

Harnessing the Tools of Community Organising for Church Growth

Churches Support Hub Webinar 6th March 2025



CTC & Community Organising

- Organising is about bringing people together through relationships across different to build the power to make change for the common good
- "Faith-filled Organising" with Citizens UK
- "Roots Down/ Walls Down"
- Overlooked leaders developed & congregations growing in number, depth, impact





What is Organising for Growth?

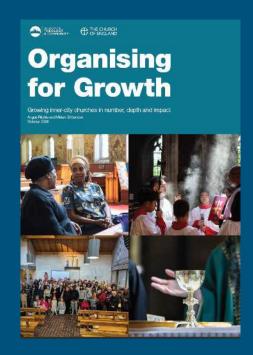
Supporting inner-city parishes or worshipping communities in the Church of England to grow their congregations in number, depth and social impact

Pilot: 2020-2023, funded by CofE Strategic Development Funding (SDF) (six smaller sacramental churches in East London) which led to 211 new worshippers (40% under 18)

Roll-out: Now, funded for a further 3 years (SMMIB) from October 2024, engaging 54 churches 2024-27.

Fortnightly Learning Community:

- A. how to act together on issues which affect children, young people and families in the area
- B. how to make the church and its worship more welcoming to children, young people and families
- C. how to deepen the discipleship of children, young people and families



A Cycle of Prayer and Organising



Rest & Refresh

Come to me, all those who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Matt 11v28

Celebrate &

Give Thanks

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you 1Thess 5v16-18

See & Hear

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43v19

Lament & Repent

How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? Psalms 13v1

Discern & Decide

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. James 1v5

Evaluate

The seventy returned with Joy, saying, "Lord, in your name, demons submit to us!" Luke 10v17

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Phil 4v13

Action

St Andrew's, Stamford Hill







Broad-Based Community Organising



- "People before programme" understand core motivations before we act
- Broad-based community organising and churches



Holy Trinity, Leytonstone







How can I get involved & learn more?

- 1. Do some listening in your parish! Try using CTC's 121 Listening Cards
- 2. Read the Organising for Growth <u>report</u>
- 3. CUF Growing Good 'Justice' resource launching in Autumn 2025
- 4. Reach out to your local Citizens UK alliance & explore membership (https://www.citizensuk.org/)
- 5. Have a conversation with CTC about participation in a future cycle of Organising for Growth (new cohorts in Autumn 2025 and 2026) visit our website https://www.ctcuk.org/