



12th May 2019

Debbie Winson writes...

There has been a great deal of publicity about the state of Planet Earth recently, including the Extinction Rebellion protests, the publication of the reports of the UK government Climate Change Committee and the UN Biodiversity Commission.

The Climate Change Committee points to the change in the way electricity is generated in the UK in recent years. Now about half our electricity generation is “low carbon”, including nuclear, which is a big change from the time when most of our electricity stations were coal powered.

As Christians we see that everything on Earth, indeed the whole universe, was made by God and belongs to God. We are on earth as His tenants. Recently we celebrated Jesus’ Resurrection Day, the anniversary of the day that God’s Son, Jesus Christ, reconciled, not only us humans, but also the whole of creation to himself. “For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in his Son, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in Heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross” Colossians 1 v 19-20.

Global warming may not affect us here in Bicester very much: bumper production of outdoor tomatoes like last summer, but it is of much greater importance to people whose crops wither in the drought or whose land is submerged by the rising sea-level. That is why a group of us have started to meet to think about the impact of our lives creating climate change and causing injustice to our brothers and sisters elsewhere on the globe, along with the effects of pollution and other environmental degradation. The UK Climate Change Committee would like us here in Britain to, on average: fly less, walk more, buy fewer new clothes, eat less red meat and plant more trees. We can start by taking little steps, eg growing vegetables in our gardens, and work through a succession of small changes, until we begin to see a significant difference in our attitude and life-style. In showing we care for the planet, for animals, for ecosystems, and for people, we both witness to Christ our Redeemer and co-operate with him in reconciling the whole of creation from the impact of our self-centredness.

To encourage local vegetable production, we have the Plant Swap next Friday, 10.30-12noon outside the café, and the next Climate Justice Workshops are 7.45pm Mondays 3 June and 1 July.

Blessings, Debbie

Notices

BEN BISCOE IN CALIFORNIA– MORE GOOD NEWS!

Ben has had an operation on his nose, and is now breathing better. Please pray that it will be possible for him to get a Religious Worker visa to continue church planting with Refuge Long Beach church for up to 5 years. It will cost \$3,500 . For copies of his Newsletter and details of how to give to his Religious Worker Visa fund, talk to Debbie Winson.

CLIMATE JUSTICE WORKSHOPS

Join us at ECB in Meeting Room 1 on 3 June and 1 July at 7.45pm to discuss and plan ways to reduce the worldwide effect of global warming.

Please speak to Debbie Winson for further details.

PLANT SWAP

Friday 17th May 10.30-12noon outside the café here at Emmanuel.

MENS CURRY EVENING

Tuesday 21st May 7.45pm at Shakil's. Please contact Colin Arter if you wish to book.

PENTECOST QUIET DAY

Saturday 25th May here at Emmanuel. Coffee at 9.45am. Morning session 10-12 & afternoon session 1.15pm-4.00pm. Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own lunch.

ENCOUNTER EVENING

Meeting again at GagleBrook School on Saturday 25th May 7-9pm. Please search: [Encounter @ Gagle Brook primary](#) for more details on Facebook.

COFFEE MORNING WITH KIDS

Meeting again on Monday 13th May at 9.00am here at Emmanuel. See Rachel Jolly for more details.

ROTAS: If you need to check rotas please log on to Church Builder. Contact the church office if you need help doing this.

ECB DIARY

SUN 12th MAY	10.30am	Café Church Prayer Leader: Jackie Meek Preacher: Lesley Wasley/Liz Newby
	7.00pm	Evening service (café open at 6.30pm) Colossians –Paul’s Ministry Leader: Dorothy Williams Preacher: Peter Hill
MON 13th MAY	9.00am	Coffee Morning with Kids
TUES 14th MAY	9.00am	Prayers
WED 15th MAY	10.30am	Oasis Small Group
FRI 17th MAY	9.30am	Cherish Group
	10.00am	Plant swap
	7.00pm	Prayers
	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline
SUN 19th MAY	10.30am	Informal Worship Holy Spirit—Bringing Conviction and Conversion Leader: Al Bowen Preacher: Roger Winson
	7.00pm	Evening service (café open at 6.30pm) Colossians –Continue in Christ Leader: Denise Crook Preacher: Nigel Crook

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All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday

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