

Church and Community Looking after the Earth

Saturday 18 June 2022,

St Lawrence's Church, Hungerford, RG17 0JB

Looking after the environment has never mattered more, but what can individuals, churches and local communities actually do? This day conference will help participants to better understand the issues and how they can play their part in responding to the major environmental challenges of our times. It will address the moral and spiritual issues from a Christian perspective, as well as providing the latest science and practical solutions. Workshops will provide information and inspiration from a range of Christian and secular organisations and everyone, irrespective of their beliefs or faith, is warmly invited to join us. No prior knowledge or experience required. Admission is free, but please book by emailing admin@stlawrenceshungerford.org.uk or calling 01488 208341.

Hungerford is a small town, in rural West Berkshire. The church is next to the Kennet and Avon Canal and Freeman's Marsh nature reserve; it is 10 minutes' walk from the Station.

10.00 Welcome and scene setting - Bp Olivia Graham, Bishop of Reading

10.10 What is the challenge? The latest science on the climate and nature crises

Dr Mike Morecroft, Natural England & Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Mike is a nationally and internationally recognised expert on climate change and nature and a lead author on the most recent IPCC report to the United Nations.

10.40 Why should we look after the Earth?

Rev Margot Hodson, Associate Vicar of the Shill Valley and Broadshire and Director of Theology and Education for the John Ray Initiative. Margot has written and spoken widely on environmental issues.

11.10 Coffee

11.30 How can we make a difference?

Helen Stephens, Eco Church, and A Rocha. Helen works for A Rocha UK, a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world, including through supporting and advising churches through the EcoChurch scheme.

12.00 Questions for the Panel

Host: Rev. Mike Saunders, Vicar of Hungerford

12.30 Lunch – Please bring your own lunch.

1.30 - 2.30 and 2.45 - 3.45 Workshop Sessions

Participants have the opportunity to choose two, one in each session.

1 HEAT your home without costing the earth Led by John Downe from Hungerford Environmental Action Team (HEAT) <https://hungerfordenvironmentalactionteam.com/>

- 2 Zero emissions motoring** *Led by HEAT*
- 3 How to make a wild flower meadow** *Led by Charles Flower in The Meadow Tent*
- 4 Becoming an Eco Church** *Led by Helen Stephens <https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/>*
- 5 Partnering with the Woodland Trust** *Led John Tucker from the Woodland Trust <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/>*

3.45 Reflection - Bp Olivia, Bishop of Reading

4.00 Finish