

Rediscover the role your building can play in your mission

Cross the threshold

scroll down

Are you looking for a new way to put your church at the heart of your local community? Do you need to make changes to your building to make that happen?

We can take you through the steps of a major building and community project.

A major reordering project can take anything from 3 to 10 years from start to finish.

Whatever length of time you think a project will take, double it!

Start small and try things out before setting off on a large scale project

Remember that small changes can make a big difference

Part of churches' mission is to work among and for the well-being of local communities.

Follow the stages involved in getting a community-based, re-ordering project off the ground. Watch the learning videos. Read our top tips. And see what others have done.

Some steps will need to happen at the same time.

Stage 1: prepare the ground



Develop your vision

Use your building in all sorts of creative ways for God's mission



Talk to your community

Find out exactly what people want from their church



Get a project group together

Identify the range of skills and knowledge you will need



Organise yourselves

Choose the right legal structure for now and the future of your church

Church bookshop inside bell tower

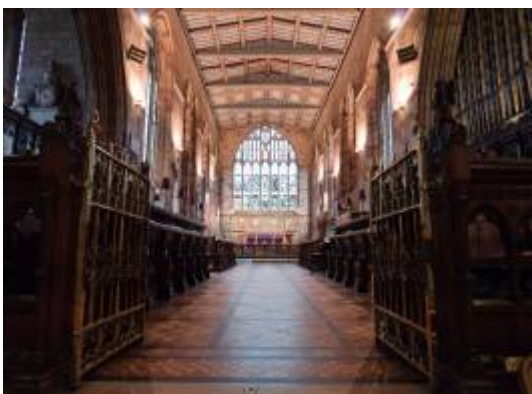
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Get creative!

Find new and inspiring uses for your building

building

Stage 2: look at your options



Understand your church and your needs

See the potential of your building and understand its limits

Exterior view of St Edmund church, Rochdale

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Talk to your DAC about permissions

Navigate the world of faculty and building controls

Female foodbank volunteer hands over food parcel to lady in need

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Develop your idea

Choose the best and most achievable idea

Man standing behind a counter full of bags of green vegetables

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Is your project sustainable?

Put structures in place to make sure your activities run for years



Appoint an architect

Write your brief and understand the tendering process



Working with your architect and your design team

Understand what everyone does and when your architect will hire them



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Keep it green!

This is the perfect time to look into making your church more environmentally-friendly

act

Stage 3: deliver your project



Plan your building project

Put together a plan so that you always feel in control

People looking at information panels of the church's development plans

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Keeping everyone informed

Get your message across

Man buying paper inside church shop

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Write your business plan

Plan your way to success

Female clergy member being hit in the face with wet sponge at a fun day

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Raise the funds

Find new ideas and get organised

Collection plate filled with money

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Finding the right external funder

Make this process as efficient as possible



Filling in applications

Put your best foot forward



Organise your cash flow

Plan ahead

Close up of a sign on a door that says the church is closed while a new floor is being laid

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Get the builders on site

Understand what is happening on site



Finish the project

Three volunteers talking to each other inside a foodbank

Wrap things up and make sure the results have a lasting effect

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Diocese of Birmingham

Crossing the Threshold

Our content has been adapted with the Diocese of Hereford's permission

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Want more help?

Get building advice

See what the NCT has to say about managing building projects

Regenerate your church

Let the CCT help you with your heritage project

Change lives in your community

Let the CUF help you bring about positive change in your neighbourhood

Get support

Let FbRN's network of 1,300 groups support you on your journey

Also of interest



Archaeology

Understand the world beneath your feet



Alterations and extensions

Get advice on best practice



Building maintenance and repair

Understand the importance of routine

Tables with conservation materials and historic objects inside a white room

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Managing conservation projects

Take care of the historical objects inside your building

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