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### **Further Information:**

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We'd love to hear from you!

If you'd like to receive our newsletter, or would like to tell us of your eco endeavours, let us know at info@ecocongregationireland.com



# Becoming an Eco-aware Church

An Introduction for Faith Communities

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it' Psalm 24 v 1



# What is Eco-Congregation Ireland?

Eco-Congregation Ireland is a project of the Irish Inter-Church Meeting that encourages churches to adopt an eco-friendly approach to all aspects of church life, including worship, lifestyle, property management, community outreach & contact with the developing world.

Our vision is to see churches celebrate the gift of God's Creation, recognise the interdependence of all Creation and care for it in their life and mission.

# How can Eco-Congregation Ireland help?

Our online resources can help you as you seek to integrate environmental care into church life. Go to www.ecocongregationireland.com

There are sections on worship, teaching, Bible studies, children's & youth work, property management, finance, purchasing & waste, personal lifestyles, community, thinking and acting globally, and an extensive climate change resource.

Why not invite us along to speak. We would love to talk to you, no matter how large or small a crowd!

# How can I green my church?

Environmental measures can easily be incorporated into all aspects of church life:

# **Spiritual**

- \* Include a prayer for the environment in every Mass/church service
- Make regular references to the need to care for God's Creation in sermons
- Celebrate Creation Time from 1st
   September to 4th October every year

#### **Practical**

- \* Reduce, reuse, recycle & compost
- Use LED light bulbs & reduce thermostat
- \* Use eco-friendly cleaning materials
- \* Support and promote Fairtrade

### Community

\* Connect with members of your local community by inviting them along to hear an environmental speaker or watch an eco-themed film. You could also organise litter picks, nature walks or tree/bulb-planting in your local area

### Global

\* Support the work of a development agency working in countries where people are already impacted by climate change e.g. Trócaire, Christian Aid, Tearfund, Concern, A Rocha.

### **Donations**

We rely on donations and grants from individuals and various bodies. Donations can be made directly into the Eco-Congregation Ireland account:
Permanent TSB
Lower O'Connell Street, Dublin 1, Do1 H302
BIC IBPSIE2DXXX
IBAN: IE98IPBS99065833654910

As well as a small annual subscription we receive each year from the Catholic Church, Church of Ireland, Presbyterian Church, Methodist Church and the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), we also receive support from individual churches and charitable trusts.

'But ask the animals. and they will teach you, Or the birds of the air, and they will tell you; Or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, Or let the fish of the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know That the hand of the Lord has done this? In God's hand is the life of every creature And the breath of all humankind.' Job 12:7-10