

MISSIONAL *LEARNING* COMMUNITIES



Diocese of Canterbury

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Missional Learning Communities

enable us to find God's way forward as churches in mission in our changing contexts and changing world.

Their purpose is to help us to **learn together in mission** in a way which **changes the culture** of our churches.

How is a Missional Learning Community made up?

Five or six Benefice groups will cluster together to form a Missional Learning Community. A Benefice group will be formed of a spiritual leader (usually an incumbent) and five or six key lay people. Each Community will have a total of up to 40 people.

Learning and discerning for mission through taking actions – experimental and planned.

What happens in a Missional Learning Community?

The initial commitment is for two years. Each year there will be four one day meetings to:

Share active learning

- learning from our own experiences and experiments in mission. If it's not local, it's not real.

Engage in spiritual practices

- simple practices which change us and (as we share them) our churches.

Enable culture change

- deep change in the way we are as churches (our 'culture') so that:

- faith is renewed and shared
- mission is focused and effective
- ministry is shared and leadership enhanced

What will happen?

Our outcomes:

- we listen well to each other
- we have more conversations with those outside the church
- we notice what God is doing in the world - and are able to put this into words
- leadership in the church becomes more shared
- discipleship and mission are expressed in the world
- witness becomes natural, and public mission is more focused so we don't wear ourselves out

We are looking to grow the Church in numbers, depth and vitality. We want renewed ministry and life-giving community partnerships.

These are the changes in our culture that we want.

Changed Lives ► Changing Lives



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