Leading your church into Growth

There were 7 seminars which focussed on seven key aspects:

- Understanding your culture and context.
- Inviting and welcoming your community.
- A continual rhythm of growth.
- Developing engaging worship.
- Evangelism – becoming effective witnesses.
- Creating pathways
- Planning for growth.

Session 1 – Understanding Your culture and Context

- Hunger and longing for growth.
- Pray for growth

God of mission
Who alone brings growth to your church
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning
Wisdom to our actions
Joy to our worship
And power to our witness
Help our church to grow in numbers
In spiritual commitment to you
And in service to our local community
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Session 2 – Inviting and Welcoming our Community

- Real heart and longing to invite and welcome people as people are valued.

- I’m going ... –together for tea, crafternoon, Sunday morning service etc

- It’s going to be really good – Be encouraging, positive

- Would you like to come with me? Offer to pick people up or meet them in advance.

5 key aspects of the local church as a Healthy family/ community

- Creating a family atmosphere.
- Hospitality
- Maintaining effective Pastoral care
- Welcoming Children and Young people
- A diverse church

“Engagement from the wider church is essential to growth. Churches that grew often reflected the importance of the youth and children’s ministry being supported and developed by the wider church. Churches reported that the biggest challenge they faced was a lack of volunteers.”

CofE Youth and Children Growth report in 2022

Session 3 – Implementing a Continual Rhythm of Growth

- Spiritual growth
- Missional growth
- Numerical growth

5P’s

- Prayer
- Presence
- Proclamation
- Pathways
- Perseverance

Session 4 – Developing engaging worship

- Accessible worship
- Worship enrichment
- Intergenerational worship

Session 5 – Being effective witnesses

- Evangelism is about sharing our faith with people and inviting and accompanying them towards Jesus.
- Ask them questions:
  - Who are you?
  - Where are you?
  - Why don't you?
  - Would you like me to pray for you?

Tell your story:

- Before God
- Encountering God
- With God

- 1 intentional conversation
- Identify 5 people who you know that don’t know the Lord and then commit to regularly praying for them.

Session 6 – Creating a Pathway for explorers to become witnesses

- 'Go and make disciples ...'
- Discipleship journey for both adults and children and young people
  - Exploring
  - Learning
  - Serving
  - Witnessing

Session 7 – Planning for Growth

- Hunger for Growth
- Pray for Growth
- 5P’s

Thanks for listening!
Any questions?