



CCOW Calendar of Dates for Environmental Prayer and Action

JANUARY

<p>1 January Pray and Fast for the Climate</p>	<p>Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See Pray and Fast (https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)</p>
<p>1 to 31 January Veganuary</p>	<p>Could you use vegan refreshments at church? Try a vegan diet? Encourage church members to do so? Resources</p>
<p>1 to 31 January Buy Nothing New Month</p>	<p>Start the year by reducing the amount of new 'stuff' being bought ... cherishing what we have and reusing/recycling goods . Less waste – and less money. Info: Keep Britain Tidy</p>
<p>6 January 2024 Plough Sunday</p>	<p>May also be celebrated on another Sunday in January. Pray for all who farm worldwide. Resources: Arthur Rank Centre</p>
<p>15 to 21 January 2024 Energy Savers Week</p>	<p>A great chance to share information on how to save energy – good for the planet and for people's wallets! Info: Citizens Advice Bureau</p>
<p>26 January International Day of Clean Energy</p>	<p>Info: UN. Focus is on enabling people everywhere to access clean energy. Pray/ campaign for adequate climate finance.</p>
<p>26 to 28 January Big Garden Birdwatch</p>	<p>Join in the annual survey of garden birds! Info: RSPB (Could you encourage your school to do the Big Schools Birdwatch, too?)</p>

FEBRUARY

1 February
Pray and Fast for the Climate

Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See [Pray and Fast \(https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk\)](https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)

1 to 28 February
'Show the Love' Campaign

Share with politicians and others how climate change affects the things we love. Find out more about this year's [Show the Love](#) from the Climate Coalition.

14 February
Ash Wednesday

The start of Lent. During Lent might you try a new rhythm of prayer? Read a Lent book? Work towards being plastic-less or meat-free? Establish new patterns of giving? See CCOW's links to ['green'Lent ideas and courses](#).

MARCH

1 March
Pray and Fast for the Climate

Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See [Pray and Fast \(https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk\)](https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)

3 March
World Wildlife Day

Info: [World Wildlife Day/UN](#). You might also want to look at materials from the [World Wildlife Fund](#).

8 to 17 March 2024
British Science Week

Pray for scientists, especially those whose work relates to finding solutions to climate and environmental issues. If you have scientists in your congregation, could you ask them to share their story? Info: [British Science Week](#)

22 March
World Water Day

Theme: 'Water for Peace'. Pray for cooperation on protecting water sources and helping all to access safe water. Info: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/water-day>

23 March
Earth Hour

Annual moment of witness – join people around the world in switching off your lights and giving an hour to activities that protect the earth. Info and activity ideas: [Earth Hour](#)

30 March
International Day of Zero Waste

A day to raise awareness of issues around waste and to take action to reduce waste. Info: [UN](#). Perhaps you could engage with Tearfund's [Rubbish campaign](#)? Or share ideas from [Less Waste Laura's website](#)?

APRIL

1 April
Pray and Fast for the Climate

Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See [Pray and Fast \(https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk\)](https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)

22 April
Earth Day

A time for people across the globe to share in action to protect the planet. Theme: 'Planet versus Plastics'. Hold a church litter pick? Join [Tearfund's campaign on plastic waste](#)? Info: [Earth Day website](#)

MAY

1 May
Pray and Fast for the Climate

Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See [Pray and Fast \(https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk\)](https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)

1 to 31 May
'No Mow May'

Could you hold off mowing in order to allow biodiversity to flourish in your garden or your churchyard? Info: [Plantlife](#)

11 May 2024
World Fair Trade Day

Worldwide celebration of Fair Trade principles and organisations – which have a strong environmental component. Information will be available from the [World Fair Trade Organization \(WFTO\)](#) and [CCOW](#).

12 to 18 May
Christian Aid Week

A time for giving to Christian Aid and campaigning alongside them on issues such as climate justice. Resources will be on [Christian Aid Week website](#).

19 May
Pentecost

"Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth!"

20 May
World Bee Day

A day to celebrate and to protect the amazing insects on which we rely so much. Info: [UN](#). Activity suggestions: [Friends of the Earth UK](#).

22 May
International Day for Biological Diversity

Theme: 'From agreement to action: build back biodiversity' Info from the [UN](#). Materials for churches: [CCOW](#), [A Rocha](#), [Green Christian](#)

<p>25 May to 2 June National Children's Gardening Week</p>	<p>Encouraging young people to garden – at a time of year when growth is speedy! Could you encourage your Sunday School or school to get involved? Info: NCGW website</p>
<h2 style="text-align: center;">JUNE</h2>	
<p>1 June Pray and Fast for the Climate</p>	<p>Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See Pray and Fast (https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)</p>
<p>2 June Environment Sunday</p>	<p>The closest Sunday to World Environment Day (5 June). A time to renew your church's commitment to creation care. Links to worship materials</p>
<p>5 June World Environment Day</p>	<p>2024 focus is land restoration, drought resilience, and combating desertification. Info: UN. Church materials on environment at https://www.climatesunday.org</p>
<p>8 June World Oceans Day</p>	<p>The world's oceans teem with biodiversity and play a crucial role in absorbing greenhouse gases. But they are also in peril. Pray for their wellbeing! Info: World Oceans Day website</p>
<p>8 to 16 June 2024 Great Big Green Week</p>	<p>Celebration of community action to protect nature and fight climate change. Great time to connect with local sustainability groups in shared activities. Info: Great Big Green Week</p>
<p>8 to 16 June 2024 Churches Count on Nature</p>	<p>Celebrate your church's green spaces and record the wildlife you find there. Loads of resources and activity suggestions available. Info: Caring for God's Acre</p>
<p>10 to 16 June 2024 Bike Week</p>	<p>Organise a church cycle trip? Consider installing (more) bike racks? Info: Cycling UK</p>
<p>17 to 23 June 2024 Refugee Week (incorporates 20 June, World Refugee Day)</p>	<p>Many people are suffering displacement because of climate impacts – which can render areas unable to support human life and foster conflict. Theme: 'Our Home'. Info and materials: Refugee Week</p>

22 June
World Rainforest Day

Pray for rainforests and also for [environmental defenders](#) under threat. Info: [World Rainforest Day](#).

JULY

1 July
Pray and Fast for the Climate

Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See [Pray and Fast](#) (<https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk>)

1 to 31 July
Plastic-Free July

Plastic Free July provides resources and ideas to help us all reduce single-use plastic waste. Info: [Plastic-free July](#)

27 July to 11 August 2024
National Maritime Week

Celebrate and explore marine environments and wildlife. Info: [Wildlife Trusts](#)

AUGUST

1 August
Pray and Fast for the Climate

Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See [Pray and Fast](#) (<https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk>)

6 August
Transfiguration also
Hiroshima Day

Transfiguration commemorates Christ's glory being made manifest to his disciples. Where do you see revelations of God's glory in creation? On this day, we also pray for healing for people and lands affected by nuclear arms. Materials for Hiroshima Day: [Methodist Church](#)

9 August
International Day of the World's
Indigenous Peoples

Info: [UN](#), [Indigenous Climate Action](#) Prayer materials: [Anglican Church of Canada](#) [Indigenous Ministries](#), [Christian Reformed Church Indigenous Ministry](#), [Final Document of the Synod on the Amazon](#)

23 to 27 August 2024
World Water Week

Theme: 'Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future' Info: [World Water Week website](#), Church materials: [Water Aid](#). Pray for water conservation and safe access to clean water for all; raise funds for water access.

29 August
International Day against
Nuclear Tests

Nuclear testing has a profound environmental impact. Pray for an end to it ... and for peace. Info: [Global Dimension](#)

SEPTEMBER

1 September to 4 October Season of Creation/ Time for Creation	(Includes Day of Prayer for Creation on 1 Sept and opportunity to pray & fast on 1 Sept/4 Oct) Materials available from Season of Creation ; CTBI ; Catholic Bishops Conference (E and W) , Church of England ; Climate Sunday ; CCOW
1 to 30 September Organic Month	Time to consider organic farming and questions around sustainable food. Pray for farmers – and celebrate organic food.
1 to 30 September Second Hand September	An initiative from Oxfam to encourage people to buy second-hand goods instead of new. Info: Oxfam
9 to 22 September 2024 Fairtrade Fortnight	Now located in Harvest season! A chance to celebrate the programme that helps protect people and planet. Info: Fairtrade Foundation . Church-focused materials: CCOW
22 September World Car Free Day	A chance to hold a 'Walk to Church Sunday'?

OCTOBER

4 October Feast of St Francis/ End of Season of Creation	See 1 September. You might want to look at CCOW's Canticle of Creation powerpoint
15 October International Day of Rural Women	Rural women are key carers for creation. Info: UN .
16 October World Food Day (Churches' Week of Action on Food)	Info: Food and Agriculture Organization . Church focused materials at World Council of Churches .
17 October International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-for-eradicating-poverty . Pray that people will find ways of eradicating poverty that also protect the planet.
23 to 29 October 2024 One World Week	One World Week closed in September 2023, but some churches may still wish to hold events. The resources from past OWWs are still available on the One World Week website

NOVEMBER

1 November Pray and Fast for the Climate	Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See Pray and Fast (https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)
20 November World Children's Day	Could you ask children to help organise a creation service or event? Also, give thanks for and pray for them. Info: UN .
22 November 2024 Buy Nothing Day	Take a break from shopping – save money and reduce consumption. Info: Buy Nothing Day
23 November – 1 December National Tree Week	A time to celebrate and plant trees. Suggestions and activities: The Tree Council
24 November 2024 World Youth Day (Roman Catholic)	Theme: "Those who hope in the Lord will run and not be weary." Pray that young people may be filled with hope. Might you also ask young climate activists to speak in your church or organise an event?

DECEMBER

1 December Pray and Fast for the Climate	Also Advent Sunday. Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See Pray and Fast (https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)
5 December World Soil Day	Pray that we will value and care for the soil on which our lives depend. Info: UN
25 December Christmas Day	"All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made." John 1:3 (ESV) We rejoice with creation in the coming of the Christ to earth.
25 December to 6 January '12 Days Wild'	A festive nature challenge! Do small acts each day to connect with nature. Info: BBOWT