

An Exciting Opportunity...

What is it?

A great opportunity to learn together with other churches how to nurture the ministry of evangelism in your church(es).

It draws on the experience and research of CPAS over many years, and is applicable across the theological traditions.

It will not tell you the 'right' way of doing evangelism – it will be up to you to work out what that means in your own context.

Why do it?

We are living in a post-Christian, post-Covid world, where:

- The majority of our nation are either non-churched or de-churched.
- Most young people are fourth generation non-church going.
- The erosion of the Christian story in public life is extensive.
- 40% of our churches have no one under 16 on a Sunday...

But where:

- We have a great opportunity to proclaim afresh the gospel to this generation.
- The pandemic has seen an increase in openness to spiritual conversations, and a desire for connection, especially among the 18-35s.
- We are all reflecting on exactly how we minister in our new context.

Who is it for?

- Every church that wants to develop its ministry of evangelism.
- This is for *all* churches, across the churchmanship and theological spectrum it is *you* who will work out what it looks like in your context.

What is the cost?

CPAS is subsidising the Hub, so the cost per group is £350, which includes all materials and facilitation.

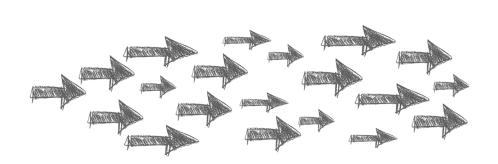
What is the commitment?

You would be committing to:

- Gathering a small team (clergy plus 2-5 others).
- Meeting as a hub online once a term (Saturdays, 9.45am-4pm).
- Meeting as a hub online one evening per term (7.30-9.30pm).
- Meeting as your core group roughly once every six weeks in between.
- Being willing to learn and apply that learning in your own context.

Good News

- God's grace
 abounds, his love is
 constant, and his
 desire for all people
 to flourish through
 his Son is
 unwavering.
- People are coming to faith daily across the UK.
- The majority of people who come to faith do so because someone they know shows and shares their faith with them, however falteringly.
- This is an exciting opportunity to explore how to further develop the ministry of evangelism in your context.





What difference will it make?

The aim is for churches to have:

- Embedded four spiritual practices relevant to evangelism into their communal life.
- Created several pathways for people to come to faith.
- Increased PCC time and money spent on evangelism.
- Constructed and led worship and other activities in a way that encourages evangelism.
- Stories of people of all ages who have come to faith in Christ.
- Experienced collegiality amongst other churches and congregations.

Is there any reason why we shouldn't do it?

It is probably not appropriate to begin the journey at the moment if:

- Your incumbent is moving on or taking a sabbatical in the next two years.
- You can't identify 2-5 other people to join.
- You have another major project already on the go that is taking all the time, energy and attention of yourself and other key leaders.
- You have major conflict within your church at this time.

When is it?

Session 1	Saturday	25 January 2025	9.45am – 4pm
Session 2	Thursday	27 March 2025	7.30 – 9.30pm
Session 3	Saturday	10 May 2025	9.45am – 4pm
Session 4	Thursday	3 July 2025	7.30 – 9.30pm
Session 5	Saturday	20 September 2025	9.45am – 4pm
Session 6	Thursday	20 November 2025	7.30 – 9.30pm
Session 7	Saturday	24 January 2026	9.45am – 4pm
Session 8	Thursday	12 March 2026	7.30 – 9.30pm

All sessions are online, but don't panic... we have worked out how to do a day online really well. They are interactive, informative, fun and engaging.

What should I do now?

- Pray about whether it's right for you to join this exciting journey now.
- Talk with your church leader about your involvement.
- Once you've agreed to be part of your Hub group your leader will sign your church up and you will receive an invitation to book in from CPAS. Please act on this straight

For more information

Please contact Jo McKee (<u>imckee@cpas.org.uk</u>), CPAS Head of Leadership Development, or visit <u>www.cpas.org.uk/hub</u>.

Why a Group?



WHY A GROUP?

The Leading Evangelism Learning Hub is designed for an incumbent and 2-5 other people from their churches or congregations to attend. Deep and lasting change is more likely to occur in the life of a congregation or church when several people share a learning experience together.

We encourage church leaders to gather five others if at all possible, but we want to be realistic about the realities of finding people, so if they are only able to identify two people that is fine.

WHY HAVE YOU BEEN INVITED?

There may be a variety of reasons, and the best way to find out is ask the person who issued the invitation!

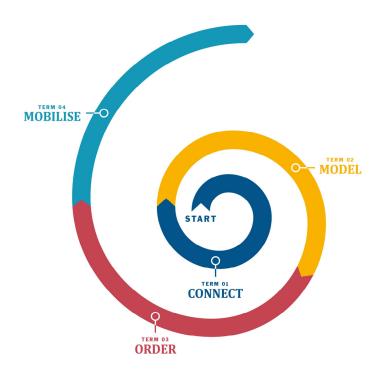
But be assured you don't have to be an expert evangelist, or someone who feels very confident in sharing their faith.

What we are looking for is people who think that sharing faith is an important part of the life of a church, and who would like to see their church or congregation do better in this area.

You also need the time and energy to attend all the sessions, and be part of some meetings with the rest of your group in between sessions.

Finally you need to be open to learning and wiling to grow in your own experience of sharing the faith, and ideally likely to be around for two years or more (as much as anyone can tell).

If you have questions chat with the person who invited you to consider joining the Hub group. And be sure to take time to pray about this opportunity.



What Others Have Said

'Getting involved in the Hub has been brilliant, because it's given us tools that people can put into practice in their daily lives. We're beginning to see the fruit in the patterns and lifestyle of the people of St Michael's.'

Revd David Brown, Vicar, Coventry Diocese

'It's been so enlightening to have support and structures to help me learn how to be courageous and bold in speaking about my faith.'

Lou Thomas, Operations Assistant, St Michael's Church

'I am incredibly pleased to be involved in the Hub, and can already see the practical implications having a real impact on how people at St John's are growing in confidence when it comes to sharing their faith.'

Father Stephen Parker, Vicar, Coventry Diocese