**Mission Action Planning – Creation Care**

Here are some really simple ideas to help you consider how to be good stewards of God’s creation which could be incorporated into your MAP.

1. Consider applying to become an Eco Church – an award scheme which recognises the commitment of churches to promote the gospel in sustainable ways, and care for the world around them. Visit <http://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/> for more information and resources, and to take an Eco Church survey to see if your church qualifies
2. Appoint a parish ‘Environmental Champion’ – someone with a passion for all things green, who can help drive your church towards Eco Church status
3. Set aside a Sunday to celebrate Creation, and regularly pray for the world we live in, environmental concerns, and those working to protect and sustain our planet
4. Ensure your church actively recycles all possible waste, including composting. Could you provide and/or support community recycling?
5. Lobby your MP for parliamentary action on climate change
6. Replace all lightbulbs with energy efficient ones
7. Switch to a green energy supplier
8. Print double-sided and use email rather than paper post where possible
9. Have a church communal Christmas/Easter card scheme, and donate money saved to the Climate Justice Fund or other similar focused charity
10. Consider how your sermons/teaching can include themes regarding creation, the environment and how to protect and make responsible use of the planet
11. Include in your church magazine/newsletter/website features on environmental concerns, and tips and ideas for parishioners to consider at home
12. Include activities that focus on the environment in your children/youth programmes
13. Encourage building users to reduce water and energy waste wherever possible
14. Consider purchasing sustainably produced, Fairtrade products wherever possible
15. Consider your church grounds. Could they be developed/sustained as part of a community gardening project?