**Eco-Church Group**



**About Eco Church:**

Eco Church is a learning community of churches of all shapes and sizes open to all denominations. It provides a framework to support your church and its leadership to take practical action on caring for God’s earth, through the Eco Church survey. The survey covers five key areas of church life:

* Worship and Teaching
* Buildings and energy
* Land and nature
* Community and global engagement
* Lifestyle

St John’s signed up to this award scheme in 2017. The journey was started to raise awareness of the importance of “care for the environment”. “Eco” services were held, highlighting the clear biblical message of the importance of creation care.

**The highlights so far:**

* Our first Ecofayre held in St Johns, jointly with other churches in 2018
* We reached Bronze status in 2018 (the framed certificate has gone missing from church!!). We were close to silver status when Covid hit
* Introduced our ECOCHURCH notice board
* Held eco themed services, notably the 6pm services in lockdown
* Raised awareness of praying for creation
* Efforts on recycling, assessment of buying habits and using fairtrade products
* Family day to create a wild garden behind church

**Our hopes for the future**

* More involvement in caring for the church garden
* Continuing participation in Eco fayres at St John’s and Kenilworth Methodist Church
* Re focus on the importance of care for the creation in services

**Finally:**

The current leaders are standing down from leading the ecochurch initiative. It is hoped that someone, a group, or a family will take this on in the future.

A Rocha have issued a new survey so it’s a perfect time for a kickstart!!

We do hope that you will all continue to support Eco fayres at the Methodist church and to care for God’s earth in your daily lives.