**JAEI Enviro-corner**

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| **C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\Lent 1.jpg** | **Lenten Fast for the Environment - 2016** |
| C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\3.jpg | **Monday, 29 February**  ***Meat Free Monday***  ***Become a bag lady (or gent)***  *“We are living on this planet as if we have another one to go to” – Terri Swearinger* |
| **Did you know**  Plastic shopping bags are usually not biodegradable. Even the ‘biodegradable’ ones never completely disappear, they break up into little pieces.  Plastic is made from petroleum  Plastic often ends up in the ocean, killing marine animals or birds who get tangled up in them or swallow them.  The ink used in plastic bags contains cadmium a toxic heavy metal, so when they are incinerated, heavy metals spew into the air.  **What to do**   * Think twice before taking a bag if your purchase is small. Just hold it in your (wait for it…) hands! * All plastic shopping bags are reusable many times. Keep one in your handbag for that unplanned purchase * Bring cloth bags when you do your grocery shopping. * Buy bags made by community upliftment projects or special conservation causes and make a difference as well! | |
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| http://www.christianaid.org.uk/Images/Fast-for-the-climate-APOR_tcm15-78289.jpg | **Tuesday, 1 March**  **Fast for the climate**  *And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid [their] hands on them, they sent [them] away. Acts 13:3* |
| Fasting in the Bible is not associated with inaction. It is associated with drawing close to God in order to make a difference in the world. This week we consider our lifestyle in the area of ‘moving”. We live in a mobile society where our form of transport is often associated with status. As we consider a simpler lifestyle, we need to move towards smaller cars, lift sharing, public transport, scooters, bicycles and best of all our feet!!  Today is the first of March, we would like to encourage you to join the fast and pray for the climate movement.  When Typhoon Haiyan had just devastated the Philippines in November last year, climate commissioner Yeb Saño was at the UN climate talks in Warsaw. His own family was caught up in the disaster that killed thousands and destroyed homes and livelihoods across the country.  In a moving speech he said he would not eat until countries at the Warsaw conference delivered actions that would ‘stop the madness’ of the climate crisis.  Hundreds of others from around the world chose to fast with him in solidarity.  Despite this, the Warsaw meeting saw countries, like Japan, actually winding back their climate commitments, seemingly in denial that all countries will need to commit and contribute to the comprehensive, global climate action plan which is due in Paris in 2015.  *The Fast For The Climate Campaign* has grown into global movement with participation of youth groups, environmental groups and faith-based groups, who all want urgent action on climate change by governments this year. | |
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| New Picture (1) | **Wednesday, 2 March**  ***Pre-cycle*!**  ***“****Modern technology - Owes ecology - An apology.” ~Alan M. Edison* |
| Be aware of packaging, buy glass which can be easily recycled, and avoid excess packaging and keep an eye out for recycled containers.  Be aware of the type and amount of packaging with your purchases and try where ever possible to reduce the environmental impact. Retailers often use an excessive amount of packaging - the extra boxes, bubble wrap, tissue paper, and additional packaging materials can have a negative impact on the environment. | |
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| C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\4.jpg | **Thursday, 3 March**  **Lend-a-Tool**  *“Love your enemies do good to them and lend to them without expecting to get anything back.” – Luke 6:35* |
| Items such as mowers, power tools etc., are really costly and it really doesn’t seem appropriate or economically viable to purchase such items if you are not going to use them on an on-going basis. It makes better sense to borrow (or if you have these items - to lend to a friend) than outlaying a huge amount of cash.  However!!! If you do borrow these items – ensure that you treat them well and return them promptly and in good ***working*** order!  Where possible, borrow and/or lend ladders, mowers and tools. Share shopping trips and trade things in your community to reduce unnecessary purchasing. | |
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| C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Word\1.png | **Friday, 4 March**  ***Smart Fish Friday***  **Swop it out**  *“Rather, be openhanded and freely lend them whatever they need.” Deut 15:8* |
| Although not “big” in South Africa, Swopping Parties are the “in thing to do” in countries such as Australia and the United States – and they do make good sense!Exchange clothes, DVDs, CDs, jewelry and bags so everyone gets something new without an extra trip  Why not organize one and see if it works for you!  If a Swopping party doesn’t grab you – what about organizing a Boot Sale (perhaps use your Church property and donate proceeds to “Greening Projects” within your Church.) | |
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| http://t0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQUgCsivyXyjxwr4BWNkfow9YsFFUTrRpaPRnztGcHqJlP524DQ7A | **Saturday, 5 March**  **Love Second hand**  *“Wear sandals, but not an extra tunic” – Mark 6:16* |
| Children grow up! Adults grow “out” or “in”! … so … pass up / down clothes that don’t fitanymore!  The quandary of “what to do with those favourite pieces” in your cupboard can be daunting! Simple solution - Give them to someone who needs them! | |
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| http://t2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQwG3lAY5YUiE4ctrQSMs34gumoq15jvkvEFq8SweKhcfSq4zRFTQ | **Sunday, 6 March**  **Do I NEED it or WANT it – there is a difference!**  *And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.* ***-*** *Matthew 14:19* |
| **Need not Greed**  There is no way that the urgent and critical need for poverty alleviation and demand for a better standard of living by an escalating human population can be met by the limited resources of our planet. Nor can the planet cope with all our waste. More of the same “business as usual” will not change anything because there is no longer enough to go round. We will have to find ways of sharing and distribution resources more equitably. People in the developed world must change and reduce their wasteful consumption habits. It is also imperative that we radically transform our discriminatory economic system which benefits those who already have enough and marginalises the poor and the environment. We cannot address poverty before we take care of creation – poverty alleviation and environmental care go hand in hand. We can all change the way we do things, locally and globally. Because we are people of faith, we have a moral obligation to do this.  *(Season of Creation – Book 1)* | |
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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*