

Caring for the Planet

2nd- 4th November 2012

Led by Gretel White, Michael Healy and Ann O'Sullivan

Outline programme

How can I make a difference?

Responding to the global environmental crisis as a spiritual issue

God created everything and saw that it was good. With that good creation now in crisis, we all need to accept our individual and collective contributions to the problem. In the face of the vastness and complexity of the environmental crisis, it is easy to feel overwhelmed and powerless under the weight of the load. This workshop examines the current situation and explores ways in which individuals and groups might positively respond. By examining our beliefs about God and God's dealings with creation, we can work towards an inner transformation of our beliefs and attitudes so that we can freely make choices to live more sustainably.

Friday night – the Earth, Our Home

Creation declares the glory of God - An examination of the source and origins of everything. How did earth come to be as it is? Seeing God in all things.

An introduction to the Earth Charter as a framework for a way forward to living more sustainably

Saturday morning – the Global Situation

Earth ritual – Meditation room

Patterns of production, consumption and the underpinning assumptions that define the way we currently live in the developed world. Some facts and figures about how we arrived in the current position.

We are all in this together – a look at the interconnected nature of everything

What does scripture say about our relationship with the planet?

Saturday afternoon – the Challenges Ahead

What are the challenges ahead and potential responses to them?

Exploration of the ways in which our everyday decisions impact on the world

Simple choices by us – what do they mean for the wider world – an exercise in realising the global consequences of everyday choices.

How could we do things differently?

After supper – mass

Sunday morning – Universal Responsibility

Looking at the challenges through the eyes of faith – what difference does belief make to our response to the environmental crisis?

How do we move from here? Exploration of and planning for changes we each want to make to move towards a more sustainable future a sharing of vision and values to take forward.

Action planning for the next step