



How can the Lightwave Community help your rural benefice to reach out?

Lightwave is the name of the Suffolk Fresh Expressions community – a Christian community, meeting in small groups in homes, pubs, offices, schools and other places, working alongside more traditional ways of being church.

Each group is part of the great wave of God's love which brings light to our county. Many of these groups are supported by Lightwave Rural Hub Churches.

Listening to support Rural Mission

The Lightwave team have been seeking to listen to rural churches and communities about where they would like help in reaching out – this is what we have heard so far:

- Reaching younger generations
- Participation in building local community
- Social needs and rural isolation
- Schools

Lightwave is seeking to help in these areas. Many churches also tell us that they are good at building relationships in villages but find encouraging new Christian commitment more difficult, so we are particularly focussing on how we can support you in making new disciples. What else can we learn? We are always pleased to hear from you.

LIGHTWAVE: Listening and Journeying Together

How does Lightwave make and grow new disciples?

We have found that the following are key and would like to help you with:

- Developing small mission groups
- Prayer in those groups
- New approaches to connect with new people
- Being intentional about growing in discipleship
- Enabling a critical mass of younger generations to meet for rural worship, service and learning activities
- Working closely with other churches
- Fun, laughter and always prayer

LIGHTWAVE: Small groups shining Christ's Light

How does the Lightwave Community work with rural benefices?

- Listening and journeying together
- Being intentional with mission-based values – Love God, Love People
- Complementing existing ministry to reach new people
- Providing space for mission pioneers to grow
- Creating possibilities through critical mass
- Supporting rural community engagement through our **loverural** initiative and chaplaincy work

LIGHTWAVE: Love God – Love People



Examples of Lightwave Groups working in or with rural benefices

Connect – South Hartismere



South Hartismere is a rural multi-parish benefice re-shaping itself for mission through Lightwave Connect – a weekly fresh expression of church, engaging and reaching out within the local community. “Lightwave has built on our existing outreach through Connect, a fluid session of crafts, table talk, prayer activities, Connect outdoors and finishing with a short act of worship,” says Revd Canon Julia Lall. “Through the pandemic we have been able to grow through a weekly Facebook post, Connect@home,

delivering craft packs and sending the link for Connect@home to our four church schools.” For more information about contact Revd Canon Julia Lall (Incumbent), rev.julialall@gmail.com, 01379 678064 or Revd Lauren Moore (Curate) rev.laurenmoore@gmail.com, 07798 705876

Pilgrims Together

Pilgrims Together is a community-based group with Christ at its heart. It seeks to provide opportunities to share faith and fellowship in the local community

Currently a dispersed community, meeting via Zoom, to complement ministry and mission using Iona / Celtic worship materials in the rural benefice of Alde Sandlings (Aldeburgh, Aldringham, Friston & Knodishall). Pilgrims Together have an established walking group and have begun reaching out to those living in the new housing development in Aldringham. They have also started hosting a programme of community events on Zoom and these will move to face to face when the situation allows.



For more details contact Gail Southgate and Eric Atkinson (Facilitators), pilgrimstogether473@gmail.com or Revd Mark Lowther (Incumbent), mark@thelowthers.com, 01728 452807.

Lightwave Youth Otley

A small group of teens supporting each other in faith through the Covid19 Pandemic.

Contact Chris and Sally Gaze, gazec@icloud.com



Red Lodge Lightwave Rural Hub



A mission focused community with small groups which grows new disciples & creates Christian community for and with people who were not previously part of any church. The Hub works closely with other rural churches to support new mission initiatives, as Di explains: "we meet with local church and community leaders to discern the need, working together in mission and to build God's Kingdom." For more details contact Di

Grano, diane.grano@cofesuffolk.org, 01638 555108. Watch a year in Red Lodge here: http://y2u.be/Fxej0sS_MhQ

Lighthouse – Cook@Church

The Rural Benefice of Sancroft has a Lightwave Group which has started several initiatives including Cook@Church for young teens, a Christmas day community lunch, online prayer group, fostering and supporting vocations. For more details Revd Canon Susan Loxton (Incumbent), revloxtongmail.com, 01379 388493 or Alix Taylor (Lay Leader) alix.taylor@gmail.com



What can you do to get involved with Lightwave?

- Pray
- Contact Sally Gaze or another Lightwave Leader for a chat about your mission needs or invite us to come and visit your church or small group
- Local mission needs – find out more
- Train as a Lightwave Group Leader or on MSM-flexi
- Start mission as a small group

Contact the Lightwave Community at Lightwave.community@cofesuffolk.org or ring Archdeacon Sally Gaze on 07446 933129

www.light-wave.org



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