

CHURCH PLANTING

with Christian Churches Ireland

From hearing the call to filling the hall -
The practical guide to church planting with CCI



advance
church planting with cci





Every
community
deserves
a healthy
church

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PLANT- ING

a church isn't easy...

...but it doesn't have
to be complicated.

WE KNOW THE THREE BIG QUES- TIONS:

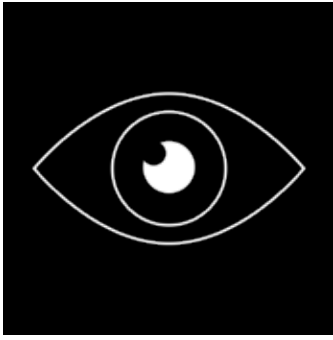
ONE *Where do I start?*

TWO *Who will help us?*

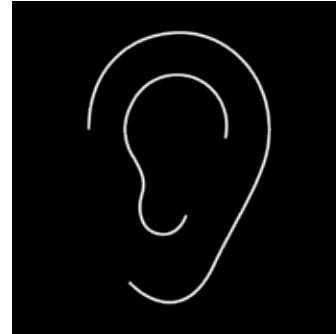
THREE *What about the money?*

A photograph of two hands holding white mugs on a white table. The hands are positioned as if they are about to clasp each other, with the mugs in between. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white surface. Overlaid on the left side of the image is large, bold, white text.

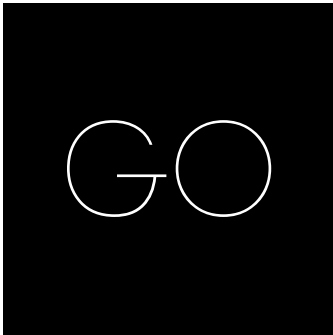
LET CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IRELAND HELP WITH OUR SIX STEP PLAN



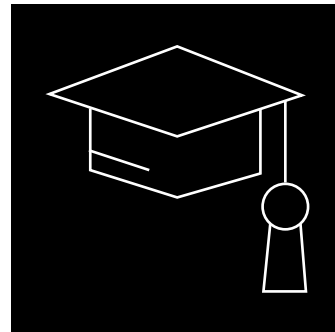
STEP ONE
LOOK



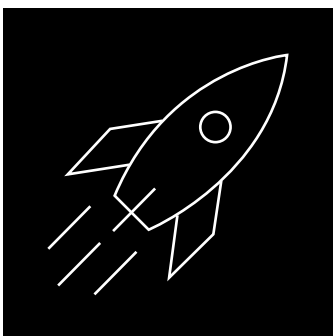
STEP TWO
LISTEN



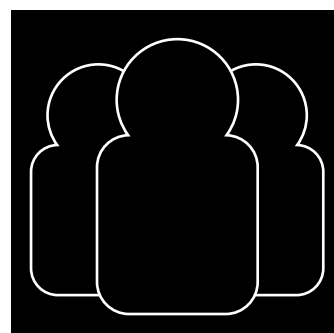
STEP THREE
LET'S GO



STEP FOUR
LEARN



STEP FIVE
LAUNCH



STEP SIX
LEAD



STEP ONE **LOOK AT IRELAND**

Today is the right time to establish new, vibrant and healthy churches in the north and south of Ireland. Modern Ireland is fertile ground for a message of faith, hope and love through Jesus Christ.

Across country there is, 'a very active and growing church which is appealing to people of all ages and backgrounds and which is highly representative of the multi-ethnic and multi-cultural Ireland of today.'

Almost 60% of churches reported either some or significant growth with almost 90% expecting to experience growth over the next five years.

In terms of church members, 46% are under 30 years of age, while 75% are under 50 years of age and the majority of churches display a significant commitment to developing faith, prayer, evangelism and community outreach.'

('Growing & Vibrant, A Census and Survey of Christian Churches beyond the traditional four main denominations,' pg 3, EAI 2018)

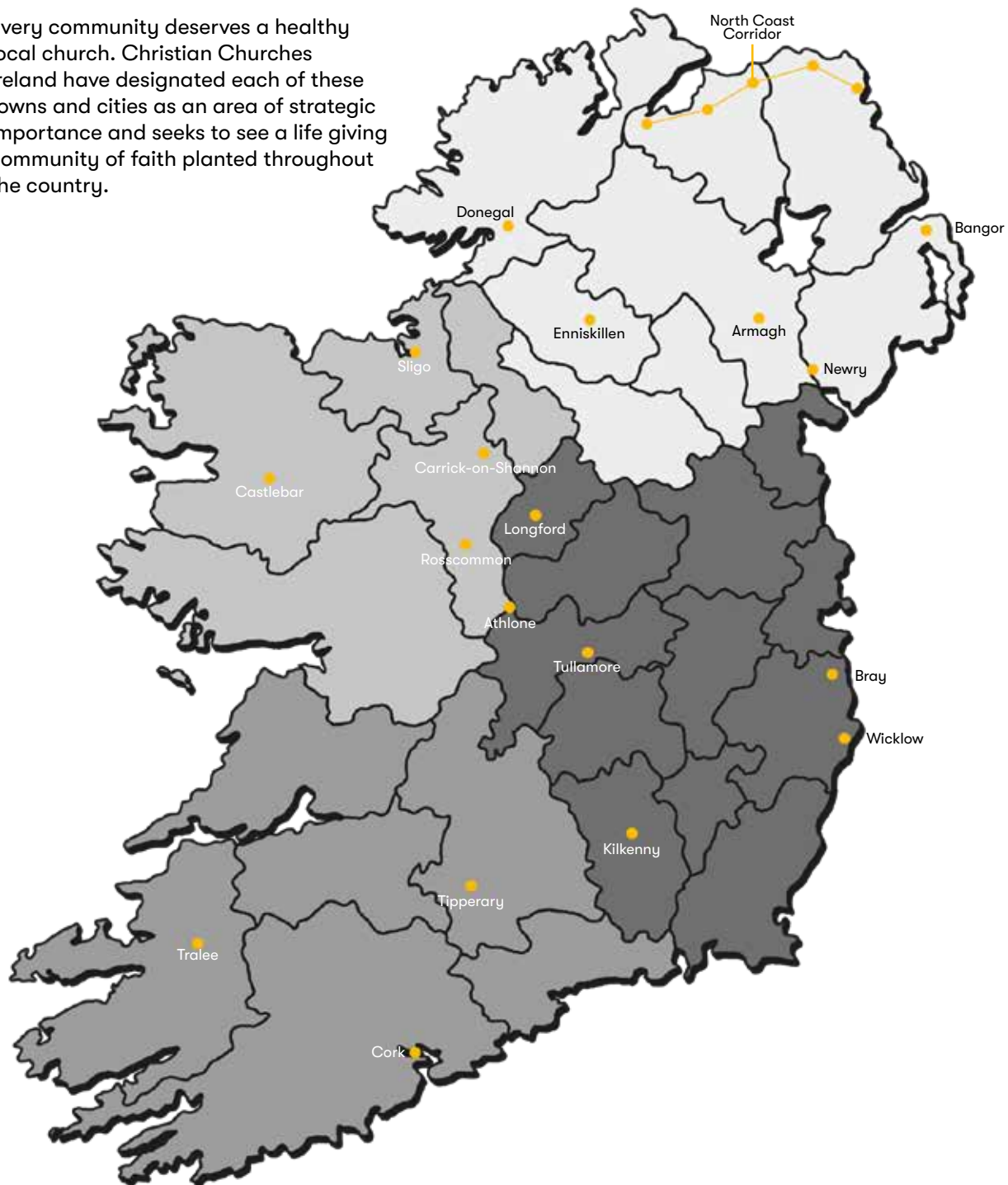
IRELAND
IS NOT
LOSING
ITS
RELIGION



STEP ONE

LOOK AT OUR PROVINCES

Every community deserves a healthy local church. Christian Churches Ireland have designated each of these towns and cities as an area of strategic importance and seeks to see a life giving community of faith planted throughout the country.





STEP TWO **LISTEN**

‘Listen with curiosity...without any intent to reply. Listen for what’s behind the words. Listen to understand.’

Roy Bennett

‘Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them. Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost you all you have, get understanding.’

Proverbs 4 v 6 & 7

‘Make your ear attentive to wisdom and incline your heart to understanding,’

Proverbs 2 v 2

‘Pay attention to what you hear...’

Jesus, Mark 4 v 24



STEP TWO

LISTEN

Church planting is still the most effective means for advancing the gospel locally, regionally and around the world.....but it's really hard work! That's why church planters with Advance will take intentional time to listen.

We've highlighted several people church planters need to listen to:

Listen to God

Church planting is primarily about working in partnership with Jesus who, through the Holy Spirit, promises to build His Church in local communities around the world.

The New Testament has plenty to encourage us about the local church, and God has plenty to say to potential church planters. Church planters will be listening to God as He begins to stir faith to birth something new.

Moreover, God, slowly but surely, impresses particular locations. Impressions gives way to conviction, creating an unshakeable brokenness for a certain community. Such passion is coupled with a certainty that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the only hope for societal transformation.

The bible comes alive in fresh ways in the hands of the emerging church planter. The Holy Spirit illuminates the Divine narrative, amplifying words of calling and confirmation.

Persistent impression, conviction and illumination - potential church planters will lean in and listen to God.

Listen to peers, pastors and planters

The bible is packed with great advice to make sure to gather great advice! What about....

'...in an abundance of counsellors, there is safety,'
Proverbs 11 v 14

Or....

'Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future,' Proverbs 19 v 20

Whether a church leader, pastor, ministry team member or potential church planter, we never grow out of our need to gather wise counsel.

That's why listening is such a key step when you plant a church with Advance through CCI.

Start with trusted friends and family, usually your spouse since planting a church is likely to impact your immediate family the most. From there, widen your 'counsel' net and talk with people you trust and who are not afraid to be honest with - and about - you.

The next door to knock is your current spiritual leader. They are someone who knows you well, has seen you use your gifts in the local church and will have valuable insight into your readiness to plant a church. Further, your pastor is likely to know a thing or two about leading a church and as such will be a valuable resource of 'wisdom in the future.' More than that, its likely your pastor, along with a dedicated team, planted your church, so make sure you reach out and pay for the coffee!

From there, the most obvious people to talk to are church planters. These are people who have began a new church within the past one to five years and we would encourage you to invite them to be candid about their experience. While there are many sweet, Divine high points in launching a new church, church planters will have experienced their fair share of low moments too. As a potential planter, it's really important to learn about both.

If, by the end of all the prayers, Scriptures and coffees, you have green lights all the way, it's time for...

GO

STEP THREE **LET'S GO**

You're ready to take the next, but potentially life-changing step.

Two things happen at Step #3

1. The Application
2. The Interview



STEP THREE

LET'S GO

Let's take it to the next level!

The Application

The more formal part of church planting with Advance starts here - with the application.

The application form is accessed from www.advancewithcci.ie filled out online and emailed to the address shown.

The application is a multi-part document, nine pages long and is the place where we ask for more information about your:

- personal details
- family
- employment
- finance
- training
- sending church
- potential church
- experience
- beliefs
- why Advance?
- references.....

..... and we'll need a photo - say CHEESE!

The Interview

After a successful review of your application form, you and your spouse, if applicable, will be invited to meet with the Advance Lead Team for an interview.

This time together will focus more deeply on the information submitted on your application but the Advance Lead Team are also keen to hear what's in your heart for the Church, the church you'd love to plant and the community in which you wish to plant it.

After the interview the Lead Team will request a little more information from the references you supplied and taken together with the application and the interview the Advance Lead Team will make their decision whether to proceed to the next step or to defer taking the next step until personal or professional conditions develop.



THE JOURNEY

12 months
and counting...



...12 months out

- * Application form completed
- * Evaluation completed
- * Launch Approval
- * Fundraising begins

... 9 months out

- * Church name selected
- * Church organisation registered
- * Launch website & social media
- * Choose Launch date
- * Begin Interest Nights
- * Begin recruiting for Launch Team

... 6 months out

- * Choose Venue
- * Team Nights begin
- * Recruitment Phase (50%)
- * Fundraising target achieved to 50%

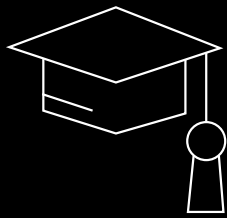
...3 months out

- * Fundraising target achieved to 80%
- * Team recruitment at 80%
- * Launch Social Media Campaign
- * Increase Interest/Team meetings

... 1 month out

- * Team at 100%
- * Fundraising at 100%
- * Launch mass marketing campaign
- * Sunday Run Through

*** Launch Sunday**



STEP FOUR **LEARN**

Learn with the Academy Church
Planting stream.

This is a church planting course tailored
to educate, empower and equip church
planters for the way ahead.



STEP FOUR

LEARN

The course modules are delivered via video based lectures ensuring the maximum amount of flexibility to study. Learning is assessed by assignment and students will have 12 months to complete the course.

The course comprises of -

Four MANDATORY modules:

CCI DNA
Leadership
Church Planting Legends
ARC Training

ADDITIONAL Modules include:

Ecclesiology
Ethics
Communications
Basic Doctrine
Pastoral Care
Organisational Leadership
Homiletics
Hermeneutics
Spiritual formation

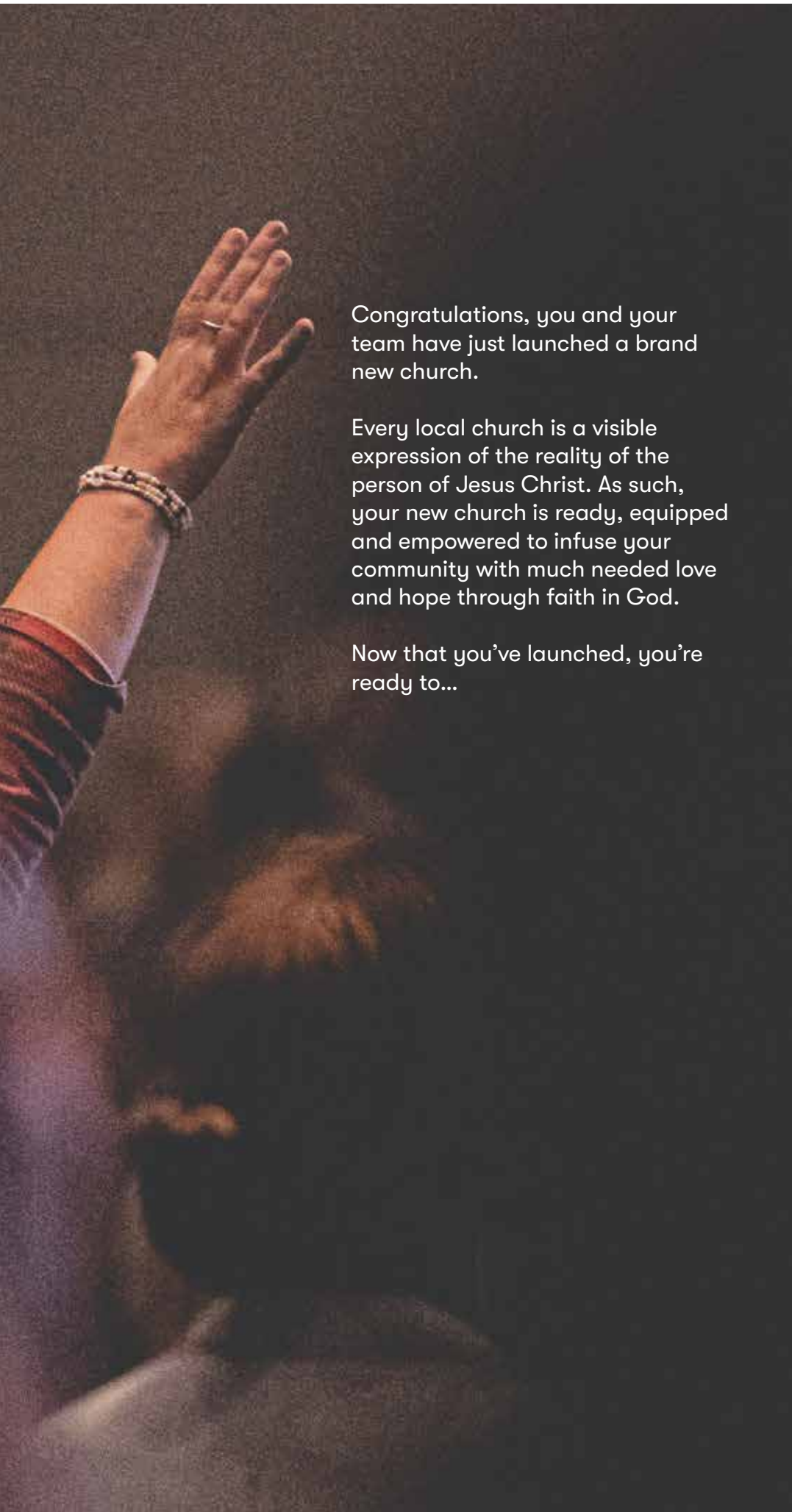




STEP FIVE

IT'S LAUNCH DAY!

This is the moment
you, your team and
your community have
been waiting on!

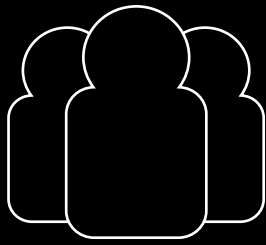


Congratulations, you and your team have just launched a brand new church.

Every local church is a visible expression of the reality of the person of Jesus Christ. As such, your new church is ready, equipped and empowered to infuse your community with much needed love and hope through faith in God.

Now that you've launched, you're ready to...

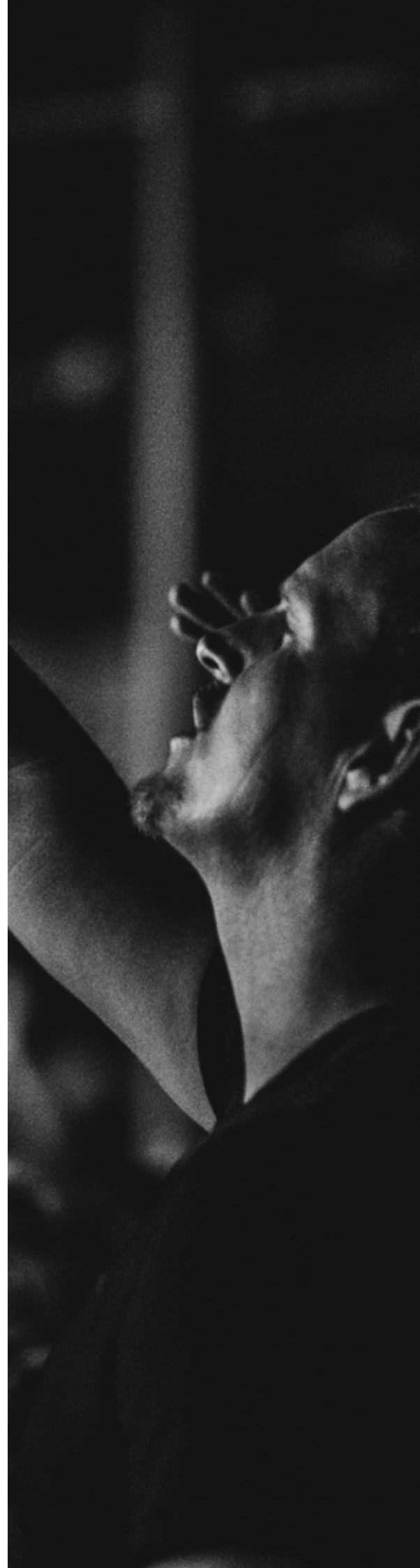




STEP SIX

LEAD

YOUR COMMUNITY,
CONGREGATION &
IN COMPANIONSHIP



STEP SIX

LEAD

YOUR COMMUNITY, CONGREGATION & IN COMPANIONSHIP

With the help of the Holy Spirit, prayer and much investment you have successfully launched your local church.

That's Day One in the bag. But what about Day two and three? What about year two and three and beyond? That's where Christian Churches Ireland can help.

You'll know by now CCI exists to strengthen your local church, to support the vision God has shared with you, helping to establish leaders and teams and crucially, being a constant source of support and encouragement for the journey no matter what lies ahead.

Planting with Advance means your church is already a 'partner church' within the Christian Churches Ireland network, allowing you to avail of all the benefits partnership offers.

So when you need us, together we can help you lead your community, your congregation and bring influence across the country.

CCI offers:

- a pathway for full ordination ministerial status
- a pastoral care team solely for pastors and their family
- a national training centre at The Academy
- tailored regional and national events focusing on growing faith, raising leaders and building friendships
- a wealth of ministry experience in an Irish context
- ministry peers for life

WHAT ABOUT CHURCH RENEWAL?

RE
NE
W
AL



CHURCH RENEWAL

WHAT IS IT?

You're already a local church leader, with a dedicated team of committed leaders ready to do *whatever* it takes to reach your community.

Your church has a strong tradition of faithfully serving Christ in the community yet time and circumstance have collided together to create a current ministry environment that's at odds with the vision you believe God has shared with you.

Advance with CCI is here for local church leaders who are seeking to revitalise, rebirth and release their local church into the future.



CHURCH RENEWAL

WHAT'S THE
PROCESS?



CHURCH RENEWAL

WHAT'S THE PROCESS?

Church Renewal - the process is exactly the same as planting a new church.

Step #1 - Look: consider deeply and define clearly the VISION you believe God has for your church and its community. Does the vision stir you and your team? Does the vision stimulate desire for a preferred future for your immediate world? Does the vision activate sacrificial momentum and creativity within you and your team?

Step #2 - Listen: take time to listen to God, to peers and to pastors close to you. Critically analyse their feedback, paying particular attention to their comments around vision and the future.

Step #3 - Let's GO: Vision, prayer, passion and feedback seem to create the confidence to take the next step = to apply for Church Renewal with Advance and CCI. After the application comes the interview where you will meet with the Advance Lead Team...

This time together will focus more deeply on the information submitted on your application but the Advance Lead Team are also keen to hear what's in your heart for the Church, the church you believe you can become, what you understand to have been the circumstances which have led to the current condition of the church and the steps you and the leadership will take to ensure the church is best placed to thrive.

After the interview the Lead Team will request a little more information from the references you supplied and taken together with the application and the interview the Advance Lead Team will make their decision whether to proceed to the next step or to defer taking the next step until personal or professional conditions develop.

Step #4 - Learn: the first step at this stage is a full audit of your existing church undertaken by a member, or members, of the Advance Lead Team. The audit is likely to take some time and will comprise of site visits to your church on Sunday's as well as attending Leadership team meetings and

extensive interviews with you and your leadership team, together and separately.

Upon the findings of the audit, the Advance Lead Team will report back to you and your leadership team and recommend a course of action that's consistent with its findings. Such recommendations may include enrolling with the Church Planting stream or the Diploma in Ministry and Leadership with the Academy, attend ARC training events and/or begin to integrate more fully into the heart of the movement to deepen relationships. You'll also become familiar with ways to fundraise for your church renewal. Your church will be assigned an Advance Team mentor for twelve months.

It's worth noting however the audit findings may recommend that Advance not support a church renewal at this time. If this is the case, the Advance Lead Team will liaise with you and the leadership team about possible next steps.

Step #5 - Launch: or perhaps re - launch! You've come through the audit, training and fundraising. You have a strong, compelling vision and a passionate team that's ready for the future. Now it's time to relaunch your church into its community.

Step #6 - Lead: You'll know by now CCI exists to strengthen your local church, to support the vision God has shared with you, helping to establish leaders and teams and crucially, being a constant source of support and encouragement for the journey no matter what lies ahead.

Renewing your church with Advance means your church is already a 'partner church' within the Christian Churches Ireland network, allowing you to avail of all the benefits partnership offers.

So when you need us, together we can help you lead your community, your congregation and bring influence across the country.

RELEASING RESOURCE

HOW CAN WE
HELP YOU RAISE
FINANCES NEEDED
TO LAUNCH &
RENEW YOUR
CHURCH?



RELEASING RESOURCE

HOW CAN WE
HELP YOU RAISE
FINANCES NEEDED
TO LAUNCH &
RENEW YOUR
CHURCH?

Here's what we can do together:



You raise
up to €/\$50,000



CCI Advance
will match up to
€/\$50,000



CCI Advance
will provide your
church budget for
the first year



CCI Advance will
provide a Church
Planting Ministry
Credential subject
to successful
completion of the
Church Planting
Certificate at the
Academy



ARC Ireland
will match up
to €/\$50,000,
subject to a
successful,
separate
application
process





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can a non-CCI church plant a new church with Advance?

Yes, and every church that plants with Christian Churches Ireland automatically becomes part of our highly relational, autonomous network of local churches across Ireland.

Can existing, healthy, CCI churches plant with Advance?

Yes. We are a missional movement with a desire to see a healthy local church in every community. This means existing CCI churches can apply to plant a church with Advance and avail of the Look2Lead planting process including access to match funding and year one budget support.

If I plant with Advance through CCI will I become an ARC Ireland church too?

If you successfully apply to plant a church with Advance through CCI, you will have the opportunity to apply separately to ARC Ireland and avail of their training and match funding. If successful, your church will become part of the ARC Ireland church planting network for the amount of time your church pays forward the funding loan. Your church can of course choose to remain in and support the training work of ARC in Ireland after the loan has been repaid.

Our church is a step away from closing. Can I apply for Church Renewal with Advance?

Yes, and our extensive audit will seek to discover and embed fresh ministry philosophies, practical systems and relevant training to ensure your church continues to remain increasingly loyal to its future rather than its past.

Where do I get started?

Check out www.ccireland.ie/advance and apply online. It's that easy.





advance
church planting with cci



CHURCH PLANTING

with Christian Churches Ireland