**JAEI Enviro-corner**

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| **C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\Lent 1.jpg** | **Lenten Fast for the Environment - 2016** |
| http://www.blogcdn.com/green.autoblog.com/media/2008/04/tire-450.jpg | **Monday, 22 February**  ***Meat Free Monday***  **Time to re-tyre!**  *You’ll travel safely; you’ll neither tire nor trip. Prov 3:23* |
| Check your tyre pressure, under inflation can cause a 5% decrease in petrol mileage, releasing more pollution.  We often don’t think of tyres as being an environmental issue. By maintaining them properly you help conserve the energy and resources that would go into making new ones, save petrol, and reduce the problems created when they are thrown away. Tyres are bulky, do not decompose and provide places for mosquitoes to breed.  **Tyre trivia**   * It takes half a barrel of crude oil to produce the rubber in one lorry tyre * Worldwide every year 3 billion tyres, yes 3 billion! are discarded   **What to do?**   * Keep your tyres inflated. This preserves the life of the tyre and can improve your fuel consumption by 5%. * Ask your tyre dealer if they recycle, if they don’t then say you will buy from the one that does! * When you change your tyres, change to radial, they do improve mileage * Recycle! Producing recycled tyres saves 70% of the energy it takes to make them new. They can be used for carpet padding, sporting goods, and added to playgrounds and running tracks. * Re-use tyres for community projects. They can be used for crèches, for foundations for planting veggies! | |
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| C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\1.jpg | **Tuesday, 23 February**  **Fix your fridge!**  *“By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen fast” Job 37:10* |
| For most people the fridge is the item in the house which uses the second largest amount of electricity because it is on all the time. Here’s what to do:  **Set the temperature for only as cold as you need it.**  Fridge should be between 2-4°C, and the freezer should be -17 to -10°C. To test the fridge temperature, put a thermometer in a glass of water in the center of the fridge and leave it there for 24 hours. To test the freezer temperature, put the thermometer between two frozen packages. If the temperature is colder than needed, then set the fridge to a warmer temperature.  **Don’t put hot foods in the fridge.**  One to two hours of cooling off time will definitely make your refrigerator work less. You can greatly cool items by putting them in a container and soaking them in a pot of cold water for 15-30 minutes, which means they can go into the fridge faster if you are worried about them going off.  **Thaw frozen foods in the fridge rather than on the counter.**  They’ll help cool the fridge as they defrost.  **Pick a good spot for the fridge.**  Position your fridge out of direct sunlight, and away from the oven. If you can’t then make sure there as at least 5cm of space all around to allow for circulation.  **Door Openings.**  Every time you open the door you are wasting electricity as the fridge tries to cool down the whole room!  **Defrost your freezer regularly**  More frost makes the freezer work harder.  **Cleaning the coils helps a little.**  The coils are the winding black pipe either on the back of the fridge, clean with a brush or vacuum.  **Make sure the gasket/sealer is in good shape.**  If parts of it are coming off, then cold air is escaping, re-attach it with adhesive.  **Replace your fridge**  Older fridges are incredibly inefficient pre 2001 fridges use **1400 kWh** a year, while a modern energy-efficient model uses only **350 kWh** — a whopping 75% reduction. | |
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| http://t2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQxuJuF6uJUlbevsCmzJUBUc2sAnNs_utIWwrcqWc2IpOtWO4X1 | **Wednesday, 24 February**  **Get tuned!**  *“Go to the village ahead of you. As soon as you get there, you will find a donkey’s colt tied up. No one has ever ridden it. Untie it and bring it here. 31 Someone may ask you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ If so, say, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ” Luke 11:30-31* |
| Keep your car tuned up, track your petrol mileage. Your wallet will be fat and your emissions low.  When Jesus came into Jerusalem, he did not choose a top of the range Arab stallion. The Gospels make much of the fact that he chose to enter Jerusalem on a donkey, on the colt of a donkey. For Jesus transport was not associated with status.  We also need to move away from the values of society that says “you are what your drive” A car is a method of transport and we need to choose the most efficient. Getting good mileage out of your car is not just a matter of the environment – a fuel efficient vehicle is less destructive than a petrol guzzler. And it feels good on your pocket too!  **Did you know -** There are more than 1.2 BILLION cars on the road in the world.  The **environmental impact of transport** is significant because it is a major user of energy, and burns most of the world’s petroleum. This creates air pollution, including nitrous oxides and particulates, and is a significant contributor to global warming through emission of carbon dioxide for which transport is the fastest-growing emission sector. By subsector, road transport is the largest contributor to global warming.  **What to do**   * Keep your car tuned up. A well-tuned car uses 9% less petrol. * Keep track of your petrol mileage. If it suddenly changes you can quickly sort out the problem with your car. * Do not idle your car unnecessarily. It takes less petrol to start a car that to let it idle for more than one minute. Switch off! * Keep fuel filters clean * Stay light. Don’t leave heavy things in your car. An extra 50 kg in your boot will reduce fuel economy by 1% * When it comes to buying a new car, research petrol economy before you decide which make to decide on. | |
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| C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\1.jpg | **Thursday, 25 February**  **Recharge your batteries**  *“Let us not become weary in doing good,” Galatians 6:9* |
| **Did you know?**  Every year over 15 billion batteries are produced and sold worldwide Household batteries that are thrown out with the rubbish end up in landfills where they corrode and break apart, releasing dangerous lead and acid into the soil. Batteries that are incinerated reduce toxic chemicals into the air. Many are alkaline batteries which are discarded after a single use. Fortunately, thanks to ongoing advances in both batteries and battery chargers, alkaline batteries can be replaced with higher capacity, environmentally friendly, rechargeable Lithium-ion batteries.  **Recycle**  Once a lead acid battery has died, there is no chance of a resurrection, however it can be effectively recycled. It will be sorted and placed into a battery breaker and pulverised into small coin shaped pieces. These pieces are placed into a tank and the dissimilar densities are separated - heavier pieces, such as lead sink, while lighter pieces, like rubber and plastic float. Liquids, such as water and acid go into a neutralising solution, and once the PH is neutral, it is innocuously discarded into the sewage system. The plastic is melted down, the lead is cleaned of impurities, smelted into ingots and both are remoulded into new batteries.  Lead-acid batteries are an environmental success story with more than 90% of all scrap batteries successfully recycled in South Africa. This is compared with 70% of beverage cans, 65% of newspapers, 30% of plastics, and 26% of glass.  **What to do**   * Use rechargeable batteries. they last longer than alkaline batteries * Use mains power instead of batteries whenever possible * Find out where to recycle your batteries and organize a system to help others to recycle too.   ***NB – Batteries are classed as toxic waste and cannot just be thrown away in your dustbin!*** | |
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| http://www.eartheasy.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/switch_large.jpg | **Friday, 26 February**  ***Smart Fish Friday***  **Lessen your lights**  *“Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house”. Matt 5;15* |
| Conserve your light, turn off fixtures when not in use, and use LED and other wattage lowering options  **How to save electricity on lighting:**  Lighting is probably the easiest area to save in. **Switch to energy saving bulbs.**  Save **70-90% right away** by using LED or CFL lights. Here is why:  “Traditional incandescent bulbs are *small heaters that give off a little bit of light*—something you know if you’ve ever touched a bulb that’s been on for a while. These bulbs were technological wonders when they were patented in 1880, but today they are inefficient dinosaurs. They waste energy and money, and they are responsible for millions of tons of global warming pollution.”  LED is better but the bulbs are expensive. You will pay them off eventually but if the cost is too high, go with CFL. Make sure you get them bright enough -multiply by 6, a 10 watt LED is a 60 watt equivalent. But CFLs with a warranty, the cheap ones burn out fast.  **Turn off lights when you’re not using them, even for just a few minutes.**  **The idea that lights (whether regular or fluorescents) use extra electricity to start up is a myth.**  **Use a motion sensor**  Exterior security lights automatically shut off after 1-15 minutes, so you’re not paying to run them all night.  **Use the lowest-wattage bulbs for lights that are always on (e.g., stairways).**  **Replacing 75-watt bulbs with 15-watt bulbs reduces energy usage by 80%.** Replacing them with LED or CFL lights saves even more.  **Install a skylight.**  Using natural lighting saves a bunch of energy and produces a much nicer environment besides. Modern skylights are available which let in only the light and not the heat. | |
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| C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\1.jpg | **Saturday, 27 February**  **Find a Friend**  ***“****And the Samaritan put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him.” - Luke 10:44* |
| We have got into the habit of travelling alone, one person in a car. This makes no sense in terms of saving petrol, money and the planet.  Here are some ways to reduce your petrol costs and your carbon footprint   * Find a friend. For those regular trips, can you car pool? * Check out your public transport options. It might not work every time, but use it when it does. * Combine your trip with another. * What about your bike! Get in shape too * Couple of km? – walk! * Phone ahead – avoid that unnecessary journey by phoning ahead to see if the article you want is in stock * Think it through – do you need to do this trip at all? * Telecommute – will they allow you to work from home from time to time? * Skype your meetings! Is it really necessary to travel for that meeting or can you connect on skype? * Buy on the internet. | |
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| ***Definition:***  ***recycle***  riːˈsʌɪk(ə)l  *verb*  gerund or present participle: **recycling**  ***convert*** (waste) into reusable material.  "car hulks were recycled into new steel"  **synonyms**: reuse, reprocess, convert into something, reclaim, recover; More  salvage, save  "all our stores now collect and recycle cardboard boxes"   * ***return*** (material) to a previous stage in a cyclic process.   "the amino acids are recycled in the synthesis of other proteins"   * ***use again***   "he reserves the right to recycle his own text" | |
| ***C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\1.jpg*** | 12 When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, *“Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.”* 13 So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. ***- John 6:12***  **Even Jesus hated waste!!! - So this Lent and beyond – let us hate it too! …** |
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| C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\2.jpg | **Sunday, 28 February**  **Renew your Church**  *Jeremiah 6:16 -: This is what the Lord says:* “Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, ‘We will not walk in it.” |
| Can you be an agent of change in your church? Is your church recycling? So what is the big deal about waste?  **Firstly** – we are wasting a junk-load of money!!  As one example, waste disposal is a critical issue – there is limited access to landfill space. The cost of rehabilitating land fill is astronomical.  There are so many trucks moving up and down every day collecting waste. This costs you – the tax payer!  **Secondly** – we owe it to our children and grandchildren. Whatever ends up in landfill stays there for a long, long time. For instance, a milk carton takes 5 years to decompose, a foam cup takes 50 years, a plastic bottle 450 years, a “disposable” nappy 550 years, and a plastic bag between 200 to 1000 years. What will your great, great, great grandkids feel when they see your plastic bottle still here in 2316!!  The good news is this – it can create money and jobs!  Nationally in South Africa recycling has created over 29000 jobs, and created R15.3 BILLION in the last year - So if we just throw our waste away we are throwing away job opportunities for many people  Can your church take this issue of recycling seriously? This is a service you can offer to the community and to the planet. Find out which companies will come and pick up recycling. If you recycle in bulk you can also possible earn some money by doing so.  Consider your own actions as well this Lent! | |
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***We continue to pray for our Planet:***

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,

help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it,

that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation,

to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen

* *Pope Francis*