



Inspiring  
Ipswich

*Communicating Good News  
and Making New Disciples*

Together with the rest of the Church of England in  
Suffolk we're working to 'Grow in God', to:


**Grow in Depth**  
**Grow in Number**  
**Grow in Influence**  
**And to Grow Younger**

God has been **faithful during the last year**  
and there is much to give thanks for,  
amidst the difficulties.

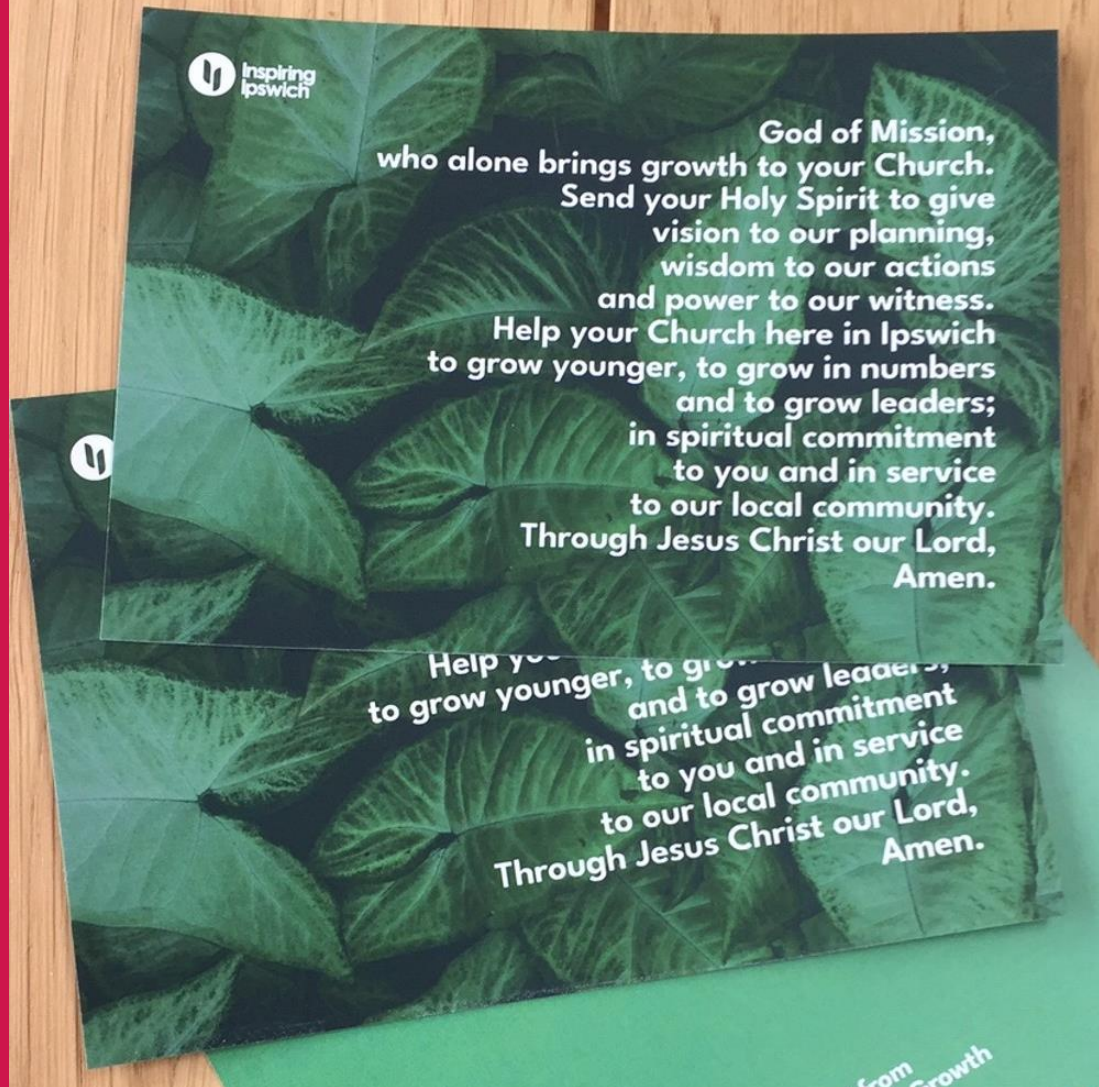
Here are just a few of the many things  
which have been happening...

# We are Growing in **Depth**

Prayer | Worship | Vocations | Unity |  
Discipleship | Leadership | Stewardship |  
Pastoral Care



In January our Deanery Prayer Facilitator (also Administrator), Helen, joined to help us pray.



Prayer is important to us.  
Many use this **Inspiring Ipswich** prayer daily.





The amazing Dawn and Tracey (MIE) prayer-walked the perimeter of Ipswich on one of the hottest days of the year!





Our Garden-Suburb Prayer-Walkers have been praying around the area where new houses will be built.



St Francis in Chantry and others are helping the town to 'try praying.'

trypraying.

co.uk


Every Saturday at 10 am - £2 a Bag

Many join Bev and the Whitton team in nightly Compline.

Charlotte, Amy & Linda help Ipswich people explore their vocation in the 'Ipswich Calling' group.

Churches in Rushmere,  
St Mary Elms & elsewhere  
offer a peaceful place for  
prayer.





John, our new Deanery Organiser, is helping parishes with finances and stewardship.



Emma at St Thomas' showing how useful contactless payment can be.



Our Churchwardens shared stories of their churches over breakfast and a summer tea party.






The Deanery gathered for the 'Leading your Church into Growth' (LyCiG) weekend in November.



And again in March...

Going for Growth 2021



Mutual Support! Father John  
has been helping St Mary  
Stoke during their vacancy  
Thanks FJ!

Ongoing pastoral care is offered by our wonderful Deanery Chaplains, Catherine & Alan.



The *Missional Leaders' Lunch* group has met most months.





The first Deanery *Growing Leaders'* group celebrated completing the course!

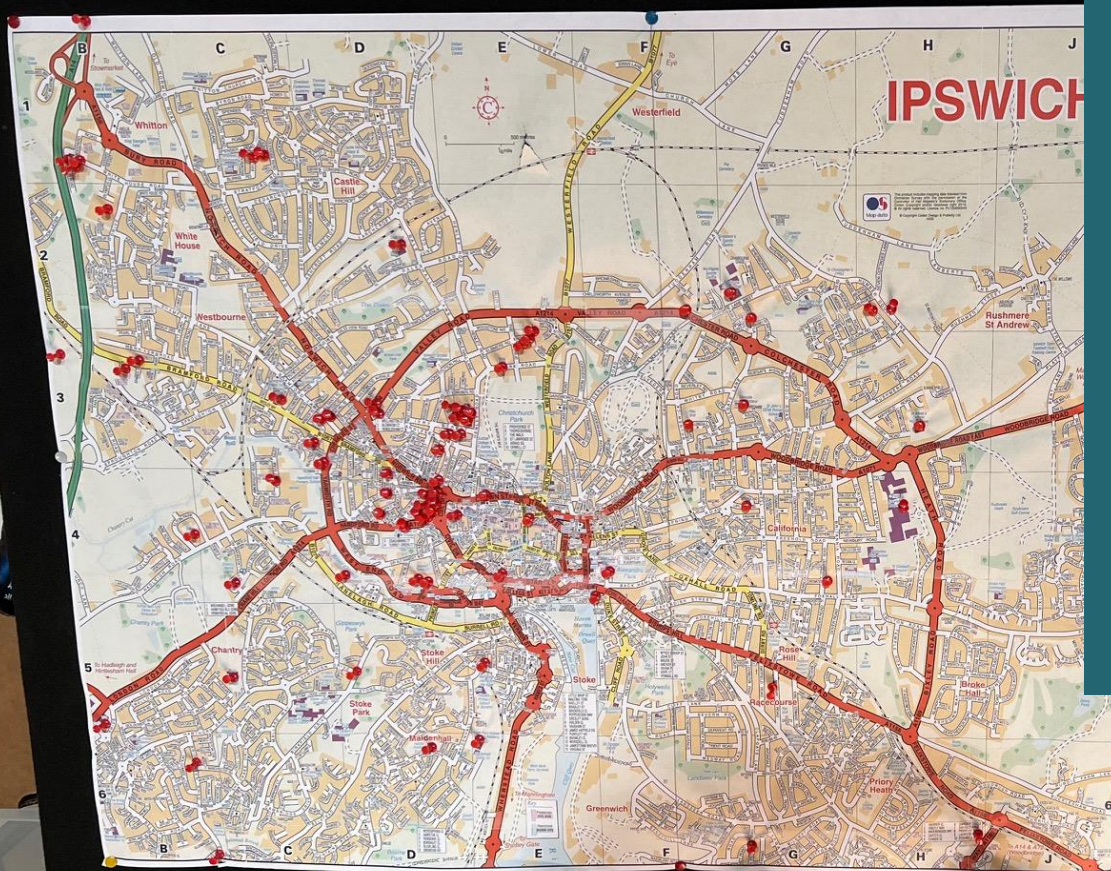


# We are Growing in Number

New Worshipping Communities |  
Opportunities to explore | Evangelism |  
Mission Accompaniment | Parish Plans



# St Matthew's Inspiring Ipswich Plan



The Learning communities, supported by their Mission Accompaniers, have been implementing their parish plans.

No 1. Facilitate existing groups - Little Treasures(25), Men's Group(10), Messy Church(35), Seniors(12), Youth Group(15) & Only Girls Allowed(15) to think missionally and to grow by 100% overall

No 2. Identify and facilitate 3-5 new groups, fresh expressions or missional groups to reach out to 100 new people

No 3. Encourage, build up and facilitate 100 individuals (congregation) on their frontlines to reach 5 people each

No.4 Strengthen the identity of St Matthew's to include communicating common purpose & deepening discipleship

(New mission statement - "prepare all generations to impact lives for Christ")

There's concern in the church to include...	have been...	the church...
4. Strengthen the identity of St Matthew's to include communicating common purpose & deepening discipleship	Use discipleship partners to include...	St Matthew's...
There's mission statement...	St Matthew's...	St Matthew's...
St Matthew's...	St Matthew's...	St Matthew's...
St Matthew's...	St Matthew's...	St Matthew's...



Andy Chrin, Mission Enabler & Youth Worker at St Matt's, has been helping the congregation to grow new disciples.



**TIM DENNIS**



**IN A  
COVID-19  
WORLD**

250 copies of this gospel booklet were distributed to help pop-up shop customers explore faith.

Green Church has been going for a year, helping all ages to explore the Christian faith in outdoor spaces.



SUN 17 OCT | 2.30 - 3.30PM  
ST MARGARET'S CHURCH YARD

# Inside Outside

Join us as we look  
under the shell,  
make conker  
creatures and  
roast chestnuts.

FOR NATURE LOVERS OF ALL AGES TO EXPLORE  
THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN OUTDOOR SPACES.





# Wellsprings

Every Thursday

11:00 - 13:00



**Wellsprings Wellbeing Hub** 

All ages welcome

13:00 - 14.30



**Wellsprings Wellbeing Group**

For adults, with optional time of worship

A place to make friends,  
be friends  
and bring friends



*Where it's OK not to be OK*



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SUFFOLK

Any questions, contact  
[Alicia.Holmes@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:Alicia.Holmes@cofesuffolk.org)



St Peter's Church  
Stoke Park Drive  
IPSWICH IP2 9TH



And 'Wellsprings' over at St Peter's Stoke Park has started up.



The monthly Spanish Church has taken off at All Saints.



Bridge Church members were sent out by  
St Matt's in January 2020. Now...



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WE ARE

**B** Bridge  
Church  
IPSWICH

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

**B** Bridge  
Church

歡迎光臨

Vítej

Bienvenue

Willkommen

Benvenuto

ようこそ

Witamy

Bine ați venit

المرحبو  
والمرا

Καλώς Ορίσαστε

They're ready to  
welcome the world!



# Community Repair Café

Sunday 10th October  
10am - 12noon Bridge Church  
St Nicolas Centre, 4 Cutler Street IP1 1UQ



Bikes



Small electricals



Tech help



Clothes/textiles

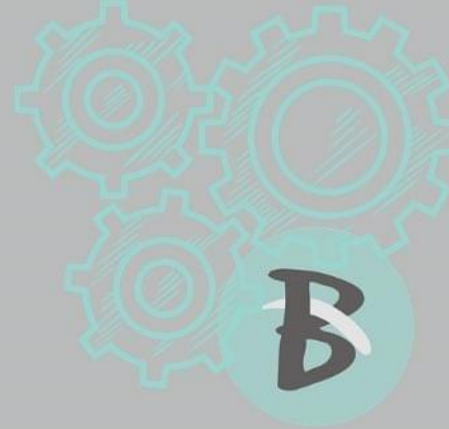
Do you have a computer in need of an update;  
a bicycle with a flat tyre or a jumper with a hole in it?  
Bring items in need of minor repairs along to our Community Repair Cafe.  
Our volunteers can help with minor bicycle, computer, clothing repairs and  
more!

Why not come along anyway  
to share a cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake  
(and see what we are doing).

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.**



@bridgechurchipswich



And are  
constantly  
innovative.



A busy year for St Augustine's –  
a new Vicar and two church  
plants, LRCC and River Church...



Lindbergh Road Community Church (LRCC) meet under their now-famous blue gazebo.





Ian and Julie (LRCC) with their balloon-art logo.

Closer to town, Amy and Matt worked with their team to get the new premises on Key Street ready for River Church.



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# RIVER CHURCH

@riverchurchipswich  
riverchurchipswich.org

**Try Alpha here**



New signage went up...

The River Church team grew!



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... and River Church officially opened its doors on the 26 September!



**RIVER CHURCH** IPSWICH



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Ipswich**



I'm forever Yours  
I'm forever Yours  
Oh the greatest joy  
You'll always be mine  
I'm forever Yours

140 came to the  
first Sunday  
service.

I'm forever Yours  
I'm forever Yours  
Oh the greatest joy  
You'll always be mine  
I'm forever Yours





And many took advantage of the Selfie Board.

Alpha and Start courses continue to multiply with new disciples, like these from St Augustine's, getting baptised.



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# We are Growing in Influence

Service to our local community |  
Pop Up Shops | Kintsugi Hope courses



Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing courses have been in demand at All Hallows (pic), St Peter's, Chantry Academy and elsewhere.

Renew Wellbeing Cafés are also beginning to emerge like this one at St Augustine's.



The St Francis Basic Life Pop Up Shop is now almost 5 years old and still going strong.

Pic: St Francis



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Pop- up volunteers, like Dave, are now exploring faith.

Pic: All Hallows





Customers often queue for hours before the shop opens and good relationships are being built.

Pic: St Matt's



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Friendships among volunteers  
are deepening.

Pic: MIE



Pop-up shops are  
creating great  
community links.

Pic: Whitton



Grants from the Suffolk Community Foundation proved a God-send this summer.

Pic: Triangle Church



Pop-Up Customers are now coming to well-being courses and church.

Pic: St Peter's, Stoke Park



And some of the Pop-up Customers at St Helen's have started coming to Safe Harbour, a new church for those 'battered and bruised by the storms of life'.



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# We are Growing Younger

Children & Families | Youth  
Young Adults



The Ipswich Messy Church Family began their world tour in September after hundreds of Messy bags were given out during lockdown.

St Peter's, Stoke Park  
Ravenswood  
Next year... Near you?



At Ravenswood Community Primary School,  
Ravenswood Avenue, Ipswich, IP39UA



In partnership  
with



LRCC

Engage  
Ravenswood

Games

Crafts

All  
Ages

Includes  
a free  
a meal

Bible  
activities

Songs

Monthly at  
4:30pm every  
3rd Friday  
17th Sept,  
15th Oct,  
19th Nov,  
17th Dec



Book your  
family a ticket  
using this QR  
code or the link  
below at

[www.ravenswoodmessychurch.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.ravenswoodmessychurch.eventbrite.co.uk)

The first monthly  
Ravenswood Messy  
Church began in  
September with  
45 and 15 helpers.





THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
SUFFOLK




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Children at St Francis are helping the church to fly!




Children are joined by  
some friends at  
St Andrew's Rushmere.

A photograph of a modern youth lounge. The room features a mix of blue and orange sofas, a wooden coffee table, and bookshelves. A teal text box is overlaid on the right side of the image.

The new youth space at St Francis now regularly attracts 15-20 teenagers.




Julie Daniels, Children's and Families' Pastor at LRCC, runs the popular and replicable 'Games on the Green.'



Matt, Youth Worker at St Augustine's and LRCC, reaches out to teenagers in the parish.





Kiran has been using spoken word poetry at Ipswich Academy to reach younger generations.

Linda, new University and College Chaplain, has been enjoying term with real student contact.





And a few other things  
happening in the deanery...



New Life in South-West Ipswich as 'SWITM' ended in August and 3 new parishes were born.



The new Church Army Suffolk Centre of Mission, (based at St Peter's) has been recruiting ... watch this space!



Dimitri became the new curate at St Matt's in the summer.





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Marion became  
Assistant Priest at  
Rushmere St Andrew.





Rachel and John have joined St Thomas.





Tom started at  
St Mary Le Tower  
in early October.



And coming up : Want to join the Angel's song? Inspiring Angels are coming to town this Christmas! Do not be afraid. They bring tidings of great joy!





And there's lots, lots more...  
Do send us your stories for next time.

Thanks for watching.

If you want to show this at your church  
or group please contact  
[Inspiring.Ipswich@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:Inspiring.Ipswich@cofesuffolk.org)

*'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory throughout Ipswich.'*

Ephesians 3:20-21 (adapted!)



Photos used with permission

Audio: Ben Sound

2021