



Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought but rather think of yourself with sober judgment,

According to the faith God has distributed to each of you

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:1-5

Have you noticed, or have I just missed it? The three little words that appear on our Diocesan Comms 'together we are.' This leaves me tempted to finish the sentence. Together we are one body in Christ, which means we belong to each other. Imagine, for a moment, if we lived out this gift of belonging to each other, embracing and creating space for every distinct and different part.

Noticing and accepting all the members of the body offers the wonderful and colourful blessing of embracing difference and diversity.

The familiar language of 'we are one in Christ' rolls off the tongue so easily without thought for the other, perhaps especially not for the part that is different from us.

I confess that I am guilty of this. I love the truth of being one in Christ, but truth be told, not enough thought is given to the other distinctive parts of the body that are needed to make us whole and effective in God's call to the Great Commandment of loving God and neighbour, and the Great Commission to tell of the hope that we have in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Another three more words are buzzing around: 'Faith, Love, Service,' shared in Bishop Joanne's message at her service of welcome and enthronement at the Cathedral.

The richness and depth of being one in Christ must surely cause us to take time to notice the other, to love and serve sacrificially as one, because of the faith God has distributed to each one. Jesus is our common ground; let us choose to unite in faith, love, and service because together we are. Di Grano

# MEET THE TEAM . . .

## Family

Lightwave Emerge Hub Leader **Ben Wale**

I'm married to Leanne who is creative in lots of ways: Knitting, painting (watercolours and acrylics), Bible art journaling and piano playing! Simeon is 15 and he's into Heavy metal and leads a Christian Union at his school. Maisie is 11, she loves playing piano and would like lots more pets. We currently have 3 guinea pigs and a Crested Gecko.



## **Before joining Lightwave CIO, what other jobs have you held?**

I trained as a primary school teacher and taught in Swindon before moving to Ipswich. I've also been a children's and primary schools worker for Christian Youth Ministries and a children's and families' worker at Colchester Road Baptist Church.

## **What is your favourite memory from growing up?**

We had a small woodland near our house where friends and I spent endless hours building dens, climbing trees, and getting into scrapes until tea time!

What is your favourite Colour, Food, Film/Movie & Musical Artist?

Favourite Colour: Purple Food: Lamb roast Film: Lord of the Rings trilogy and Darkest Hour Music artist: U2

## **What are your hobbies?**

Growing veg, cycling, walking, and playing different drums.

## **What is something you would like to learn next?**

How to play my bodhran drum

## **What book are you reading right now (other than the bible)?**

I always have 3 on the go, so it depends on the mood. At the moment it's 'Oswiu, King of Kings' by Edoardo Albert, 'Dominion' by Tom Holland and 'Banshee' by Lindsay Rumbold.

## **What are you believing God for right now?**

I believe God is waking people up who have been spiritually asleep (Ephesians 5:14), and there is a generation of young people who have a growing hunger for the Word of God. In our work with young people and with other churches across Ipswich, we see many young people putting their faith into action and leading Christian Unions in their schools. There is something new and exciting happening! Like RT Kendall wrote last year, "I doubt that there will be superstars in the next great awakening. It will be led by ordinary people who simply know their Bibles and pray a lot."

## **Do you have a prayer request?**

As a leader: that God will give me a discerning heart to lead Lightwave Emerge well.

As a husband and Dad: that I love my family well, that we'll spur each other on to love God, His Word and pray with greater faith.

# THANKING GOD FOR RURAL SUFFOLK MISSION

## Emerge

Lightwave Community Emerge started a new season on the theme of "Walking with Jesus through anxious times" on Sunday mornings in Playford Village Hall.

January	Jesus calms the storm
<b>18</b>	How can we walk with Jesus in anxious times? A series on Jesus in the Book of Mark. Songs, Bible story & activities for all ages. Playford Village Hall, 10:15-11:30am, starting with drinks & snacks
January	Jesus' mission and a meal with Matthew
<b>25</b>	Having a Jesus shaped mission this year. Playford Village Hall, 10:15-11:30am, refreshments at the start
February	Jesus loves all
<b>1</b>	How did Jesus respond to pressure from his mother & brothers? Activities, songs & prayer for all ages, Playford Village Hall, 10:15-11:30am, starting with drinks & snacks
February	"Help, Jesus!"
<b>8</b>	How did Jesus respond to so many needs? Playford Village Hall, 10:15-11:30, with refreshments. Includes planning a Pancake Party (22nd Feb) for friends and families in the village.
February	Walk & social
<b>15</b>	A morning stroll and time to socialise and play! Details TBC



## Place By The Water

Lightwave The Place by the Water warmly invite you for a day of peace & reflection at their Lent Retreat Email [theplacebythewater@gmail.com](mailto:theplacebythewater@gmail.com) to book or for more information.

## Forest Heath Team

Lightwave Community Red Lodge, the newly formed TECH team, received training in January for the new AV equipment, which can now include live streaming services.





## Bungay & Beyond

Lightwave Community Bungay THANKED volunteers with a get together, sharing puddings, games, laughter, and fellowship at the start of this new year.

## Bridge Communities

Lightwave Bridge Communities Wellbeing Café is back from January, It was great to catch up with people after Christmas & New Year, Especially as it was a tough time for some, Familiar faces and newcomers, everyone is welcome, first & third Fridays of each month.



You can explore, enquire, or join a Lightwave Community Church and small group [HERE](#)

Would you prayerfully consider giving regularly to the work of Lightwave Community across Suffolk? Here is a [LINK](#) to giving

## Please pray for. . .

The Lightwave Community Churches across Suffolk, Bridge Community, Emerge, Bungay, Place by The Water and Lightwave Community Church Red Lodge serving on the frontline of God's mission in Suffolk

Continue to pray for the work of Lightwave's long-term sustainability are appreciated. We are so grateful to all our faithful and steadfast contributors to the work of Lightwave. Regular giving is one of the best ways to ensure that the team serving in the mission is supported. Would you prayerfully consider giving regularly to the work of Lightwave across Suffolk? Here is a [LINK](#) to giving

Our Trustees, staff, teams, and ongoing work of discernment and planning for the Lightwave community to contribute to and flourish within the wider diocese in the years ahead.

Lightwave Bridge Community and the search for the appointment of a new leader.

The Red Lodge New Church building project, for Father God's provision and guidance as they move in faith. There is an opportunity to contribute to the building fund [HERE](#)

Please pray for Charlotte, David, Angie and Kirk who have stepped up to train as Elders and doing the preaching course at Lightwave Red Lodge

Please pray for unity in mission for Lightwave and the parish church in rural Suffolk.

Thank you for all your prayers.  
Every Blessing

Diane Grano

