

Partnerships Information

Partnerships Funding (PF)

AWARDS 2023-2026 (to date)

**VISION
and
STRATEGY**



Introduction

£12.5m has been awarded to date, with £14m allocated for award 2026-28. Partnerships Funding has the potential to be one of the Church of England's most cost-effective missional investment streams. It has already achieved remarkable national reach and is seeing the first signs of impact.

The following outcomes are possible if all projects achieve their targets:

- 1,200 New Worshipping Communities (including 200+ in areas of deprivation)
- 5,000 clergy and 8,000 lay leaders trained in flourishing CYPF ministries
- From 3% to 10% of all 13–17-year-olds in England engaging with evangelism and discipleship content and actively following online
- 7,200 parishes supported with take up across all Dioceses
- 12,300 new CYPF volunteers
- 36,000 new children and young people and 23,000 new adult disciples becoming part of worshipping communities



7 Key Areas

The Partnerships Funding strategy is to collaborate with partners who are recognised leaders and experts in their fields, addressing mission-critical challenges informed by extensive research.

Our investment efforts to date have concentrated on seven key areas:



7 Key Areas

CLERGY TRAINING

Research identified four key interventions to support clergy in having a thriving Children, Young People, and Families (CYPF) ministry: a digital resource hub, investment in IME2, a CYPF Development Programme for both clergy and lay ministers together, and a specialised training programme solely for clergy. We are advancing on the latter two points by implementing a strategic plan alongside Ministry Development aimed at commissioning effective training for 30% of clergy and/or laity by the end of 2025 and reaching a target of 70% by the end of 2027.

ESTABLISHING NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES

New Worshipping Communities (NWCs) are effectively engaging unchurched and de-churched youth and families across England by meeting their needs for experiential worship, community, and intellectually appropriate engagement, with tailored initiatives like Bubble Church designed for family involvement. Additionally, the development of a scalable model adaptable across different church traditions is enabling rapid expansion of NWCs, revitalising outreach and participation in churches previously with few or no children and families.

ENHANCING DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

Young people are digital natives, and we are called to reach out and disciple people all of nations. Our investment will resource evangelism and discipleship for young people through social media and gaming platforms and we are exploring ways to link them to in-person worshipping communities.

ADDRESSING SIGNIFICANT MISSIONAL CHALLENGES

There are critical missional challenges that need to be specifically addressed and worked on. For instance, the fragility around NWCs which are aimed at a specific age group and the connected discipleship pathways has led to the partnership with BRF, Messy Church to focus on an effective answer to this so that we see lifelong disciples.

WORKING WITH NETWORKS

Working with networks to maximise their reach and work with them to see the V&S becoming a reality.

DISCIPLESHIP

Developing and scaling resources that help churches make, grow and send disciples, helping us become a church of missionary disciples.

SPORTS AND WELLBEING MINISTRY

The National Sport and Wellbeing Project found that sports ministries *“can successfully serve as an effective tool for mission and ministry”*. Partners in this space inspire, equip and enable churches to use sports ministries effectively.

7 Key Areas

CLERGY TRAINING	ESTABLISHING NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES	ENHANCING DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT	ADDRESSING SIGNIFICANT MISSIONAL CHALLENGES	NETWORKS
Youthscape 11-18's new youthwork	MYCN Unchurched young people in areas of deprivation	The Way UK Growing following to 10% of teens in England and 1000 yp moving from online to in-person	Parenting for Faith Centralising faith at home as part of our core-mission	EETG Estates Evangelism Task Group
LyCiG Clergy and laity together, church growth	Bubble Church For families with children 3-7yrs, Sunday mornings, at church	Emmaus Gaming Digital mission through online gaming, in-person events	Growing Hope Training churches to be welcoming for CYPF with SEN	Revitalise Trust
Centre for Theology & Community Community organising for church growth	Messy Church For families with primary age children		Messy Church How to keep YP and families engaged from 11+ yrs	Catholic Mission Network
CCX Revitalisations and planting nwc clergy and laity	RSCM Starting new choirs		Worship for Everyone Training and resources for intergenerational worship	
Revitalise Trust	iSingPOP Pop up church - a NWC to churches with schools already using iSingPOP for worship			
The Kindling Network "Taste and see" training for clergy				
			DISCIPLESHIP	SPORTS AND WELLBEING MINISTRY
			Envoy Small group evangelism coaching	Ambassadors Football Football outreach activities that build faith



Estimated New Volunteers

YOUTHSCAPE	3,650 new volunteers <i>Youthscape's Launchpad course for clergy, Essentials course for volunteers and Resources aim to equip churches to start youth ministry</i>
LEADING YOUR CHURCH INTO GROWTH	1,000 new volunteers <i>LyCiG are aiming to support 1,000 parishes 20025-2028 to grow their churches, including children and youth ministry</i>
MESSY CHURCH	950 new volunteers <i>Messy Church will be supporting churches to start 300 new Messy Churches.</i>
BUBBLE CHURCH	1,000 new volunteers <i>Bubble Church aim to start 250 new Bubble Churches. On average each new Bubble Church involves 3-4 new volunteers.</i>
iSingPOP	600 new volunteers <i>iSingPOP are piloting PopUP Church, a NWC to churches with schools already using iSingPOP for collective worship.</i>
MYCN	180 new volunteers <i>Missional Youth Church Network work with churches to start new worshiping communities for young people, often in low-income areas.</i>
RSCM	500 new volunteers <i>The Choir Project will see 200 new or renewed children's choirs supported by 500 volunteers nurturing children and young people as active disciples.</i>
EMMAUS GAMING	150 new volunteers <i>Embedding evangelism and discipleship into the world of online gaming, Emmaus Gaming will raise up 150 young volunteers for digital youth ministry.</i>
CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY & COMMUNITY	535 new volunteers <i>CTC's practice is rooted in faith based community organising, training churches to use these principles to serve local communities, leading to church growth.</i>
REVITALISE TRUST	3,725 new volunteers & 55 paid ministers <i>Revitalise Trust's partnership will invest in kids and youth pastors within their network through training and local support hubs, while also recruiting 55 paid and 3,725 voluntary children and youth ministers.</i>

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-  Establishing New Worshipping Communities
-  Enhancing Digital Engagement
-  Addressing Significant Missional Challenges
-  Networks
-  Discipleship
-  Sports and Wellbeing

Ambassadors Football

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

How can churches connect with new children, young people and families, build relationships and share faith with them?

It goes without saying, football is a popular sport! How can churches use the gift of sport to share the gospel and make disciples?

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Ambassadors Football has worked with local churches to deliver football-based outreach projects for over 35 years. Their mission is to equip and serve the local Church in its disciple-making mission. Football provides a fun, familiar and accessible activity which acts as the starting point on a discipleship pathway.

A Community Football Outreach (CFO) is a regular football activity session, run by a church that creates a space for churches to connect with families outside of the church, build relationships, share the gospel and invite people to explore the Christian faith. Churches decide when and where the CFO takes place: at the church or a community facility, indoors or outdoors, at the weekend or after school.

www.ambassadorsfootball.org

RESOURCE

Ambassadors Football provide training and mentoring for churches to start CFOs. Ambassadors Football accompany churches for 12 months, from exploring if a CFO is the right fit for their church, through to volunteer training, in-person support for the first CFO sessions and mentoring as the CFO continues. Discounted training packages, including equipment and FA Coaching training for a volunteer from the church are available.

IMPACT

Community Football Outreach projects have seen on average 20+ children and young people attending, with 70% of participants not church goers. As a result of CFOs, churches have seen families come to church, youth groups grow, and young people baptised.

FIRST STEPS

Explore the Community Football Outreach model on the Ambassadors Football GB website, and register your interest in the project by visiting the CFO page on the AFGB website:

www.ambassadorsfootball.org

Bubble Church

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

There is a lack of effective inter-generational worship opportunities, some Sunday services are difficult to access for families with young children and little church background.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Creating accessible, age-appropriate spaces on Sundays to explore faith.

www.bubblechurch.org

RESOURCE

Bubble Church is a puppet-packed, Jesus-centred, coffee-and-food-fuelled, kids and families Sunday church service. The Bubble Church team provide training, resources and ongoing support to churches wanting to start a Bubble Church.

IMPACT

Average attendance after one year is 42, served by a team averaging 7 adults, including 3-4 volunteers new to children and youth ministry. 70% of the worshipping community are unchurched/dechurched.

FIRST STEPS

Churches interested in starting a Bubble Church can contact the Bubble Church Team to express their interest, find out more and explore if it is right for them:

www.bubblechurch.org/run

Catholic Mission Network

(The Society under the patronage of St Wilfrid and St Hilda)

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Although attendance in Society parishes has declined more sharply than in the wider Church of England, this highlights a significant opportunity for renewal and growth. By building confidence in mission and evangelism, fostering a shared vision, strengthening collaboration and leadership, and investing in children, youth, and family work, parishes can develop a vibrant and sustainable future.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

To rediscover joy and confidence in sharing the Gospel, nurturing new leaders, and inspiring young and old alike to encounter Christ in the Sacramental life of the Church.

RESOURCE

Building on a successful pilot, the Catholic Mission Network (CMN) programme will equip Anglo-Catholic parishes for mission and evangelism by developing and growing regional clergy and laity groups, delivering training through trusted partners, and providing dedicated advice and support from missionary priests, underpinned by proven resources, best practice sharing, and communications.

"This group has been incredibly valuable to me in my ministry...It has kept me focussed on the difficult tasks and helped me not become bogged down in the 'nitty gritty' of parish life, but rather to take a more strategic approach to leadership and ministry." Existing CMN member priest.

IMPACT

Parishes involved in the Catholic Mission Network have experienced growth in their worshipping communities, including growth in the attendance of under 16s of 18%.

FIRST STEPS

Membership of the Catholic Mission Network is open to all priests and deacons of the Society, and laity from traditional Anglo-Catholic parishes. If you are interested in participating in the programme, in the first instance contact your Society Bishop.

Centre for Church Multiplication

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

There has been a general, long term decline in church attendance (both adult and child), there is a lack of leadership training and a poor pipeline of future church leaders.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Training for 200 churches in how to plant/revitalise churches and start new worshipping communities.

ccx.org.uk

RESOURCE

CCX have a range of courses:

Plant – Seven weeks of in-person sessions for planting teams ready to start NWCs.

Grow – Five learning communities over eight months for churches wanting to grow in health, depth and impact. Cohorts bring together teams from churches to learn together. Coaching is available for church leaders. Good for deaneries.

Other services - Pioneer and Estates ministry. More information on the website.

IMPACT

On average, between 2019-23, those who has attended a Plant Course increased AWA CYP by 10 and adult by 30 above London average, and Grow Course increased AWA CYP by 5 and adult by 9 above London average.

FIRST STEPS

CCX explore with a diocese how their training can support the diocese's strategy.

The CCX team can be contacted to start this conversation via the details on their website:

ccx.org.uk

EETG (Estates Evangelism Task Group)

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Ministry in estates and low-income communities takes place within contexts of sustained deprivation that create additional missional, structural and leadership challenges. Churches in these communities often operate with fewer financial resources, reduced volunteer capacity and increased pastoral and safeguarding complexity. Support is needed for clergy and lay-leaders working in these contexts.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The Estates Evangelism Task Group was established to support the Church's commitment to see a loving, worshipping and serving Christian community on every significant social housing estate, grounded in the conviction that renewal will be shaped through faithful presence and mission in economically disadvantaged communities.

RESOURCE

EETG strengthens diocesan and national capacity, ensures that the voice and experience of estates communities are represented within the wider Church and supports the development of sustainable, contextual mission, particularly among children, young people and their families. It is committed to enabling the Church to serve and reflect the communities it is called to reach, especially those experiencing the greatest social and economic disadvantage.

FIRST STEPS

Through the Regional Delivery Programme, Regional Leads for EETG are in touch with diocesan Estates Focal Leads.

For more information on the EETG, contact Dr Aimi King, Project Lead:

aking@chelmsford.anglican.org

Emmaus Gaming

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Young people are digital natives and influenced by what they encounter in that space, there is a lack of Christian presence providing points of view shaped by faith.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

What does evangelism and discipleship look like in this space?

RESOURCE

IMPRINT CIO will start Emmaus Gaming, building a Christian presence on multiple social media platforms, engaging with young people via live streams, a Discord community and short-form content. They aim to train 150 people in digital mission, and link young people to in-person worshipping communities through Emmaus Gaming hubs (churches around the country who young people would connect to best if interested in moving to an in-person worship community).

IMPACT

Emmaus Gaming aims to connect with 100,000 young people through social media and see 150 connect to an in-person worshipping community.

FIRST STEPS

Emmaus Gaming will be looking to identify Emmaus Gaming hubs in 2026.

Envoy

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Many Christians long for their faith to be part of everyday life but are unsure what that looks like in practice. They often believe deeply in Jesus yet find it difficult to recognise how their ordinary conversations, relationships and daily routines can become places where faith is naturally expressed.

The opportunity is not simply to help people do more evangelism, but to help them discover that following Jesus in everyday life already gives rise to it.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Evangelism does not need to be something Christians fear, but instead can become a natural part of daily life. Coaching in small groups can be an effective tool to grow habits that are formational for evangelism and applicable in everyday life.



www.envoy.website

RESOURCE

Envoy is a resource to use with small groups (a group size of 5 is ideal). Participants listen to a 30-minute podcast before their weekly session, then have a 90-minute group coaching session. Over 19 sessions together, the group forms a coaching community to grow habits that are formational for evangelism.

IMPACT

To date, over 750 individuals have participated in Envoy. 70% of participants have said their evangelism has increased as a result of participating in Envoy.

"It has helped me to see and hear people I meet, like God sees and hears them. I have become more confident in sharing my faith stories. I have worked at finding ways to add value to people I meet and it is becoming more natural."

FIRST STEPS

Envoy will be working with 10 dioceses as part of this funded project. Diocesan officers interested in hearing more should email: neville.barnes@churcharmy.org

Information for those interested in participating in the Envoy programme will be shared by the participating dioceses during the programme.

Those from other dioceses interested in Envoy can visit their website for more information:
www.envoy.website

iSingPOP

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

One million children are educated in Church schools, where worship and prayer remain part of daily life. How can churches build strong discipleship pathways between school and church that grow from this foundation?

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

iSingPop is currently one of the most trusted Christian presences in schools, enabling more than 150,000 children each year to explore faith and worship in a fun and accessible way. This presents churches with a ready-made opportunity to build a pathway from school worship into a new worshipping community, using the songs and resources children already know and love.

www.isingpop.org

RESOURCE

PopUP Church is a monthly, one-hour service designed for primary school children and their families. It offers a joyful, engaging and reflective worship experience that is simple to run, requires minimal preparation, and can be delivered with a small team of volunteers.

Building on the successes of iSingPop, PopUP Church helps turn a moment that began in the classroom into an opportunity for churches to connect with families in their communities.

At the centre of the programme is The Pop Box — a digital toolkit with more than 170 interactive and hands-on elements.

Funded training, network support and a complete Year One resource pack are included to equip and support church leaders and volunteers help move families from the school gate to the heart of a vibrant, child-led worshipping community.

FIRST STEPS

Churches interested in starting a PopUP Church can explore further information on iSingPOP's website (www.isingpop.org) and sign up for an online 'Find Out More' session.

Growing Hope (Accessibility & Inclusion)

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Many churches are not currently accessible to children and young people with additional needs (SEND), creating barriers to participation, belonging and discipleship.

Church environments and practices, often unintentionally, can exclude families through sensory overwhelm, lack of understanding, or inflexible structures. As a result, many families feel unwelcome or disengage from church life altogether.

With **1 in 6 children in England having additional needs**, this represents a significant missed opportunity for mission and growth.

growinghope.org.uk

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

To equip churches, through diocesan partnerships, to become accessible, inclusive worshipping communities where children and families with additional needs can belong, grow in faith, and participate fully.

By embedding accessibility into church culture, leadership and practice, dioceses can:

- Enable churches to welcome new families currently excluded
- Support retention of families facing additional challenges
- Grow more diverse and representative worshipping communities
- Strengthen intergenerational discipleship

This work directly supports the vision of a younger and more diverse Church.

RESOURCE

Growing Hope partners with dioceses to deliver:

- Accessibility Training, delivered centrally and locally
- Accessibility Award, supporting long term culture change
- Practical tools addressing sensory, cultural and physical barriers
- Ongoing support, consultation and follow up

Through diocesan partnerships, Growing Hope enables multiple churches to be trained together, encouraging shared learning and increasing reach in a cost effective way.

IMPACT

Churches engaging with Growing Hope consistently report:

- 5 to 10 new families joining within two years
- Increased confidence among leaders and volunteers
- A shift in church culture towards welcome and inclusion
- Improved retention of families facing additional challenges

At scale, this work could support hundreds of churches and enable thousands of families to connect with worshipping communities

Leading Your Church into Growth

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

There has been a general, long term decline in church attendance (both adult and child).

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

How to support churches where there is a lack of belief that churches can actually grow? Training clergy and laity together provides an opportunity to create a culture of, and a plan for, growth.

leadingyourchurchintogrowth.org.uk

RESOURCE

Leading your Church into Growth course is aimed at clergy and lay leaders looking to grow their church. The course looks at growth in different contexts and churchmanships including Catholic evangelism, Multi parish benefices, rural and small churches, evangelism to specific people groups and Fresh Expressions. The course leads to churches beginning a planned journey of growth, with plans for sustained partnership and ongoing support after the conference as well as some pre-conference sessions.

IMPACT

Churches have seen their worshipping community grow 10% above national average, of this growth 18% is CYP.

FIRST STEPS

Clergy and lay leaders can attend a national residential course. There is a follow up course for clergy to run for their church (The Local Course). LyCiG also run courses in partnership with dioceses and these have worked successfully both as residential and non residential conferences.

Contact the LyCiG team to start a conversation:

sue@leadingyourchurchintogrowth.org.uk

BRF Ministries – Messy Church

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Children aged 9+ are disengaging from age-boundaried WCs, lack of effective missional strategies for rural churches.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

New models of Worshipping Communities / discipleship pathways / transitions that keep children/young people engaged through different ages.



Ministries

www.messychurch.brf.org.uk

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

BRF will be piloting different ideas to keep children engaged after 11, consulting with a wide range of partners to identify good approaches to pilot. The answer may lie in adapting the current intergenerational approach within Messy Church; it may lie in partnering with a youth-specialist partner to create new worshipping communities; or it may lie in doing a good 'handover of the baton' to churches to take on the youth work – or it could be a mixture of all three. Also, BRF will be supporting 300 parishes to start a new Messy Church.

IMPACT

Whilst 56% of Messy Church attendees are under 12, only 4% are aged 12-16, demonstrating a significant drop off at 11 years of age. If we could retain 50% of children when they turn 12, and beyond, that would prevent the loss of 20,580 young disciples.

FIRST STEPS

Following a consultation period to identify different approaches to pilot, BRF Ministries will identify 25-30 Messy Churches from their network to trial the ideas, followed by an evaluation. Churches interested in Messy Church can explore the resources on the Messy Church website, including online master classes exploring how to start and contact the Messy Church team:

www.messychurch.brf.org.uk/contact-us/

Missional Youth Church Network

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

The church lacks confidence in evangelising and discipling young people in low-income areas.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

MYCN model how to build church with un-churched young people in low-income areas.

www.mycn.org.uk

RESOURCE

MYCN equips local leaders to pioneer new worshipping communities with young people of high school age, in partnership with community secondary schools. Personalised support is provided to the diocese, church or school wanting to explore a Missional Youth Community.

MYCN Explore resource is a 10 session video based resource to equip leaders and teams to engage unchurched young people and grow new worshipping communities with them. Explore takes an 'in depth' look at key issues such as: - how to get alongside local young people, how to build relationships with young people, how to empower & build community with young people. Youth discipleship and worship are all explored within the framework of taking a step by step approach to pioneering a new worshipping community. This Resource will give a team a clear sense of direction, some key pieces of learning and the tools needed to develop church with young people in different contexts.

Young Leaders - a 10-session online resource to use with unchurched young people to develop character, calling and release gifting within the 5 marks of mission. *Young Leaders to soft launch after Easter...*

IMPACT

MYCN have pioneered 25 NWCs for unchurched young people. The NWCs have on average 40 young people.

FIRST STEPS

Those interested can explore the steps for Getting Started and contact the MYCN team:

mycn@churcharmy.org

Getting Started:

www.mycn.org.uk/Group/Group.aspx?ID=368020

www.mycn.org.uk/Groups/403809/Explore_Resource.aspx

BRF Ministries – Parenting for Faith

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

A high proportion of Anglicans don't believe that faith can be encouraged to be learned at home, many don't feel confident in how to disciple children in their lives.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

How can all parents/carers accessing a Church of England church become confident in their role of spiritual influencer?



www.brf.org.uk/what-we-do/parenting-for-faith/

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

BRF Ministries aim to increase awareness of, and take up, of their resources at national, diocesan, church and individual levels. Courses available include: Parenting as Church leader, the original Parenting for Faith course, courses focusing on babies and toddlers or teenagers. There are also videos for families bring children for baptism, dedication or thanksgiving...and many more resources to explore.

IMPACT

'Rachel and her tools have been foundational in our family. They are so do-able and effective. From baby to tween, the tools have held for us through the ages, and don't ask the ridiculous of overstretched parents.'

'Hands down the most interesting, insightful, inspirational, relevant, useful course I have ever done. I have already started to put some of what I have learnt into practice in my church role and can see it bearing fruit immediately. I am so grateful.'

FIRST STEPS

Church leaders can access information about courses and resources directly from the Parenting for Faith website. www.parentingforfaith.brf.org.uk/courses/

Dioceses can contact the Parenting for Faith team to discuss training and resource ideas at a diocesan level. www.parentingforfaith.brf.org.uk/contact-us/

Revitalise Trust

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

A vibrant and flourishing Children's and Youth ministry, that actively recruits, engages and retains volunteers, is an essential part of a worshipping community. However, recent research has identified specific challenges that are preventing those leading children's and youth ministries from performing most effectively in their role.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

How can the church invest in those leading children and youth ministries so that they are supported, well resourced and thriving?

re·vitalise trust

revitalisetrust.org

RESOURCE

Revitalise Trust will pilot the role of regional hubs, alongside tailored versions of their Accelerate course, training in management best practice, online toolkits and volunteer recruitment support to explore how the church can best support those working with children and young people.

IMPACT

The activities aim to improve wellbeing, effectiveness and the support on offer. 3,725 new volunteers will be recruited and 100+ leaders will receive training.

RSCM

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Across the Church of England there has been a decline in the number of children and young people involved in church choirs and music ministry. In many places, churches lack the confidence, leadership capacity or practical structures needed to establish or sustain choirs for young people. As a result, opportunities for children and young people to participate meaningfully in worship and grow in discipleship through music are limited.



MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Music ministry offers a powerful and accessible way for churches to engage children and young people in the worshipping life of the Church. The Choir Project, led by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) in partnership with the Church of England, aims to support the launch or reinvigoration of 200 choirs for young people in churches across the country.

These choirs will be supported by a network of Beacon Churches that already engage successfully in ministry with children and young people. Beacon Churches will share learning, stories and experience with other churches starting or renewing choirs, helping build confidence and sustainability across the network.

RESOURCE

The RSCM Choir Project will provide national coordination, training and support to help churches establish or strengthen choirs for children and young people.

Some churches will work directly with the RSCM coordinating project team. In these cases, dioceses will not have a formal role beyond their existing relationships with the churches involved.

Alongside this, the RSCM will partner with a number of dioceses to ensure the programme's impact is felt nationally. Partner dioceses will support the project by promoting music ministry as a means of discipling children and young people, incorporating relevant materials into local training, and ensuring churches are aware of opportunities to participate.

This diocesan involvement is expected to be relatively light-touch, typically requiring around one day per month of staff time. Each partner diocese will need a lead person to support the partnership, alongside engagement from relevant diocesan teams such as Mission and Ministry, Education, Children and Families, and clergy training, with the support of the Diocesan Bishop.

The Centre for Theology & Community

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

There are large numbers of churches in urban, low-income areas with declining attendance.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

How to support inner city churches caught in a cycle of decline of engagement (especially with children, young people and families) and leadership, through community organising?

www.theology-centre.org

RESOURCE

Resources are available for lay and ordained leaders to apply community organising practices in their mission planning.

IMPACT

A pilot project with six parishes saw 211 new worshippers join churches. 40% of these were under 18. Average Weekly Attendance rose by 106, and parish share payments grew by £20,000 per year.

FIRST STEPS

Churches interested and can learning more can explore the Organising for Growth report and contact CTC via their website:

Organising Growth Report: www.ctcuk.org/events/summary/organising-for-growth/

CTC website: www.ctcuk.org/contact/

The Kindling Network

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Across the UK, many churches feel fragile: stretched leadership, low and declining attendance, and difficulty connecting with their communities. Yet there is also a readiness for something new. People are seeking churches that are authentic, open and spiritually alive.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Can clergy be equipped to revitalise these parishes through a 'taste and see' model that catalyses sustainable growth through exploring cultural transformation, relational dynamics and missional practices.



kindlingnetwork.net

RESOURCE

Through this pilot project, clergy from selected dioceses will be invited to visit St Michael's Church in Eastbourne across 8 days, to experience the church community and explore the cultural and spiritual practices that contributed to their revitalisation.

IMPACT

St Michael's in Eastbourne has experienced significant growth, from around 30 regular attendees in 2020 to over 360 in 2024. It is hoped those participating in this training pilot will see their churches start on a journey of growth.

The Way UK

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Young people are digital natives and influenced by that space, there is a lack of Christian presence providing points of view shaped by faith.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

How can young people encounter the gospel via social media platforms, and how can they be supported to attend in-person worshipping communities?

linktr.ee/thewayuk

RESOURCE

The Way has proactively sought to captivate young people with faith content since 2021, they now have an online community of >500,000. Their Instagram and tiktok content focuses on evangelism. Podcasts explore books of the Bible, themes of Christian faith and are discipleship tool.

IMPACT

Most recent figures suggest that 3% of 13 to 17-year-olds in England follow The Way and on these platforms an average of 100,000 young people watch every single day. Whilst scrolling through TikTok or Instagram a teenager in the UK will at some point in their average 70 minutes a day come across a video from The Way that explores the Christian faith and creates an opportunity to find out more.

FIRST STEPS

Podcasts and other content is available via The Way's social media accounts:

linktr.ee/thewayuk

Worship for Everyone

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Intergenerational worship is an important element of church life, but often leaders lack appealing intergenerational resources or confidence in running high quality intergenerational worship. Intergenerational worship is neither 'children's work,' nor 'youth work' nor 'worship leading/musical' alone. It is its own category of bespoke training which combines insights from all these areas.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Resourcing intergenerational worship that is accessible, interconnected and meaningful will provide opportunities to reach more children and families, ensuring the Church represents all ages of the communities we serve.



RESOURCE

A new course from Worship for Everyone covering theology and vision, sung worship, talks, planning a service, inclusion and accessibility. The course will be online and self-guided, so people can access the content whenever they want and at their own pace.

New resource packs, featuring songs and accompanying videos for different events in the church's year and intergenerational service plans, will also be available.

FIRST STEPS

Sign up to the Worship for Everyone newsletter to receive updates on future resources and training opportunities.

Youthscape

MISSIONAL CHALLENGE

Many churches have no or few young people, church attendance for this age group has seen long term decline.

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

How can churches with no youth work and no paid worker connect with young people in their parish?

www.youthscape.co.uk

RESOURCE

Launchpad – A course for church leaders where there is no youthwork on Sundays or midweek, where there is no paid worker or volunteers in place and who are wondering how to take the first steps. Clergy attend 5 two-hour sessions, formulating a vision and plan for starting or growing youth work.

Essentials - All-round training for youth work volunteers. 10 sessions cover 30 topics. The course can be licensed for use in dioceses as a training tool.

Resources – A range of resources for use in youthwork, including Unfold a bible study designed for youth groups with range of ages and discipleship stages.

IMPACT

70% of churches participating in Launchpad have started some form of youth work where previously there has been none. 97% of clergy rate Launchpad as 8+ out of 10 and 100% would recommend to other clergy. *"It's the best training I've had since I've been ordained."*

FIRST STEPS

Clergy are invited to take part in Launchpad, identified through conversation between the Diocese, the Youthscape National Church Training team and the Launchpad facilitator. Invitations to consider being part of Launchpad come directly from a Bishop and clergy may choose to opt in having attended a Briefing event with a presentation from a member of the Youthscape team.

For more information, contact
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Director of Church Development

If you'd like more information on any of the partners,
please don't hesitate to contact them directly.

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VISION
and
STRATEGY

 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**
NATIONAL CHURCH INSTITUTIONS