**Reaching Out**

**Generosity**

Generosity is at the heart of our God-given identity - we are created in the image of our generous God, so generosity is in our nature as well. At it’s best, it is a joyful outpouring of love. We express generosity in how we give of ourselves to the world around us, and our attitude towards that giving. The rhythm of generosity is grounded in a rhythm of gratitude - thankful people tend to be more generous people. Generosity recognises our role as stewards of God’s resources, and so practice of generosity is also about creation care and living in an eco-friendly and ethical way.

**What do we do already**?

Talking positively about generosity helps to shape a culture of living generously.

It might be that our church has a pattern of preaching about giving and creation care, or are working towards becoming an Eco Church. We might have a policy of giving away a percentage of regular giving to named charities, which also helps missionally and in how we show love and support beyond our church walls. There might also be opportunities for people to give their time to our church, which is encouraged, affirmed and celebrated.

**What could be?**

When was the last time we preached or teached in some way about generosity? Is there a resource we could encourage us to engage with to explore the spiritual aspects of living generously? Could our church work towards becoming a registered Eco Church? How do we encourage individuals and households to reflect on how they live generously - are there ideas or practices we could encourage them to think about adopting?