



# Lightening the Load

An introduction to using the resources

**WORSHIP & PASTORAL CARE**

**Things to raise at Deanery Level**

**MISSION & COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**Mission Community**

**Parish**

**ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**

**GOVERNANCE & BUILDINGS**

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This is a MISSION COMMUNITY resource. Even if you split into smaller groups these should not be single Parish groups

This doesn't mean each Parish will lose its identity. It ensure that everyone hears each Parish's perspective and listens to each voice.

Done well, it can serve to strengthen each Parish's identity and role within it's own community and the wider Mission Community.



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# Session One and Two

Use these sessions together to balance each other.

These sessions..

- Set the scene
- Build relationships
- Set realistic goals

You may want to use them in combination with reflections and prayer, or an informal Eucharist

- Working in new ways can be tough
- The prospect of change can be frightening or overwhelming

# Session One: Celebrating and Appreciating



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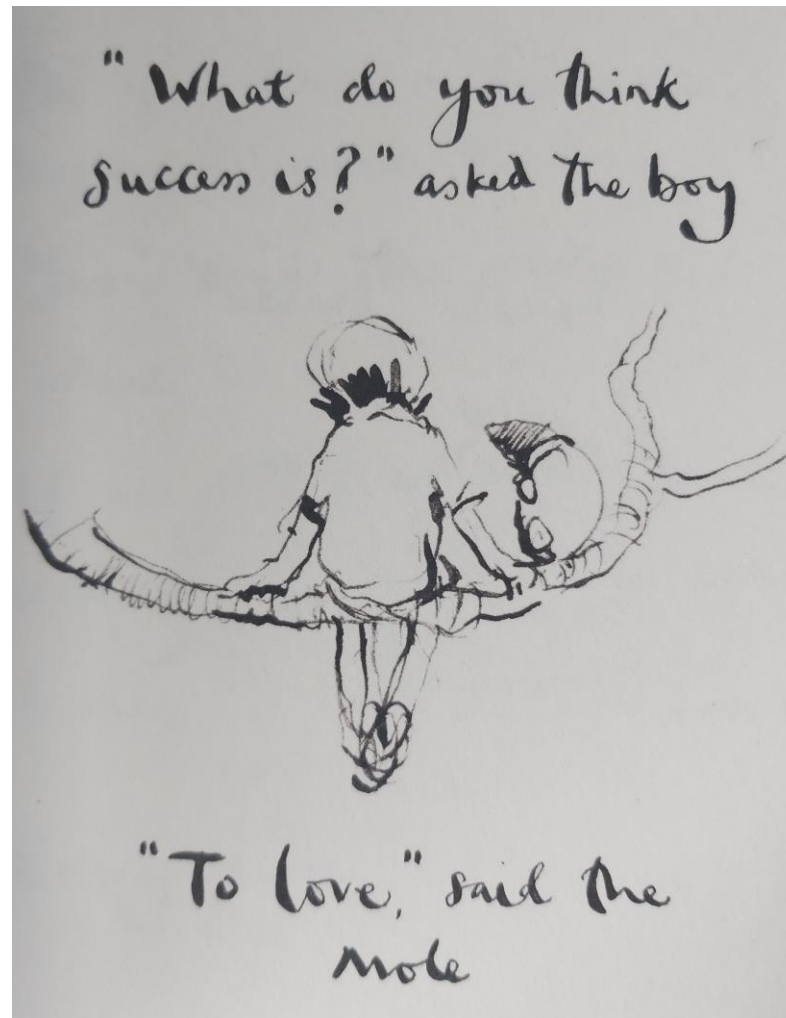
# Session 2 - Burdens and Expectations

- Naming burdens honestly will build trust and open the possibility to difficult conversations in later sessions.
- Use prayer and reflection resources to facilitate carefully.

More, more, more???

More people, more money, more activity.

Is this really what success in a rural church looks like?!



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# Session 4 – Buildings and Bureaucracy

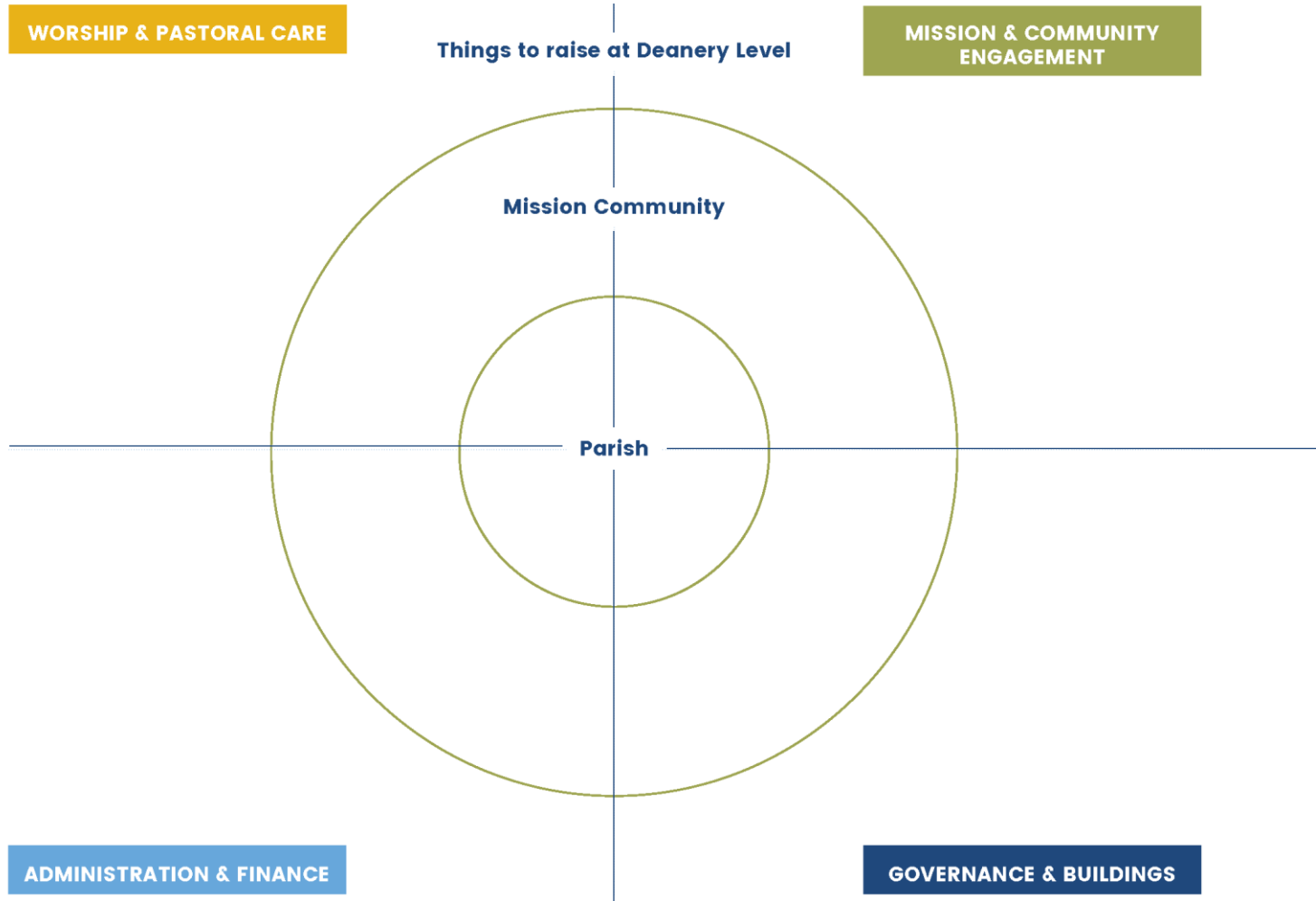
- Discerning vocation – considering gifts and skills, passion and sense of calling through conversation and prayer
- How might we apply this to our buildings?
- What unique place in the life of your MC might God be calling each building to fulfil?



## Governance and admin

- Are people tied up in roles that mean they can't fulfil their vocation?
- Are there ways of simplifying these across the MC?

# Session 5 – Priorities and Pruning



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