HOPE FOR
Creation
In Tune with Creation
‘The biggest issue we face is not climate change; it is how human beings see themselves on this Earth. If we see ourselves as separate from nature, then we’re going to continue causing climate change, polluting, damaging the Earth … Once we see ourselves as part of nature, part of God’s creation, and entrusted with its care, that’s going to change everything.’

Dave Bookless, A Rocha UK
IT STARTS WITH YOU
Many of us feel powerless when it comes to climate change and environmental concerns. This leaflet offers suggestions to help redesign everyday living in the shape of radical care for creation.

They are grouped under the headings used by A Rocha’s Eco-church awards, which many churches are finding helpful in order to deepen their environmental commitment.
Less is more
Our economies are rooted in a strange dependence on products we can waste easily. In response, try repurposing goods before you recycle them; safeguard your water use; avoid single-use plastic; and, seek simplicity by consuming less – less energy, travel and non-essential products. We don’t thrive in our dependency on ‘stuff’. Simplicity can often open up new freedom in life.
it was very good...
What a wildly wonderful world, God!
You made it all, with wisdom at your side,
you made Earth overflow
with your wonderful creations.
Psalm 104.24
Busy as a bee...
Land: Consider how your garden, churchyard, and community green spaces help encourage wildlife. Maybe you could build a bug or hedgehog house or put in a small pond. You could try leaving an area of grass unmown and planting pollinator friendly plants like apple trees, lavender, honeysuckle and ivy to give a long pollinating season.
KEEPING

cosy
Buildings and homes: You can check with your current energy supplier to see if they offer a ‘green’ tariff. If not, consider changing supplier to someone like Ecotricity or Good Energy. Also insulate as well as you can to avoid losing heat.
Power of your pound
Lifestyle: Are there changes you can make in your personal choices that will benefit the environment? For example, eating seasonal food produced locally and sustainably, more veg and less meat; buying second-hand clothes; using refillable containers for household products; cycling or walking more; choosing ethical banking options.
Be an Influencer

There is NO Planet B
Community: Consider how to speak up for environmental issues nationally and internationally. This may involve writing to your local MP or councillors, encouraging them to campaign for greater environmental protection. Work with them, not against them. You can also support national or international charities who protect vital ecosystems.
Reconnect with the Creator
Learning and praying:
Many find that praying outdoors helps their physical, mental and spiritual well-being. Find a space, stop, notice the life around you, breathe, give thanks, let hope be rekindled.

Exploring our connections with the environment and committing to its care is a profound Christian responsibility.

We all learn differently, what will help you best to explore creation?
HOPE FOR THE FUTURE...
‘The ever-creating God of life, source of endless possibilities, continues to draw the world to an unpredictable future, pervaded by a radical promise: at the ultimate end of time, the Creator and Sustainer of all will not abandon creation but will transform it in an unimaginable way in new communion with divine life.’

Elizabeth Johnson, 'Ask the Beasts'
Working in harmony, local stories...
Communities locally are working together by:

• Managing urban green spaces for wildlife.
• Encouraging schools to use wild areas of churchyards for outdoors learning.
• Running a bulk-buying project that is funding the planting of hundreds of trees.
• Using churchyards as a safe haven for bees.
• Holding a community 'Eco-week' during 'Creationtide'.

Going forward together, what could be possible where you are?
Want to go further?

gloucester.anglican.org/environment