

Connect



SUMMER EDITION
JUNE TO AUGUST 2024



EDITOR'S GREETING

Revd Adam Earle

It's time for the seventh edition of Connect. And, believe it or not, we have reached the "Summer" although it seems the weather may not have exactly the same thing in mind at the time of writing.

Sunny days are important to our health and wellbeing, provided we approach them with moderation and balance in mind. We need exposure to sunlight to ensure we meet our daily need for Vitamin D, but being out in the heat of the sun and the UV rays can have negative effects as well. Balance matters in so many things.

I hope you will all have the opportunity to enjoy some time to rest and relax over the Summer and find some space just to be. I will, with due caution and a watchful eye on my diet, be enjoying some days at the seaside and the occasional ice-cream or bundle of fish and chips.

It's also a good time to catch up on some of the reading that you may have planned and I hope that you will enjoy reading the news from the churches and other articles in Connect. There's plenty going on as we embrace the Mission Action Plans that each church now has in place and continue to seek God's will and way as we look to the future.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

SAXMUNDHAM URC



We continue with joy and hope at Saxmundham despite some of our members having had a few health and accident related set-backs. Our monthly **"Start the Week with a Cuppa"** sessions are now an established part of our activity and we are delighted to welcome new folk from time to time, alongside the regulars. At our April gathering we were delighted to welcome some members of staff and residents from the nearby care home and we are establishing a positive relationship with them.

We meet from 10:00 to 11:30ish (we are not rigid timekeepers and often overrun somewhat). Forthcoming dates for Start the Week are as follows: **Monday 24th June, Monday 29th July and Monday 26th August.** In addition to conversation and refreshments, our sessions regularly include music, games and a variety of activities and, seasonally themed elements. If the weather is up to it we may even choose to have one outdoors in the next few months.

There are plenty of places to explore near Saxmundham. If you are looking for a day out you would be welcome to start your day with

us and then travel on to one of the local places of interest. You can also reach the town by train, from Ipswich, in about 40 mins and the church is a short (slightly uphill) walk from the station.



We held our (now) annual Gift Weekend on the **18th** and **19th May (Pentecost Sunday)**. On Saturday 18th May, in place of a sale and coffee morning we held our “Spring Event” which included a mini concert presented by Revd Adam and Gillian Earle. This was followed by a plentiful afternoon tea. We were delighted to welcome friends from St John’s URC and Castle Hill URC in Ipswich, Leiston United Church, other friends from the community around Saxmundham, including staff and residents from the care home. We had around twenty in attendance.

The concert included organ music, songs, recorder music and a lament about the loss of the French Horn (by Michael Flanders and Donald Swann). Before the final piece we held a programme-number draw with prizes including biscuits, chocolate and a bottle of non-alcoholic fizz.

We were delighted that the gifts received on the Saturday (and since) amounted to around £300 with the possibility of more to follow.

We will be organising further events in the Autumn and approach to Christmas, so do watch out for details when they are confirmed.



We will be holding our next **FILM AFTERNOON** on **Saturday 15th June** at **14:00**. We enjoy refreshments on arrival, watch a film together and then share something more substantial (but manageable) to eat

afterwards. The terms of the Church Video Licence and PRS Licence which enable us to show films, we are not allowed to advertise the film in advance but it is one that was released this year with a somewhat sugar rich theme!

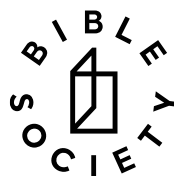
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY EVENT

PSALM-A-THON

SATURDAY 20th JULY 2024

CHURCH SQUARE - LEISTON

On **Saturday 20th July** local Christians from Saxmundham and Leiston will be reading through all 150 psalms (with some presented in song or with musical backing). This will take place in Church Square (adjacent to the United Church in Leiston). Folk will be sponsored to read for a given period of time, and we will be raising money for the Bible Society.



The Bible Society was established two hundred years ago with the aim of ensuring that Bibles are made available, throughout the world, in local languages. This work continues today with many around the world having benefitted from the past and ongoing work of the Society. Please support this event and help us celebrate the Psalms together.



All churches will be familiar with the often unexpected problems that our premises can throw up, and at **Saxmundham** we are not immune. On arrival at the church recently Sue, our secretary discovered that one of the toilet float valves had failed; water was pouring from the overflow, and the toilet area attached to the hall was flooded. Help came

from a church neighbour who jammed the valve closed. The following day Revd Adam and Gillian headed over to help clear the water, borrowing the carpet cleaner from Leiston, and ensured that the damaged valve was replaced. Thankfully the water has now dried and we did not have to close the toilets.

Our large screen, used for presenting material for worship, including the music, also failed. A repair was deemed uneconomical so we have replaced the screen and are now back in business.

If our flooding woes were not enough we had another water-related problem when the electric hot water heater in the kitchen sprang a small but concerning leak. Thankfully Sue was able to find a local plumber and within a couple of days a new heater was obtained and fitted.

CASTLE HILL URC



On **Sunday 12th May** we celebrated the

Anniversary of Castle Hill URC (formerly Castle Hill Congregational Church) with a Café style service led by Revd David. The service included the sharing of our founding declaration. We shared conversation and refreshments which included a celebration cake.



We celebrated **Pentecost Sunday** on 19th May with morning worship led by Revd Jenny Haggar. In the

afternoon we joined our friends for a Pentecost Songs of Praise Service at Whitton Parish Church followed by tea. Castle Hill provided the cake (we are remarkably good at that!). The service included hymns and songs, readings, prayers and a short reflection given by Revd David. This was the

first occasion for some time that we have shared a service together. Thank you to everyone who came along, and a particular thank you to everyone who provided cake.

As we continue to develop partnership with Whitton Parish, we hope that there will be further opportunities to share worship and activities. Next year it will be our turn to host the Pentecost Songs of Praise.



Our Easter **Holiday Club** took place on **Wednesday 3rd April**. We were slightly fewer in number this year, possibly due to Easter falling right at the start of the school holidays.

Our theme this year revolved around a camp “fire” (cunningly fashioned from a fan with tissue paper flames) and was entitled “Bright Sparks”. We shared three stories, all parables of Jesus, around the camp fire and undertook various games and activities as well as enjoying a campfire snack (hotdogs and fruit) towards the end.

The three parables of Jesus chosen included The Lost Sheep, after which we had a sheep hunt, a game of sheep themed bingo, and made cardboard and marshmallow sheep. We then enjoyed the story of the Pearl of Great Price followed by a “Get the pearl in the shell” ping-pong game. Our third story (with re-enactment by the children and adults present) was The Wise and Foolish Builders followed by a tower building and “knocking down” challenge.



We also enjoyed the popular parachute games, with certificates being presented at the end. A great deal of fun was had by all. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped on the day – the adults almost certainly needed a lie down in a darkened room afterwards but it was worth the effort.



One of our church members, Rachel Harris, works for, and encourages us to support, the work of Friends of North Kigezi Diocese (FNKD) in Uganda. Rachel has recently returned from a trip there: guiding visitors, taking resources and sharing in the ongoing work in the local communities.

Many of our churches, individuals and organizations are familiar with the idea of “Toilet Twinning”: raising money to twin each toilet in their buildings with a latrine somewhere in the world. This provides funding to build and maintain safe toilet facilities for many communities, helping to avoid sickness and disease.



As part of our ongoing support for Rachel and the work of FNKD, we have launched a “Spend-A-Penny” collection. Small boxes have been provided for folk to collect coins to help provide safer and more accessible toilet facilities for various projects in Uganda. The idea is to place a coin in the box each time we pay a visit (although pre-payment is a good option!).

If you would like a box and/or to make a gift please let Revd Adam or Revd David know and we will help sort this for you. We hope that many folk will help support this important project.



Castle Hill URC has a long-established twinning partnership with the church and community of Mussbach, Germany. Last year we welcomed our German friends and enjoyed a variety of activities and outings together. This year it is Castle Hill’s turn to visit Mussbach. The Mussbach group have made arrangements and various folk, including Revd David, headed off to Germany on 24th May.



In July we will be holding our annual “Holiday at Home” with a 1950s USA theme. We are pleased to welcome senior members of the community to join in two days of activities including games, art, craft, entertainment and sharing meals together. We look forward to spending time with one other, and having a welcome change to the normal day to day routines.



Directly opposite the church building in Castle Hill is **Castle Hill School**. We are glad to have developed a supportive relationship with the school, especially in providing some thematic workshops for the different year groups. Earlier in the academic year we welcomed Year 2 children to explore the church building. Revds David and Adam visited the school to share a parable and activities with the Year 1 classes.

More recently we have welcomed Year 3 for an Easter Workshop, using images, artefacts and story telling to explore the message of Easter from a Christian perspective. One children left us open mouthed with delight when she observed that hot cross buns,

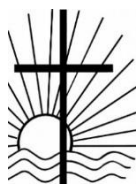
which contain raisins (dried grapes from which wine is made), are therefore the bread and the wine in one!

Year 5 pupils joined us for a workshop exploring Holy Communion. We used artwork, story telling and exploration to find out why the celebration plays such an important role in the life and worship of the Church. One girl noted that what we call "The Last Supper" was also, quite correctly, "The First Supper" which paved the way for our celebration of communion.

The most recent visit was made by Year 4 pupils in the week prior to Pentecost Sunday, for a workshop focused on the first day of Pentecost and the ongoing influence that this has from a Christian perspective. Again we used artwork, an animated cartoon and small displays to explore the different familiar symbols of the Holy Spirit – The Dove, Water, Fire and Wind.

We have plans to organize a fundraising event to enable the church to purchase, for the school, some additional books and resources to support the children in their learning about faith, belief and world views. We hope to have more information about this in due course.

ST JOHN'S URC



In the last edition of connect we reported on the changes (following damage) to our front garden on Spring Road and the provision of the new bench. The bench has been fitted with a plaque inviting folk to "Rest, Relax and Ponder". It has also provided Adrian and others working on the garden, the opportunity to chat with different folk who are pleased to make use of the facility.



Due to an unfortunate plant disease the low box type hedge which extended around the fencing which, in turn, enclosed the outdoor area used by the Pre-School, had died off. Thanks to a "Hedge Fund" request for donations towards new plants, and to generous giving from church friends, this has now been replaced with *Lonicera Nitida*, which are beginning to get established. Thank you to Adrian for organising and planting these.



In the last Connect we also mentioned our monthly **Community Coffee**, which takes place on the second Saturday of each month from 10:30am to 12:00pm. We are ever grateful to Brian and Lesley for faithfully organising this and arranging for the requisite bacon butties, cakes, biscuits and beverages.

Our gathering on 11th May was an "enhanced" event with stalls and items to purchase as well as the usual donations. The event was in support of Christian Aid, raising a healthy and pleasing amount of over £190. Thankyou to everyone who came along and supported the event.

You are always welcome to join us. Forthcoming dates are:

SATURDAY 8th JUNE
SATURDAY 13th JULY
SATURDAY 10th AUGUST



St John's URC used to share a minister with Felixstowe URC and there is a longstanding friendship between the two. On **Monday 3rd June** meeting at 14:00, St John's folk will be heading down to Felixstowe seafront for a walk (or a sit if preferred).

At 15:00 we join folk at Felixstowe URC for tea. This year it is St John's turn to provide the food. We are very much looking forward to sharing this time of fellowship and catching up with the Felixstowe folk.



St John's are pleased to make the building available, during term time, as the home of **St John's Playtime Preschool**. They mainly use the upstairs hall and outdoor enclosed areas.

Last November they had a visit from Ofsted which did not go as they would have hoped and they received rather harsh judgement of inadequate. This meant that they would be unable to take on any additional children covered by the free hours scheme. The staff and associates were rightly disappointed and quickly got to work.

Ofsted inspectors made a return visit in April this year and we are delighted to report that the pre-school's grading is again **GOOD** across the board. A huge well done to everyone involved, we are so pleased for them and look forward to hearing more about their great work.



Unfortunately, due to pressures at the time, we were unable to proceed with the planned **Hymn Sing** in April. We will be scheduling another in the Autumn but, in the meantime, we have planned that one of our

services in August will be a "Songs of Praise" style service of readings and music.



Ipswich is a big place with well over 80 different churches and Christian fellowships at work. It is hard to work with such a large group but we are pleased to say that St John's URC has started to establish (or in some cases re-establish) links with the North East Ipswich Area Churches which includes representatives from the Baptist, Methodist, Anglican, Salvationist and now URC traditions. A lunch meeting for church leaders is held on a regular basis, and each month there is a joint evening service held in one of the group churches. Worship is led by the host church following their customary style and pattern. It has been good for some folk to get involved with these and we hope that, as we get to know each other, we will be able to find new opportunities to unite in mission and service.

FELIXSTOWE URC



In previous newsletters we have mentioned the partnership project with **Ukraine2Felixstowe** and the development of the Hub. We drew up a plan for development. As part of the plan, we recently sought some grant support from the Eastern Synod Mission Fund and are pleased that we have been given a good amount to enable the ongoing funding of the work including electricity and heating costs, resources and even equipment.

We will be discussing the use of the grant in full detail over the next few weeks, and talking with the U2F team to decide the best way to use the money in furthering the project, and which aspects of the plan will be

advanced as a result. We'll let you know more about the project as it develops.



We are now back worshipping in the main church, following our winter season in the small hall. Earlier in the year we calculated that the church was between 12 and 20 times the volume of the small hall, so providing enough heat to the church space would have been significantly more expensive.



We are continuing to develop the ongoing partnership in mission with **Felixstowe Methodist Church** as recognised in our Mission Action Plan. Thus, we have a plan to share worship from time to time, for the remainder of the year.

On **Sunday 5th May** it was great to share worship (including communion), led by Revd Adam at the Methodist Church @ Trinity. The theme for worship was Love, and we reflected on the nature of God's love (Agapé) to which we are all called to share. Our next joint service will be held on **21st July** when the Methodists will be worshipping with us at the URC.

Felixstowe Methodist Church has an Eco Group which Ann and Christine have attended. We are looking to work further together on this theme and hope that they will be able to join in with the Ipswich and East Pastorate Caring for Creation Group.



On **Saturday 15th June** from **14:00** we are holding a **Table Top Sale and Tea** event with various charities and others represented alongside a church stall and the much-enjoyed cake stall. As the title suggests we will be serving refreshments throughout. This is an opportunity to raise money for the

charities represented, for the church, and some of the organisations we support. Please do come along and learn more about some of the organisations represented as well as enjoying some tea and tasty treats.

This is a change to our previous pattern of Charity Coffee mornings as the hall is now in use every Saturday morning for the Slimming World Group meeting.

LEISTON UNITED CHURCH



Sunday 7th April was a very special day for us at Leiston. We held a joint service with folk for Saxmundham and were delighted to welcome Freddie, his parents, Emily and Kierran, along with family and friends, on the occasion of Freddie's baptism.



The service was led by Revd Adam and it was the first baptism he had conducted since his ordination in 2022. It was also the first baptism to take place in the church for 17 years. The font had to be scrubbed clean in readiness.

The service was joyful, and the folk who attended, including a great many little folk of similar age to Freddie, enjoyed their time together. We sang "All things bright and beautiful" and "Lord of all hopefulness" as requested by the family.



Working closer with Saxmundham URC we are now following a different pattern for our monthly

services including some joint services held at one or other of the two church buildings. Each month we now aim to have at least one joint service at Saxmundham and one at Leiston. Thus, we have one Sunday when there is a morning service at Saxmundham, and an afternoon service at Leiston, and one Sunday when separate morning services are held at both churches.

There are of course challenges associated with the new arrangements, not least of all with regard to transport. We are currently working to explore possible ways to provide transport without being reliant on the small number of drivers who are part of the church.

We have also had to find a new way to advertise the services using posters, and columnar pages in the joint magazine. Our church notice boards have been adapted and our joint website is proving useful in helping people find out about what we are doing and we have had a number of visitors join us for worship at both Leiston and Saxmundham.

We have also started conversations with some of the other local methodist churches about the possibility of occasionally joining for worship, especially in light of the lack of ministers in the Ipswich Methodist Circuit at present. From the Summer the circuit will be reduced to just two stipendiary ministers, and remain so for the time being.



On **Sunday 19th May**, in the afternoon, we were again pleased to host the annual Leiston Christian's Together Pentecost Celebration and Tea. Worship took place in Church Square and we welcomed friends from the other churches in Leiston some of whom also took a part in leading worship. There was plenty of cake for

us all to enjoy afterwards, and it was an encouraging time of worship and fellowship.

PASTORATE NEWS



We are now well into the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity's "**Fruitfulness on the Frontline**" training course. The material is designed to encourage us to view our day to day lives through a series of "missional lenses" that help us see how God is working and how God can work with us, and through us, wherever we may be.

There are six Ms of fruitfulness which formed part of the discussion when we were all looking at the development of our Mission Action Plans. These are: **M**odelling godly character; **M**aking good work; **M**inistering grace & love; **M**oulding culture; **M**outhpiece for truth & justice; **M**essenger of the gospel.



We are running six sessions, on a fortnightly basis, via Zoom and in person. We will then take a break over the Summer when, hopefully, folk will have the opportunity to read the book on which the course is based. Written by the director of LICC, Mark Greene, the book gives further opportunity for reflection and examples to inspire.

The aim, in the Autumn, is to gather those who have taken part in the first round of the course to share a meal and consider ways in which we can share our learning with the wider church communities. We will also be looking at some additional opportunities to engage in LICC courses including one specifically focused on those who are of retirement age.



As we look ahead in faith to what God is calling us to in the future, including those ideas reflected in our Mission Action plans, it is interesting to consider how **partnership** with other local churches and organizations seems to feature highly. In our church news above, you will note that all the churches in the pastorate are engaged in partnership development.

First, of course, we have the partnership opportunities offered within the pastorate, and it has been encouraging to see the many ways in which we support one another. Not least of all there is the ongoing IT support and sharing of advice and expertise, folk turning up to different events in the churches, sometime travelling quite a distance to do so, and supporting pastorate-wide learning opportunities. Also worthy of note is the ongoing work of the Pastorate Caring for Creation Group in supporting each church to take forward the Eco-Church agenda.

Each church has also recognised and begun or continued to work in partnership with other local churches. As well as supporting each other and growing a strong relationship, Leiston and Saxmundham have good relationships with the other churches in the towns and it is possible that the two “churches together” groups may seek to work more closely.

Castle Hill are developing a stronger relationship with Whitton Parish and are seeking to find opportunities to share in missional support for the local community. Castle Hill are also working to develop support for Castle Hill School.

In Felixstowe we are, as mentioned earlier, working to grow our partnership with the Felixstowe Methodist church. Leaders now

meet regularly to plan and develop our working and mutual, prayerful support.

Also, as mentioned earlier, St John’s is beginning to engage with the **North East Ipswich Churches** group. We also continue to explore ways to engage with the users of the church premises.

Let’s pray for one another as we continue to work together, and with other partners to help grow the Kingdom and reach out to those across the pastorate. We may not feel that we have a great deal to offer but together we can and will make a difference.



As part of our Joint Pastorate arrangements, our annual **Combined Elders’ Meeting** for all serving elders in the Pastorate was held on Saturday 27th April 2024. Although some apologies were received, we had eighteen in attendance with representation from each church, when we gathered at Saxmundham United Reformed Church. We shared in worship, heard updates and prayer requests from each of the churches, revisited the Pastorate Agreement and looked at a Summary of the objectives identified in each of our MAPS seeking to identify ways in which we can further support each other.

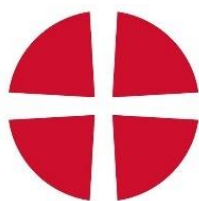
Revd Adam invited us to consider the question, “How do you eat an elephant?” The answer



being one bite at a time and, if possible, to get lots of people working in partnership to help. When faced with the complexity of world and community needs and the apparently huge task of mission it can be daunting, like eating an elephant. We were encouraged to hear that we can offer what we are and have to God, and allow God

to use these things; we ourselves should take time to “be” (we are human beings not human doings after all) and to be restored. We were encouraged also to let God be God.

Following the meeting we enjoyed bacon (or vegetarian sausage) filled rolls, with a variety of fruit and cakes to follow. It was a wonderful opportunity to spend time together and support one another. Thanks to the Saxmundham church for hosting this year and for making us all so welcome.



Revs David and Adam, as ministers of Leiston United Church, serve in partnership with the Methodist Church.

Following the completion of the necessary paperwork and approval, they were welcomed as **Associate Presbyters of the Methodist Church** for the Ipswich Circuit at a service held at Alan Road Methodist Church on Sunday 28th April. This means that they are able to support the work of the circuit, especially where we are looking to develop partnership, but does not mean that they will be leading services in Methodist churches instead of the churches in the I&E URC Pastorate.

EASTERN SYNOD NEWS



The
United
Reformed
Church
Eastern
Synod

Revs Adam and David recently attended the **Eastern and Thames North Synods' Spring School**. Around 40

ministers from the two areas gathered for a four-day opportunity to learn, share and worship together with plenty of time for fellowship and sharing ideas. The theme this year was “Sing A New Song” and invited those present to explore the future of the church, and our local church life, as God leads us forward. The Spring School is part of the

ongoing training for ministers.

Revd Neil Thorogood, former Principal of the URC's Westminster College in Cambridge, led us through the days, giving a good introduction and gathering of the threads of thought at the end.

Our daily Bible studies, focused on the Beatitudes, were led by Revd Gail Richards, one of the Regional Ministers of the Eastern Baptist Association. We also heard about local ministry and projects and had a presentation regarding the LICC Fruitfulness and Whole Life Discipleship themes.



The event took place at High Leigh – a Christian Conference Centre in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire. The surroundings are beautiful and lend themselves well to reflection.

Coffee was on tap from 8:00am to 8:00pm so we had more than we could possibly want and the food was generous, varied and tasty. It is planned to use the same venue next year. Revd Adam has joined Revd David as part of the planning group for the next Spring School – an example of their working together for the wider church.

The churches of the pastorate are, at present, part of the **South Suffolk Area Partnership** of the Eastern Synod. Following the success of the partnership service and tea held at Needham Market last year, we are holding another gathering this year the details of which are as follows:

CELEBRATION WORSHIP & AFTERNOON TEA

SUNDAY 7th JULY
16:00 @ HADLEIGH URC



As last year, our service will be led by the Moderator of Eastern Synod, Revd Lythan Nevard. Revd Adam will be at the organ and piano. Everyone is welcome to come and join this special event.

ECO CHURCH CARING FOR CREATION

On Sunday 21st April each of the churches across the pastorate held “**Caring for Creation – Eco Church**” themed services. Some with Revd David or Revd Adam leading and others with a Hybrid service. We focused on the call to be good stewards of the world and touched on some of the issues facing the world, including the impact of climate change especially where it affects those who have participated or benefitted least from the actions that have caused the problem.

We invited all those present to complete a tick-sheet questionnaire. This was to help the Pastorate Caring for Creation Group and each church to identify areas where we are doing well and where we could together, and as individuals, make further advances.

The data from over 70 questions was compiled and has been analysed to identify our strengths and areas for improvement. This also means that we can celebrate the strengths rather than continually repeating messages that have already been heard and where commitments have been made. The results were both encouraging and useful.

With some slight variations across the churches (which is expected) here are some of the key messages that the data has revealed:



Overall, we are committed to and working hard at **recycling**. The only limitations are shown to arise, unsurprisingly, when it comes to recycling certain items which are not yet included in our local collections or offered at recycling points. In the past many folk were recycling blister packs from medication but this has become more difficult. The C4C group is continuing to look into ways of helping folk engage with some of these more challenging recycling activities.



We are largely committed to **reducing waste** in a variety of ways including food, energy and water. Making use of washing lines, showering instead of bathing, only filling the kettle with as much water as is needed, turning off taps and electrical devices, and reusing items such as food containers can all make a big difference.



There is some scope for us to find out more about ways to further enhance our efforts in this area, especially where **single use plastics**, **alternative products** and **refill options** are concerned. Some of the products and options mentioned in the questionnaire were clearly unfamiliar to folk. The problem of accessing facilities such as refill shops is, of course, something that needs to be considered.



Many folk are committed to making the most of garden spaces to **promote biodiversity** including selective planting, bird boxes, bug hotels and feeding wild bird at the appropriate times of the year. Supporting wildlife is another important factor in helping the planet, especially creatures such as bees and other pollinators that are so vital to our food supply.




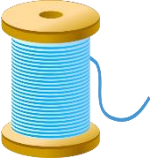

There were some areas where we have a way to go although it must be acknowledged that some of the areas where there was lower “uptake” are also some of the hardest things to address. For example, installing solar panels, air or ground source heat pumps, or changing to electric vehicles are not things that can just happen overnight, as many folk do not have the opportunity or capacity to make such significant changes.

Areas for further exploration include:

- Repair, reuse and recycling of clothing, pre-loved items, and gifts, wherever possible. Clothing waste, in particular, is having a significant and negative impact on the planet and we can all do our bit to



make a difference while saving money at the same time.

- There is room for us to consider what we eat, the origin of our food and the seasonal availability of some produce, including ways to access more locally produced items. 
- The materials from which products are made is also an area for further exploration. Many materials, especially the manmade varieties, will take hundreds if not thousands of years to decompose, adding to the already vast amount of waste going to landfill if they cannot be recycled. 
- There are also some information sharing and initiatives that we could engage with such as finding out about the sustainability of the electricity offered by our utility providers, engaging with events such as “No-mow May” and “Earth Hour” and maybe collectively raising our voices loudly to support eco campaigns and challenging government to commit more fully to Caring for Creation. 

Thank you to everyone who completed a questionnaire. We will share more about the outcome and some suggestions in the coming months.

The next edition of Connect will be published in September 2024. If you have any items for inclusion, please send them to Revd Adam on revaje@outlook.com
