Eco-Congregation Scotland

Esk and Tweed Network

Eco-Congregation Scotland is an ecumenical movement and a registered charity. It helps congregations link environmental issues to their faith and take action ---

Eco Congregation Scotland has developed a system of networks across the country that is organised on the basis of geographical areas. These networks allow for mutual support and encouragement and for the exchange of ideas – as well as the opportunity to socialise and develop new friendships.

Churches in Midlothian and Borders Region have always been made very welcome at meetings of the Edinburgh Network. However, at an exploratory evening held in Carlops Church in October 2011, and attended by representatives from Biggar Church, Peebles Parish Church, Penicuik North Church and Carlops Church, it was decided that it would be useful to form a network of Eco churches that are situated to the south of Edinburgh and that are dealing with issues and concerns that may be 'rural' rather than 'city' based .

The name 'Esk and Tweed' was chosen because most of the churches that may be interested in joining the new network, lie on, or between, these rivers systems.

The inaugural meeting of the new network will take place in Carlops Church on Monday 26th March at 7.30pm when we will be delighted to welcome Ewan Aitken, chairperson of Eco-Congregation Scotland, as our guest speaker. Those who have heard Ewan will know how inspirational he is as a speaker.

We also hope that we will hear a short statement (lasting no more than a few minutes) from each attending church describing its location, size and perhaps an Eco activity. A break for refreshments, giving time to 'chat', will be included in the programme.

An invitation is extended to members from all Eco-Congregation churches and to those who are interested in learning more about the Eco-Congregation movement.

In order that Carlops can organise seating and refreshments it would be most helpful if we could be informed at least a week before the meeting as to the numbers who will be coming and the name of the church they will represent.

At present I am acting as Network Organiser and can be contacted by phone on 01968 678 352 or by email at <u>nan.buchan@hotmail.co.uk</u>

I would be grateful if any interested churches could send me a contact name and phone no./e-mail address in order that I can keep in touch.

Meanwhile we hope to welcome you to Carlops in March. Very Good Wishes Nan Buchan (more information about Eco-Congregation can be found at <u>www.ecocongregation.org/scotland</u>)