



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
SUFFOLK

Envoy Spaces Suffolk

Use your gifts to serve God and others in the name of Christ

ENVOY
SPACES
Suffolk

Envoy Spaces is the new home of
Evangelists and Pioneers in our diocese

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Envoy Spaces is the new home of Evangelism and Pioneering within the Diocese.

Through different gatherings and small groups, we will explore together what it means to live and share our faith well, within a mixed ecology of church, honouring and blessing the unique gifts that long-established and newly-pioneered ways both bring. Envoy Spaces, Suffolk is a partnership with Church Army.

Once your training is completed you will need to have a DBS check which aligns with a role description agreed with your incumbent. Alongside this you will need to have completed the necessary Safeguarding Training in line with the diocesan guidelines.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admissible - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things. Philippians 4:8

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Evangelism is sharing / proclaiming the good news of Jesus. The Church, the Body of Christ, is called to share the good news of Jesus and does so in a myriad of ways. Whenever and wherever the Church gathers it proclaims the Gospel message and the gathered Body of Christ is then sent out to share / bear witness to the good news of Jesus in the communities, contexts and places where they live and work.

We have two types of Evangelist:

- Licensed Parish Church Evangelist
- Licensed Pioneer Evangelist

Evangelism is to tell God's Good News in such a way, that the one God places before us can access it, so that if they so choose, they can take a step towards God or invite God towards them.

Taken from Envoy Week 3 Block 2 Podcast)

Being called to be a Evangelist

The Evangelist ministry is one of the primary Biblical ministries referred to in Ephesians chapter 4 who are to prepare God's people for works of service. This role has been recognised within the Church of England for many years, and many Dioceses now recognise evangelists in some form or other. These may be people in voluntary roles or in stipendiary roles; they may be working in partnership with the Church Army.

It is also important to remember that everyone who follows Christ is a witness for him in the world. Churches are called together to proclaim the good news of Jesus in deed and word. Evangelism is a gift to both individuals and whole communities. Everyone who follows Christ carries that gift of evangelism and is invited to share that gift with those God places before them.



Evangelists reach out to the wider community

Licensed Lay Parish Church Evangelists seek to enable their parish church family to reach out to the wider community and be invitational back to the gatherings within the context of the parish church.

- They lead on modelling evangelism within the local community, always inviting others in the church family to join them and discover their own gift of evangelism.
- They collaborate with others in their church family / ministry team to develop different accessible ways of being church within the parish church setting.

These expressions may be seen as new by their particular church family and are often invitational to particular demographics for example Messy Church, Café Church, Messy Vintage, Wild Church. These expressions of church often have national networks which churches can tap into for support.

A Parish Church Evangelist is someone who wants to see people encounter Jesus Christ for themselves and to grow in his likeness as part of the church family. From within their church family:

- They are a voice pointing to the wider community, to those who are not yet gathered amongst them.
- They lead on enabling the gathered to understand their role in evangelism to their local community and the contexts where they each individually live and work.

You might find our evangelists leading a group from the local church to welcome new residents on a housing estate; planning with a team an impromptu carol singing event in local pubs; working alongside their Children & Families Minister to run a Messy Church; leading a café church gathering, to name but a few.

Being called to be a Pioneer

The Pioneer Evangelist is called to carry and proclaim the good news of Jesus beyond the walls of the parish church in a markedly different way to that of the licensed lay parish church evangelist.

A licensed Pioneer Evangelist leads a team of people who seek to discern where God is already at work in the wider community and step into God's invitation to join in with that work in that context.

You might find our Licensed Pioneer Evangelists in local schools, care homes, in the High Street, in the pub, collaborating with local projects serving those in need in the community, under a gazebo on a driveway in a housing estate, in the local sports pavilion, village hall to name but a few spaces.



Pioneering is about firsts in a distinct way.

Pioneer Evangelists are the first to notice and discern how God is already at work within the wider community and inviting the local Christian family to join in.

- They invite others to go with them to love and serve alongside 'people of peace' in the community.
- People of Peace are welcoming and open to the Gospel message and its bearers, even if they do not yet openly follow Jesus.

Within this context, the Pioneer Evangelist and their team seek to reveal and proclaim how Christ is already amongst them in the context where they are. The pioneering team seeks to collaborate and grow a new way of being church right for that context and the people of that community.

This will form organically as the pioneering team seek to listen closely to and respond to the prompts of the Holy Spirit and this can take a long time.

Pioneer Evangelists are innovators who go beyond the parish church setting to tell the story of Jesus in creative, informal ways connecting with the stories and lives of the people in the wider community.

The model of 'Being with' explored by the Revd Sam Wells and the term 'incarnational' are good ways to express the heart of pioneer ministry.

For more information

Please visit our website cofesuffolk.org and search 'exploring your Christian calling'. Or for resources and training specific to this role please visit: insight.cofesuffolk.org

For enquiries about initial or ongoing training:
gail.southgate@cofesuffolk.org

We welcome people of all backgrounds, races, and ethnicities to bring their talents to our team. Our recruitment processes are designed to be fair, transparent, and accessible, ensuring that all candidates have equal opportunities to succeed.

We seek to embed racial justice to our processes and if you would like to contact our Diocesan UKME Vocations Champion for support please email: vocationschampion@cofesuffolk.org



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OF ENGLAND

**Diocese of St Edmundsbury
and Ipswich**

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