teachernet.gov.uk

Also find s3, the sustainable schools self-evaluation tool.

Every Child Matters www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

Eco-schools www.eco-schools.org.uk

Growing Schools - the outdoor classroom. www.teachernet.gov.uk/growingschools/

Somerset Waste Action Partnership (SWAP), based at Carymoor Environmental Centre, has visited 95% Somerset schools with innovative workshops, including this year new projects on energy. See their new website www.recyclesomerset.info – look under education.

For information on '**sustainable scrap science**' contact: Ben Hartshorn, Coordinator for the Somerset GLEN (Global Learning Education Network, funded by DfID).

Meare Village Primary School has an exemplar sustainable education project with DfES, WWF and Global Learning Communities, and has invited all Somerset schools to work with them as partners

Other resources for schools are available from:

The Environment Agency, Friends of the Earth, The Centre for Sustainable Energy, DTI. British Gas, Global Footprints, and others.

See Paper 17 for contact details.

STUDY CENTRES

Carymoor Environmental Centre is an educational, information and research centre on a landfill site near Castle Cary. Visitors are welcome and courses are run for adults and for children to tie in with the National Curriculum.

Carymoor, Dimmer Lane, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7NR. 01963 350143

www.carymoor.org.uk

ENVOLVE is an eco centre at Green Park in Bath. South Vaults, Green Park Station, Bath, BA1 1JB. 01225 787910

COURSES

Certificate in Christian Rural and Environmental Studies (CRES) based at Ripon College. Cuddesdon, Oxford, OX44 9EX. 01865 874404

Sustaining the Earth: A Christian Approach to Caring for the Environment.

St John's Nottingham Extension Studies: complete with comprehensive workbook.

St John's College, Chilwell Lane, Bramcote, Nottingham, NG9 3DS. 0115 943 6438

BOOKS

General Introductions, Classics and Handbooks

Rachel Carson, **Silent Spring**, reprinted 1991, Penguin, One of the books that kick-started the green movement.

Horace Dammers, **Life Style: A Parable of Sharing**, 1982, Turnstone
An essential concept.

Julia Hailes, **The New Green Consumer Guide**, 2007, Simon & Schuster
Information, ideas, the problems and what you can do.

Rob Hopkins, **The Transition Handbook** 2008 (reprint) Green Books Ltd, Foxhole, Dartington, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6EB

One result of taking climate change and peak oil seriously is transition communities. This book has come from the transition movement and is a guide to how to move it forward in your area.

George Monbiot, **Heat**, 2006, Penguin

Witty, incisive, loaded with facts and sharp argument.

Anita Roddick, **Take it Personally**, 2001, HarperCollins

E.F.Schumacher, **Small is Beautiful: Politics as if People Matter** 1974, Sphere
Seminal book, presents an alternative paradigm.

Andrew Sims and Joe Smith (Eds), **Do Good Lives Have to Cost the Earth?** 2008, Constable.

The answer, of course, is No. A galaxy of writers, including Rosie Boycott, Oliver James, Philip Pullman, Ann Pettifor and Colin Tudge, explain why not.

Mark Watson, **Crap at the Environment**, 2008, Hodder & Stoughton
Hugely entertaining.

David Suzuki, **The Sacred Balance: Rediscovering our Place in Nature**, Greystone books: Douglas & McIntyre ISBN 780898868975

John V. Taylor, **Enough is Enough**, 1975, SCM
From the one time General Secretary of CMS, Bishop of Winchester and Chair of the C of E Doctrine Commission, a succinct and passionate argument.

Gabrielle Walker & David King, **The Hot Topic**, 2008, Bloomsbury
David King was formerly scientific adviser to the government. Some of this is what he couldn't say while he was a civil servant.

Environmental Ethics

Robin Attfield, **Environmental Ethics**. 2003. Polity Press. ISBN 0-7456-2738-2, 232 pp. An update of Attfield's earlier (1983) classic text, and now the standard text. Written by a philosopher for philosophers, but at least British (and hence written in UK English). Its an excellent coverage of the ground, written with half an eye to the author's own Christian background.

J. Baird Callicott, **In defence of the land ethic**. 1989. State University of New York Press. ISBN 0-88706-899-5. 325 pp.

A representative of the American academic environmental ethics literature. There are other books of essays by the same author, and these can act as a starting point to explore a whole literature.

Celia Deane-Drummond, **The Ethics of Nature**, 2004, Blackwell

A concise introduction to the field, that argues for the development of wisdom.

John S. Dryzek, **The politics of the earth**. 1997 Oxford University Press. ISBN 0-19-878160-1, 220 pp. A superb text, written from the standpoint of the academic study of politics. Other books by Dryzek are also very stimulating.

Michael Northcott, **A Moral Climate: the Ethics of Climate Change** 2007 D.L.T.

Michael S. Northcott, **The environment and Christian Ethics**. 1996. ISBN 0-521-57631-8. 379 pp.
A good solid theological survey of the material.

Philip W. Sutton, **Nature, environment and society**. 2004. Palgrave MacMillan. ISBN 0-333-99568-6. 216 pp.
Sociology learns about the environment. Contains much that is challenging and interesting, but you have to cope with the sociological language.

John Walker, **Environmental Ethics**. 2000 Hodder and Stoughton. Access to Philosophy series. ISBN 0-340-75770-1, 124pp.
Written for A level Philosophy students, it's a good coverage of the issues from a non-religious viewpoint.

Green Christianity

Sharing God's Planet: a Christian Vision for a Sustainable Future, 2005, Church House Publishing.
With a foreword by Rowan Williams, endorsed by General Synod, this report of the Mission and Public Affairs Council is a basic resource for church study.

(Ed) R.J. Berry, **Environmental Stewardship**, 2006, T & T Clark

Dave Bookless, **Planetwise**, 2008, Inter-Varsity
From the British Director of A Rocha.

Ian Bradley, **God is Green: Christianity and the Environment**, 1990, DLT

Elizabeth Breuilly and Martin Palmer (Eds), **Christianity and Ecology**, Cassell
ISBN 780304323746

Tim Cooper, **Green Christianity: Caring for the Whole Creation**, 1990, Hodder
For many years Tim Cooper was Chair of Christian Ecology Link.

Celia Deane-Drummond, **Gaia and Green Ethics: Implications of Ecological Theology**, 1993, Grove Books, Cambridge

Edward Echlín, **The Christian Green Heritage: World as Creation**, 1989, Grove Books, Cambridge

Roger S Gottlieb, **A Greener Faith**, 2006, OUP

Bob Goudzwaard, Mark Vennen & David Van Heemst, **Hope in Troubled Times**, 2007, Baker Academic

Martin and Margot Hodson, **Cherishing the Earth: How to Care for God's Creation**, 2008, Monarch, ISBN 978 1 83424 841 1

James Jones, **Jesus and the Earth**, SPCK, ISBN 0 281 405623 4

From the Bishop of Liverpool.

Sean McDonagh, **To Care for the Earth: a call to a new theology**, 1986, Geoffrey Chapman

Bill McKibben, **The Comforting Whirlwind**, Wm.B. Eerdmans ISBN 9780802804990

Alison Morgan, **The Wild Gospel: Bringing Truth to Life**, 2004, Monarch

Chris Park: **Caring for Creation**, Marshall/Pickering ISBN 0 551 02275 2

Ghilleán Prance, **The Earth Under Threat: A Christian Perspective**, 1996, Wild Goose Publications
From a former Director of Kew Gardens

Colin A. Russell, **Saving Planet Earth: A Christian Perspective**, 2008, Authentic

J. Matthew Sleeth, **Serve God, Save the Planet**, 2007, Zondervan

Nick Spencer & Robert White, **Christianity, Climate Change & Sustainable Living** 2007, SPCK ISBN 978 0 281 05833 4

Sarah Tillett (Ed), **Caring for Creation: Biblical and Theological Perspectives** 2005, Bible Reading Fellowship
Published BRF for A Rocha, this collection of short reflective pieces includes contributions by John Houghton, Eugene Petersen, Christopher Wright and R.J. Berry, among many others.

Jim Wallis, **Seven Ways to Change the World**, 2008, Lion Hudson
Wallis is the Founder of Sojourners and an American political activist with Evangelical roots.

Weaver and Hodson (Eds), **The Place of Environmental Theology**, from John Ray Initiative Office
admin@jri.org.uk

Theology

For a further exploration of the **theological issues** involved the following might be helpful:

Ian Barbour, **Nature, Human Nature and God**, 2002, SPCK

A clear overview of the arguments and the issues.

Richard Bauckham & Trevor Hart, **Hope Against Hope: Christian Eschatology in Contemporary Context**, 1999, DLT
An accessible and broad look at the nature of hope.

Celia Deane-Drummond, **Creation Through Wisdom: Theology and the New Biology**, 2000, T&T Clark
Argues particularly for the value of drawing on Eastern Orthodox theology.

Celia Deane-Drummond, **Eco Theology** 2008. D.L.T.
£12.95
An overview of different approaches.

Celia Deane-Drummond, **Wonder and Wisdom: Conversations in Science, Spirituality and Theology**, 2006, D.L.T.

Celia Deane-Drummond, **A handbook in theology and ecology**. 1996. SCM Press. ISBN 0-334-02634-2. 178 pp.
A good basic text.

T. Fretheim, **God and World in the Old Testament: A Relational Theology of Creation** 2005, Abingdon Press, US

Ivone Gebara, **Longing for Running Water (Biblical Reflections on Ministry)**, 1999, Augsburg Fortress

T.J.Gorringe, **The Education of Desire: Towards a Theology of the Senses**, 2001, SCM
Theological lectures on an issue which is crucial to facing the challenge of consumerism.

Dieter T. Hessel and Rosemary Radford Ruether, editors, **Christianity and Ecology**. 2000. Harvard University Press. ISBN 0-945452-20-1, 720 pp.
A real theological heavyweight, but full of lost of interesting things to explore.

Willis Jenkins, **Ecologies of Grace: Environmental Ethics and Christian Theology**, 2008, OUP
An analysis of various approaches to environmental ethics and how theology, drawing particularly on Thomas Aquinas, Barth and Bulgakov, can make a crucial contribution.

Sallie McFague, **Super, Natural Christians**. 1997. SCM Press, ISBN 0-334-02700-4. 207 pp.
A book that proposes a very persuasive Christian theology of the environment.

Jurgen Moltmann, **Science and Wisdom**, 2003, SCM
Collected essays.

Jurgen Moltmann, **God in Creation: An Ecological Doctrine of Creation**, 1985, SCM
The Gifford Lectures 1984-5

George L. Murphy, **The Cosmos in the Light of the Cross**, 2004, Continuum

Ruth Page, **God and the Web of Creation**. 1996. SCM Press ISBN 0-334-02653-9, 188 pp. Superbly done.

Rosemary Radford Ruether, **Gaia and God**. 1992. SCM Press ISBN 0-334-00529-9. 310- pp. A starting point for the whole of the ecofeminist literature, that is at once challenging, and infuriating. This is a superb book. Look out for other books by the same author.

Weaver and Hodson (Eds), **The Place of Environmental Theology**, from John Ray Initiative Office
admin@jri.org.uk

Spirituality

Mary Low, **Cherish the Earth**, 2003, Wild Goose Publications
A collection from various sources of stimulating, encouraging and thought provoking readings.

Philip Newell, **The Book of Creation**, 1999, Canterbury Press

Philip J Newell, **Listening for the Heartbeat of God**, 1997, SPCK

Sara Maitland, **Awesome God: Creation, Commitment and Joy**, 2002, SPCK

Alison Morgan, **Praying with Creation**, 2006, Resource