

## CAREY BAPTIST LIFESTYLE SURVEY RESULTS

**Total responses: 18**

**I consider an ethical lifestyle part of living out my Christian faith.** Yes - 15 / No - 1 / Sometimes - 0 /  
Not answered - 2

**I walk or cycle to church services and events.** Not possible - 5 / Yes - 3 / No - 5 / Sometimes - 5

**I try to reduce my car use when possible.** I don't have a car - 2 / Yes - 9 / No - 1 / Sometimes - 6

**I try to reduce air travel where possible.** I don't fly - 6 / Yes - 5 / No - 2 / Sometimes - 5

**I have completed a personal carbon footprint audit.** Yes - 0 / No - 18

**I limit my waste by adhering to the principles of reduce, re-use, recycle.** Yes - 17 / No - 0 / Sometimes - 1

**I participate in the Christmas and Easter card shared notice board.** Yes - 2 / No - 13 / Sometimes - 3

**I seek to purchase Fairtrade goods where possible.** Yes - 5 / No - 6 / Sometimes - 7

**My home electricity is renewable.** Yes - 7 / No - 11 / Sometimes - 0

**I have reviewed and made changes to my diet to be healthier and more sustainable (e.g. less meat).**

Yes - 15 / No - 3

**I seek to purchase ethically where possible (e.g. check source of products, bulk buy).**

Yes - 10 / No - 1 / Sometimes - 7

**I use the LOAF principle (Locally grown, Organic, Animal-friendly, Fairtrade) when buying food.**

Yes - 1 / No - 6 / Sometimes - 11

**I consider where I put my money by using ethical banking, savings accounts and/or investments.**

Yes - 5 / No - 7 / Sometimes - 6

**I participate in other community activity with an eco agenda (e.g. Litter pick events, member of a group).**

Yes - 2 / No - 13 / Sometimes - 3

**Which of the following church activities has assisted you in living a more environmentally friendly lifestyle**

(tick all that apply):

Sermons - 11 All-age talks - 7 Adapting good practice from church - 8 The church website - 1

Items in 'Grapevine' or newsletter - 7 Other - 7 (please specify: Baptist Union Literature /  
Recommendations from others e.g. switching to Ecosia search engine / Environmental organisations like A  
Rocha, RSPB, Chilterns Society and other groups like Christian Aid, Operation Agri / Royal Institution, Radio  
and other media, natural history groups, friends / Books, articles, TV programmes, websites (Green Christian,  
A Rocha) / Media coverage / Being part of the green team .....)

Please use this space to give **additional information to support your statements** or let us know **any other activity you do to respond to creation care** or **any pledges** you have for the future.

\*Need to do more

Having completed this survey, I now have a better understanding of things I personally could improve in when it comes to taking care of the environment.

I hope to:

- Complete a personal carbon footprint audit
- Switch to purchasing Fairtrade goods/LOAF food
- Research ethical banking
- Participate in other community activity with an eco-agenda
- Invest in a bike so I don't use my car for every journey

\*\*I hope Carey can develop its own recycling system and replace the existing commercial arrangement for our waste, all of which goes direct to landfill.

- I hope Carey can encourage its members and friends not to use single-use plastics and paper cups on our premises, but instead use our own plates, cups etc and to train people to use the dishwasher in the kitchen instead to cut down waste.

- I hope Carey can play a part in local environmental initiatives, like the event to encourage local afforestation, which we hope to invite Sir Mike Penning, MP along to.

- I hope Carey can install a bug hotel in our church garden and explore ways of making our church garden more welcoming to birds and local wildlife.

- I hope Carey can form an ongoing partnership with a local environmental organisation, so that as a church we can contribute to wider community events to support our environment.

- I hope that before COP26 in November next year, Carey will have become a bronze-level eco-church.

- One of my personal pledges for 2021 is to buy a more environmentally-friendly car.

\*\*\*One might justify, for example, owning shares in an oil company if you know that that company is working very hard to innovate in green energy, realising that oil is a better feed-stock for other polymers than simply for burning.

The church might do better to continue to join with other churches in purchasing energy to get a low price than to pay more for eco-sourced energy supplies when finding it hard to pay for the costs of heating. Very few decisions on eco-friendly life are straightforward.

One should realise that Carey as a building is an environmental nightmare. We are not that good at recycling paper, we use disposable cups, paper towels etc. Covid-19 precautions have made this worse, also the amount of chlorine that goes down toilets to sewers...

\*\*\*\***Walking to church** – I have done this very occasionally on a Sunday, but mainly when there's been snow on the ground! In the past few months I've walked to the church sometimes when going to do photocopying – this has been a way of getting exercise.

**Air travel** – I have only travelled by air a few times anyway and rarely go abroad.

**Recycling** – Last year (2019) I did some research on ways to recycle various items locally – eg there's someone in Kings Langley who collects toothpaste tubes, brushes etc; used pens (biros, felt-tips etc) can be taken to somewhere in Harpenden – I haven't checked whether these collections have been affected by the pandemic, but will do.

TerraCycle is a good source of information about these schemes. [www.terracycle.com](http://www.terracycle.com) (see below)

### Free Recycling Programmes

TerraCycle offers free recycling programmes funded by brands, manufacturers, and retailers around the world to help you collect and recycle your hard-to-recycle waste. Simply choose the programmes you'd like to join; start collecting in your home, school, or office; download free shipping labels; and send us your waste to be recycled. You can even earn rewards for your school or favorite non-profit!

**Bug hotels** – I've been thinking of making a bug hotel for our garden for a year or so and am finally getting round to it! I'm planning a small one at the front in a medium sized flower-pot and a bigger one at the back in an old wooden box.

I recently purchased a hybrid car.

I will use Santander bike to get to work rather than using tube from London national rail stations.

If you have **any other comments or any questions**, please write them here.

\*How can we all improve?

\*\*More generally – for people to recognise the inevitable connection between supporting the United Nation's global treaty banning nuclear weapons, and the need to protect our planet from all forms of human destruction.

\*\*\*It is extremely difficult to get the true cost of possessing anything, in order to decide whether for example one should change a car for a less polluting and more efficient model. I have a 24mpg average 20 year-old car, but have just found that the CO2 generated in building a car is as much as the fuel used in its lifetime if, say 100000 miles. Mine is around 130000 currently, so it is probably worth getting the rust dealt with and hanging onto it. Follow this link: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/green-living-blog/2010/sep/23/carbon-footprint-new-car>

In that it also mentions a book I must get: -

'How Bad are Bananas?': The Carbon Footprint of Everything by Mike Berners-Lee

With my life-expectancy of five years, changing for a newer car doesn't add up. In fact it will be better to go to sharing one car with my wife, accepting that hers does 40mpg, and is 7 years old and assuming we can use a taxi if we need two cars simultaneously .

The same sort of issues come in in terms of whether one fits photovoltaics to the house (probably £20000) with no real idea of pay-back time or value added to the house.

Ground source energy is a possibility, but it involves digging up the garden and a total replacement of the central heating system to deal with the lower temperature of the heat. Again OK for the long-term, and to be encouraged for younger people than I am.

\*\*\*\*I think we should consider how we can encourage all those using the Carey premises (not just the church congregation) to recycle and provide suitable containers. This will obviously mean one or more people taking responsibility for emptying them and taking the contents wherever necessary!

We could have a series of Bible studies, possibly during Lent, using either the new York Course ('Caring for Creation') or 'Sustainable Faith: A green gospel for the age of climate change' by Nicola L Bull and Mark McAlister. Nicola Bull is (or was) a member of High St, Tring.

The use of asterisks in the last two sections is to indicate where comments are from the same respondent, eg. the comment preceded by two asterisks in the 'additional information' section is from the same respondent as the comment preceded by two asterisks in the 'any other comments' section

### Responses displayed as bar charts









