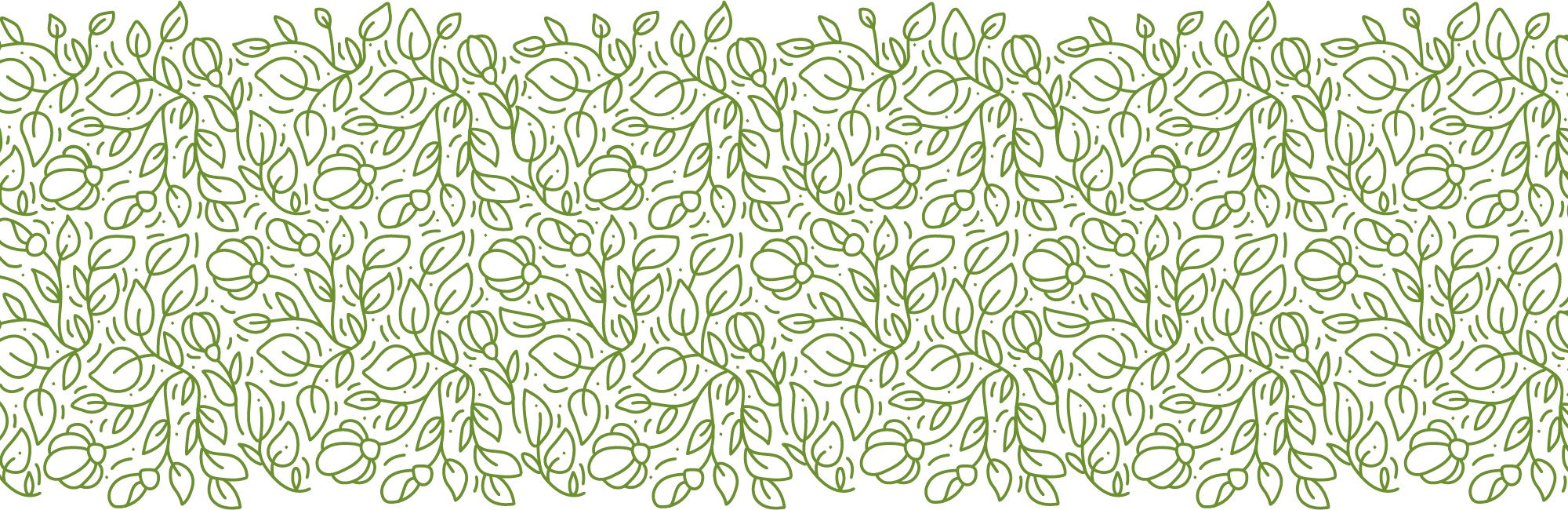
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Seed Funding for Fresh Expressions of Church

**What’s This All About?**

We are excited that you are exploring new ways of being church and serving your community. We know that there are lots of great ideas for Fresh Expressions of church just waiting to be experimented with. We would love to be able to help plant the seeds of those ideas and to see where God takes them - and you! - as we engage with our faith and our communities. We hope that this grant fund will help start to grow your ideas into new communities of faith. Greenhouses are learning communities of people who feel called to help grow a Fresh Expression of church where ideas can be exchanged, support found and Fresh Expressions of church nurtured. As such, we’re delighted to be encouraging you to make use of your local Greenhouse as part of receiving a grant.

You can find out more about Greenhouse here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/fresh-expressions/what-greenhouse>

You can find details about your local Greenhouse here:

<https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/greenhouse/>

Although this fund is administered by the Lichfield Diocese and the Greenhouse initiative comes out of the Church of England, both are open to all Christians and churches as we work together to share our faith, grow new ways of being church and reach our communities for Jesus. If you would like more information at this stage please contact Simon Foster at the address below and we will get back to you.

**Grant Making Policy**

This grant making policy lays out our aims and principles in awarding grants and also some specific checks. These will be applied to any given grant application. Whether a grant is given will depend on the nature of the grant application and will be decided on a case by case basis. We can only fund initiatives that fall within the objects of the charity. The grants are for the purpose of encouraging churches, and Christians generally, to explore and experiment with initiatives and to enable the release of ideas that are intended to lead to the creation of Fresh Expressions of church. The grant making body will meet on a rolling basis, usually once per month, to make a decision on grant applications, so it may be around 4 weeks before you hear back on your application.

**Funding Criteria.** The charity will consider all applications that fall within our charitable purposes and meet our funding criteria. Those applying:

* + Will be members of a local church within the geographical area of the Diocese of Lichfield (even if not an Anglican Church itself) and will have the backing of their local church in their Fresh Expression initiative. A short email from the local church leader detailing this will be required.
  + Will be part of a team that is seeking to pursue the Fresh Expression initiative, even if that is for the moment a team of two people.
  + Will have an idea for a Fresh Expression of church which would be rooted in their local community.
  + Will be already in contact with the Greenhouse FX learning community that covers their local community and will indicate that they intend to be engaged with Greenhouse as their Fresh Expression of church develops. An email detailing this from one of the facilitators of that Greenhouse will be required.
  + Will need a grant of up to £500 to get their Fresh Expression idea up and running. Please note most grants will be around £200.
  + Will have completed our grant application form below.
  + Will have a church or charitable bank account that any grant can be paid into, or will be able to supply the exact details of any equipment that they would like to have purchased on their behalf and sent to them. Please note that grants can be for any equipment, resources, room hire that is needed to help an initiative get off the ground but is not to be used to cover staff costs.
  + Will have, if working with young people or vulnerable adults, a safeguarding policy or will be able to provide evidence that they have adopted the safeguarding policy of an umbrella organisation, such as a church council/board of trustees.
  + Will be willing to send us around 100 words and some photos at the end of the first year after receiving a grant to tell us your story of how your initiative has worked out.

Please see below for the Grant Application Form.



**Seed Funding for Fresh Expressions of Church**

**Grant Application Form**

1. Date of application
2. What is/are the name(s) of the applicant(s)?
3. What are your email addresses?
4. What is the name of the local church (or churches) you are members of? (Please ask you church leader to send us an email as set out in the Funding Criteria)
5. Who is on your Fresh Expressions team?
6. What is your idea for a Fresh Expression of church?
7. Why do you need seed funding? What will you spend the money on? How much are you applying for?
8. How will your Fresh Expression of church be rooted in your local community?
9. Which Greenhouse Learning Community are you in contact with/engaged with? (Please ask one of the facilitators of that Greenhouse to send us an email as set out in the Funding Criteria)
10. Do you intend to engage on a regular basis with that Greenhouse Learning Community in the future as your Fresh Expression of church develops?

Yes

No

1. Do you have a safeguarding policy, if necessary, or have you adopted the policy of an umbrella organisation? Please supply a copy.
2. If successful, what bank account should we pay the grant into (name of bank, name of account, account number and sort code)? Alternatively, please supply the exact details of equipment you would like us to purchase and send to you (a web link is sufficient).
3. Will you let us know how you have been getting at the end of the first year after receiving a grant?

Yes

No

**Grants are provided by an anonymous donor via ‘Seed Funding for Fresh Expressions’. The grant application process is administered by Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance (LDBF).**

**If you need further guidance and to submit an application, contact Simon Foster (**[**simon.foster@lichfield.anglican.org**](mailto:simon.foster@lichfield.anglican.org)**). If you have not received acknowledgment of your application within five days please phone 07496 638 805 to confirm receipt.**