



everyday faith

8 shifts for everyday faith churches

The Eight Shifts

The eight everyday faith shifts are all designed to make the most of the principle that small changes can make a big difference. They are encouragements to do things differently – not new things. Each shift is focussed on a different aspect of ministerial practice or the shared activities in a church's life.

For each shift we offer some ideas that have proved helpful to churches of all sizes and traditions, alongside a faith at home suggestion to illustrate how these shifts also equip children, young people and families in their everyday faith.



Valuing people's places of everyday faith

Gathering diverse stories of everyday faith

Praying encouraging intercessions for everyday faith

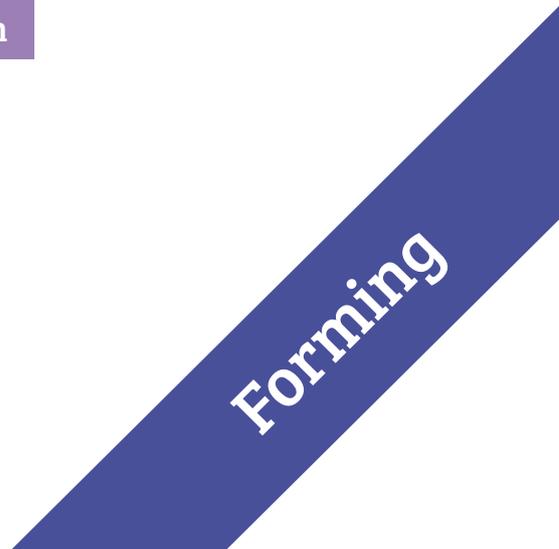
Forming worship to mould everyday faith

Teaching insights for everyday faith

Sending commissioning everyday callings

Connecting equipping each other's everyday faith

Displaying the life of an everyday faith church



Becoming an Everyday Church

The eight ideas here have proved helpful to churches of all sizes and traditions, and you can introduce these shifts to your church in a variety of ways. It helps to begin a conversation first with the leaders and members of your worshipping community.

What works in one context may not work in another, but ideas have a way of sparking more ideas and leading you to find something that fits your congregation perfectly. Each shift is independent, so you can try them in any order.

Choose one or two ideas to begin with, and make sure you take time to notice and discuss the difference these might be making. You should aim to keep an intentional focus on adopting this shift over a significant period – and check in on how people experience this. We hope changes in behaviour will be noticed.

As you begin these shifts, it will help to think through what you might like to see change, so you can better notice this. Here are three things to be aware of:

1 Attitudes and actions

Have you noticed any changes in people's conversations, levels of trust and openness, a more outward reflection on their faith journey?

Are people talking about a difference in confidence around faith?

2 Issues and priorities

Have you noticed any changes in the issues people consider to be important?

Are you discussing different things, or discussing things differently on your PCC?

Is there a difference in what, and who you, are praying for?

3 Groups and networks

Are people suggesting new ways of meeting or organising the life of the church?

Have people mentioned networks and groups they are interested in that support faith in the whole of life?



Throughout the Everyday Church resources, you may notice pointers, suggestions and stories on how we live out our everyday faith in our homes and workplaces from others who have tried these shifts. Keep an eye out for these across the Eight Shifts and other resources.

There are more ideas at churchsupporthub.com/everydaychurch. You may come up with other ideas that are even better. If so, visit the Church Support Hub and share your story of being an Everyday Faith church.



Forming

worship to mould everyday faith



Key Question:

How do we mark our rhythm of gathering and sending?

The shape of Anglican worship is designed to celebrate God in the midst of our everyday lives, to help us to reflect on where we might have missed or messed up our calling as God's people, and to send us out to serve God as Christ's people fed by both the Eucharist and the word of God in scripture.

Whatever our tradition, and whatever our intention, we don't always help people to make the connections that might really enable our witness as the church sent to 'bring life to others' and 'give light to the world'. What might help this?

Many of the eight shifts will help to make these connections. It is also worth thinking about the images we use on service sheets and screens, or the banners or posters that people notice in worship spaces. Do people see the places and roles we are sent to serve in?

In our church in Partington we enjoy being creative in liturgy in our Sunday services, and occasionally being a little disruptive with familiar words wakes us up to them in a new light. After a season exploring themes of Everyday Faith, we now often include a variation on the Lord's Prayer that does just that, including the words:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven, in the office and in the classroom, in the home and in the café, in the leisure centre and in the shopping centre, in the garden and in the town, your will be done...

A family visiting us for a baptism one week remarked how surprised they were that the service had shown "this faith stuff is relevant to all of life", not the preserve of a few within these four walls on a Sunday.



Key Practice: Words, images and music matter

For liturgical services, there are three areas where the resources of Common Worship may be supplemented to help emphasise our calling to an everyday faith, namely gathering, offertory and dismissal.

It helps to think through this use intentionally as there is a risk that the Common Worship liturgical resources tend to assume the link between our lives in the world and our shared corporate worship, rather than making it explicit.

You can find further resources on shaping worship for everyday faith at churchsupporthub.com/everydaychurch.



faith at home

Worship at Home

The home is a vital part of a worshipping community – and is a community where worship matters. The shape of worship in a home may vary. Some people like to use liturgy, some chat and pray informally. You can use resources from the web or ask Alexa to say grace before a meal.

Marking our life at home with worship helps us connect with our everyday faith.

Find more Faith at Home tips at churchofengland.org/faithathome.

everyday
faith

Has something worked well for your worshipping community? Share your ideas, thoughts and stories at churchsupporthub.com/everydaychurch and discover what others are saying about becoming an Everyday Church.