

# St Peter's Church

Carbon Footprint Challenge



*"Responding to climate change is an essential part of our responsibility to safeguard God's creation". Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury*

Link to Climate Stewards  
Carbon Footprint Tool:

<https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/>

## Growing in love for God, each other, and the world:

### Our Church and the Five Marks of Mission:

The mission of our church is the mission of Christ and is laid out in the Anglican Communion's **5 Marks of Mission**.

[Learn More Here](#)

*"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein". Psalm 24:1*

## World Environment Day

### 'Biodiversity'

This year the theme of World Environment Day (June 5th) is 'Biodiversity'.

[Learn More Here](#)

The WWF say that 'Biodiversity is 'all the different kinds of life you'll find in one area—the variety of animals, plants, fungi, and even microorganisms like bacteria that make up our natural world. Each of these species and organisms work together in ecosystems, like an intricate web, to maintain balance and support life.'

Today we are witnessing what has been called the 'Holocene Extinction'. In other words, a mass extinction of species caused by human activity.

[Learn More Here](#)

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

These 5 marks of mission are reflected in our vision '**Growing in love for God, each other, and the world**', but do we give them all equal attention in our worship and church life?

*"We aren't destroying the biosphere because we are selfish. We are doing it simply because we are unaware". Greta Thunberg.*



## Carbon Footprint — The Hot Topic

Climate change has been a hot topic over recent years. A build-up of carbon in the atmosphere (much of it due to human activity such as the burning of fossil fuels) causes heat to be trapped beneath a blanket of gas close to the earth’s surface. This is leading to problems such as rising sea levels, shrinking mountain glaciers, ice melting at a faster rate than usual in Greenland, Antarctica and the Arctic and changes in flower and plant blooming times. All these have human consequences as well as consequences for the earths biodiversity, so causing the loss of species.

[Learn More Here](#)

One way to help address this is to measure your carbon footprint (the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere as a result of your activities) and then take steps to reduce it. Simple measures to help you reduce your footprint include using your car less, taking less flights and switching to a green energy provider such as [Bulb](#) or [Ecotricity](#).

[Learn More Here](#)

Today we are challenging our congregation to measure their carbon footprint and think of 5 ways they could reduce it and put them in to action. To complete your carbon footprint, please work through the sections of the Climate Stewards carbon footprinting tool and fill in the table below.

[Carbon Footprinting Tool](#)

We aim to do the same exercise this time next year so hang on to your results and you’ll be able to compare them to see if you have managed to make any reductions over the year. We also hope to discuss your experience of this process during worship on July 5th so it would be great if you could calculate your footprint by then.

**Warning:** There may some effort required to find the information needed, but it will be worth it! This footprint won’t cover all aspects of the carbon you use. There are others provided by the [WWF](#) and [Bulb](#) which you might also like to explore?

Category	Kilograms of CO <sup>2</sup> (Year 1)	Kilograms of CO <sup>2</sup> (Year 2)
Car		
Flights		
Public Transport		
Food		
House		
Total		

Once completed please help us build up a picture of our collective footprint as a church by recording your results [here](#).

