Attendance Registers

These are kept by some churches. In our church in Blackpool the morning congregation grew and so two services were created. After a couple of months I reckoned people had settled into the service which suited them so I took out the Electoral Roll and jotted down which service I thought each person was attending. When I checked on Sunday my estimate was out by miles. I thought, “If I don’t even know which service people are attending, how on earth can we care for them pastorally?” I decided to take a register for a few weeks to see which service people were attending and found it so useful in spotting who was missing that I continued to do it and trained a pastoral team to help in this also. If someone went missing they would receive a phone call or visit to see if they were OK. It became invaluable as attendance patterns changed with some people only coming once every three or four weeks. It also meant that new people’s names were learnt quickly. Most of the congregation thought it was great because someone noticed when they were missing and called to check if they were alright but one or two objected. A sample of a pastoral care register can be found below.
P.S. We did not call the register from the front – I could recognise most of the congregation better by the backs of their heads than their faces!

Pastoral Checklist. If you wish an electronic version of this email: george.fisher@lichfield.anglican.org

	October					***November***				***December***				***Notes:***
	02	***09***	***16***	***23***	***30***	***06***	***13***	***20***	***27***	***04***	***11***	***18***	***25***	
9.30 Regular														
Cobley, Tom														
Cole, King														
Horner, Jack														
Hubbard, Mother														
Sprat, Jack														

9.30 Occasional														
Foster, Doctor														
Lamb, Mary														
Thumb, Tom														
11.15 New / Visitors														
Whittington, Dick														