



Christian Life Community

*praying our life
and living our prayer*



How to join CLC

or

subscribe to 'FOCUS'

Christian Life Community in England and Wales

Reg. Charity No. 1056891

114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH

email: info@clcew.org.uk

website: www.clcew.org.uk

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Welcome to CLC

Welcome to the Christian Life Community and thank you for your interest.

There are several different ways in which you may have found out about CLC, so it is not easy to describe one single route to joining.

Starting out

By far the best way is to begin by subscribing to our Newsletter FOCUS, which comes out most months throughout the year, although if you have already joined a CLC group, this may have been done for you.

Subscribing to FOCUS:

Send an email to admin@clcew.org.uk or write to CLC, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH to ask to be put on our mailing list. People who are interested in CLC are able to receive the CLC newsletter 'FOCUS' for an annual postal subscription of £10 for 9/10 issues each year or £5 for e-FOCUS by email. Please say which you would prefer.

Finding a CLC group

Ideally, you need to join a CLC group (if you are not already with one), so when you ask for FOCUS or express an interest in CLC, our membership team will ask your nearest CLC group to get in touch with you to see how you can be accommodated.

Unfortunately, it is quite possible that there is no CLC group in your area, since groups tend to be in clusters in different parts of the country. In this case, is there the possibility of you finding friends, parishioners or other people who might also be interested? Then your Regional team may be able to come to you to run a two-hour Information Session to introduce CLC to everyone. From this, a new CLC group may be able to be formed.

The usual way for a new group is to use our first set of meeting plans to begin their journey with CLC. These introduce you to ways of praying and the characteristics of CLC – spirituality, community and mission. As groups usually meet fortnightly, the initial ten meetings will occupy a new group for 6-9 months or more.

Even if there is a CLC group nearby, please bear in mind that it may not be possible to integrate you into that group for a number of reasons; for example, the group may have been established for many years and it may not be appropriate for someone new to join the existing community. It is always better to start with a new or nearly-new group and grow in understanding together.

Making a financial contribution to CLC

As a community, members are asked to share the responsibility of running CLC in England and Wales, which includes contributing financially to keep it running and to help with its development and growth. But when you start out with CLC, it takes time for you to discern if CLC is the right thing for you, so you are given a complimentary period of a full calendar year. This is based on the time it might take for a new CLC group to pray with the first set of meeting plans provided by CLC. Therefore,

- People considering joining are **free** from the time they start through to the end of their first full calendar year.
- After the first full calendar year, you will be contacted, in January or thereabouts, to invite you to share the financial responsibility of sustaining CLC as a national and international community (although you can start contributing earlier if you wish to).
- You are asked to reflect upon **the importance of CLC in your life and to take your financial circumstances into account.**
- **The contribution to CLC is therefore flexible, based on your financial means and your understanding and acceptance of CLC as a way of life.**

How much?

- As a guide, the suggestion is £1 p.a. for every £1,000 of net income (0.1%) for lower incomes, rising to **£2.50 p.a. for every £1,000 of net income (0.25%) for the national average and above.** [A table of guideline amounts is available from CLC at 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH or treasurer@clcew.org.uk]
- **However**, no one is prevented from belonging to CLC simply because they cannot afford it, so if in that situation, you are asked to pay what you can, even if it is only £1 each year.

How do I pay?

- The easiest way, for you and for CLC, is to pay by Banker's Standing Order. You can arrange for payments to be made annually, quarterly, or monthly, whichever suits you. [A form is available from treasurer@clcew.org.uk]
- or, you can pay by internet banking to the CLC account 09-01-51 45663507 [Santander Bank] with FEE+YOUR NAME as the Reference;
- or send a cheque, made out to 'CLC', to 114 Mount Street London, W1K 3AH.
- If you do not have a bank account, you may be able to arrange a cash payment through the contact person of your local CLC or Regional Rep.

FREE MONEY – Gift Aid It!

- CLC is a Registered Charity so you can declare your contributions as **Gift Aid** donations, as long as you pay tax. This gives CLC extra money, currently 25% of your contribution **at no additional cost to yourself.** (And if you pay any tax at the 40% rate you can claim the difference for yourself!).

More about CLC

The Christian Life Community has a set of 'General Principles' rather than a 'rule book', which have been described as our vision statement. Certainly, they are both an inspiration and a challenge; both a yardstick by which an authentic Christian Life Community can be recognised and an ideal which, being honest, we know we can never quite achieve. One thing that they say is [GP4]:

Our Community is made up of Christians; men and women, adults and young people, of all social conditions, who want to follow Jesus Christ more closely and work with him for the building of the Kingdom ...

We aim to become committed Christians in bearing witness to those human and Gospel values within the Church and society which affect the dignity of the person, the welfare of the family and the integrity of creation.

We are particularly aware of the pressing need to work for justice through a preferential option for the poor and a simple lifestyle which expresses our freedom and solidarity with them.

THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES and other publications are available from CLC [see below] and are all listed in the **PUBLICATIONS LIST AND ORDER FORM** [free]

Other material for those starting out include:

- **INTRODUCTORY LEAFLET:** A short leaflet about CLC in England and Wales.
- **THE LOCAL CLC MEETING:** An outline of a CLC meeting with some hints on sharing.
- **PRAYER CARD FOR MEETINGS:** The opening and closing prayers. A5 card.
- **CHRISTIANS IN THE WORLD:** The handbook for CLC (England & Wales).

Please use the **PUBLICATIONS LIST AND ORDER FORM** to obtain these.

[Contacting CLC](#)

If you have any questions about anything at any time, wish to order booklets or pamphlets, or need to contact any of our teams, then the best way is by email to admin@clcew.org.uk (preferred), or by writing to [CLC, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH](#). But, do be aware that CLC does not have any permanent members of staff; CLC is run by its members for its members and they do the various tasks completely voluntarily (although payment may be made on occasion to get some things done!). Therefore, please be patient while waiting for a response. Thank you.