Growing in God in the Countryside Discernment

Bishop Mike
Growing in God in the Countryside

AUTUMN ’21 DISCERNMENT PROCESS
Growing in God in the Countryside

WHAT WE WILL COVER

1. What is the Growing in God in the Countryside Project”
2. How is it going so far?
3. Why is there a discernment process this autumn?
4. How can you help?
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Aims of this five-year project funded by the national church

- Grow more new disciples in the countryside
- Grow more new disciple-making leaders
- Especially among younger and other parts of the rural population, under-represented in existing churches.
WORKSTREAM 1
Establish the Lightwave Community – as a movement of small mission-focussed groups, working with parishes, across the county

WORKSTREAM 2
Find ways of helping diocesan and other county-wide culture and structures to be more supportive of rural mission
How is it Going?
WORKSTREAM 1
Growing in God in the Countryside

- 23 Lightwave Groups started
- 16 in pipeline.

How is it Going?
WORKSTREAM 1
Growing in God in the Countryside

• Rural chaplaincy Lightwave group 24 hour helpline supporting farmers.

How is it Going?
 WORKSTREAM 1
Growing in God in the Countryside

- 200+ New disciples in rural Suffolk.

How is it Going?

WORKSTREAM 1
Growing in God in the Countryside

How is it
Going?
WORKSTREAM 1

• Lots of practical community service.
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- Three Rural Lightwave Hubs begun (Red Lodge - 81 new disciples in first 15 months).

How is it Going? WORKSTREAM 1
Growing in God in the Countryside

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WORKSTREAM 1

• 23 Lightwave Groups started - 16 in pipeline (*Rural chaplaincy Lightwave group 24 hour helpline supporting farmers*)

• 200+ new disciples in rural Suffolk

• Lots of practical community service

• Three Rural Lightwave Hubs begun: *Red Lodge - 81 new disciples in first 15 months.*
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• The Project Team enabled/enables...

How is it Going?

WORKSTREAM 2
Growing in God in the Countryside

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Making Jesus visible through loving action
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• The Project Team enabled/enables...

How is it Going?
WORKSTREAM 2
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- It is a key moment for setting future direction...
- Ongoing listening to God and our communities is the way for us all...
- Prayer is central... “Unless the Lord builds the house...”

Why Discern Now?
Growing in God in the Countryside

• Pray about what God is doing in your rural benefice – Could Lightwave or Love Rural help? Contact the team and share – tel 07446 933129 / email lightwave/community@cofesuffolk.org

• Use the discernment materials on our website
  • Join the discernment afternoon on Saturday 6 November

• www.light-wave.org/discernfuture
Growing in God in the Countryside

What would you like to say to the project Board about the ways you are seeing God at work in Suffolk?

Please put your feedback into the chat or email it to communications@cofesuffolk.org

Helping to Discern