

Resources for Rural Churches



Germinate: Arthur Rank Centre helping rural churches and communities to flourish.

For over 40 years the Arthur Rank Centre has been helping rural people respond to the many challenges they face in innovative, creative and practical ways. We are committed to bringing new life to the countryside. We are ecumenical and the base of the National Rural Officers for the Church of England and the Methodist and United Reformed Churches. We work with others wherever we can to have the greatest effect.

Our work is split into 3 main headings *Church Life, Mission and Training.*

Church Life

Supporting congregations with resources for worship, discipleship and the maintenance and creative use of building.

Mission

Helping communities flourish by equipping rural churches to identify and meet local physical, social and spiritual needs.

Training

Developing leaders and church members through training programmes, events, conferences and learning communities.

Stay informed

www.Germinate.net

Our website is home to free online resources for rural churches and communities, including worship materials, case studies, mission toolkits and information on caring for church buildings.

Germinate News

If you only do one thing, sign up to our free monthly e-news for details of latest resources and sources of funds. Sign the list on the Germinate table at the back or click the subscribe button top right of the web home page www.germinate.net

Country Way

Published three times a year Country Way magazine is packed full of real life stories, resources and practical support for rural congregations and clergy.

www.germinate.net

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Training for Rural Ministry and Mission

There are 2-3 places still available on the following programme:

- **Rural Ministry Course 25-27 April:** Our 3 day training course twice per year for those new to rural ministry includes rural and agricultural context, evangelism and mission, working collaboratively, children, contextual worship and creative use of buildings. Details and material from recent courses is at www.germinate.net/training/ruralministrycourse. Email katrinas@germinate.net for information and to apply.

Germinate Groups: affordable learning communities for rural multi-church groups

germinate.net/training/germinate-groups

An ecumenical resource that enables lay and ordained leaders from multi-church groups to spend time together and learn from other groups, considering what IS (what God is doing in their area), what COULD BE (the God-given vision for our area) and what WILL BE (our six-month action plan to move towards this vision). Four two day sessions over two years covering the themes of journey, leadership, discipleship and mission and can be led by church groups themselves with ARC support and facilitator training, keeping costs low.

Germinate Enterprise: a rural business start-up programme germinate.net/mission/germinate-enterprise

This six session programme is designed to be delivered by churches to help provide jobs, retain working age people in villages and tackle hidden poverty. A free workbook and facilitator materials help participants decide whether setting up a business is for them; what business to set up; and whether it is viable. See link for full information and all the materials.

Equipping for Rural Mission: germinate.net/mission/equipping-for-rural-mission

This simple toolkit comprises four sessions designed to help small, rural churches identify the resources, abilities, gifts and people present in the local church.

Journey to Faith: a Local Church Training Course: germinate.net/mission/journey-to-faith

This unique training programme on rural evangelism helps members of rural congregations share their faith with others and can be run by any church or group of churches over two half-days.

'Released for Mission – Growing the Rural Church' – an important report detailing priorities and recommendations for growth in rural multi-church ministry in the 21st century. Download at germinate.net/church-life/released-for-mission

Rural isolation resource germinate.net/mission/practical-resource-on-rural-isolation

Practical guidance for rural churches to help them address isolation and loneliness in their communities, with case studies, details of good practice and links to other information.

Rural Church Buildings: germinate.net/church-life/rural-church-buildings

A comprehensive information hub covers every aspect of rural places of worship, including information for listed places of worship.

Country Way: www.countryway.org.uk

Country Way magazine is published three times a year and covers aspects of faith and life in the countryside.