

What does church mean to you?

1

What is the most important thing you believe about God?

2

How do you think the wider community would describe the local church?

3

What has helped you grow in faith during your life?

4

What are the three things you most value about your church?

5

What is your favourite Bible story? Why? How does it inform or encourage your faith?

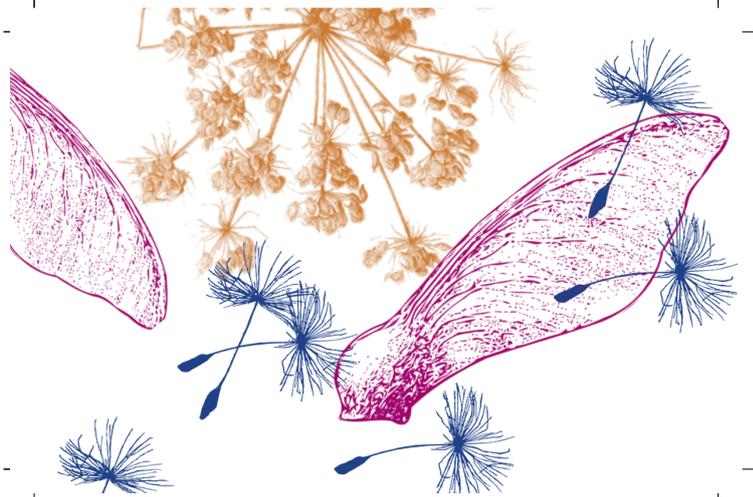
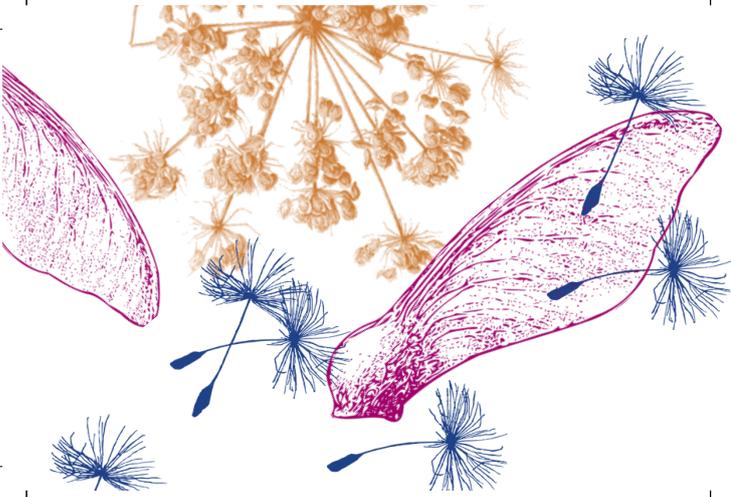
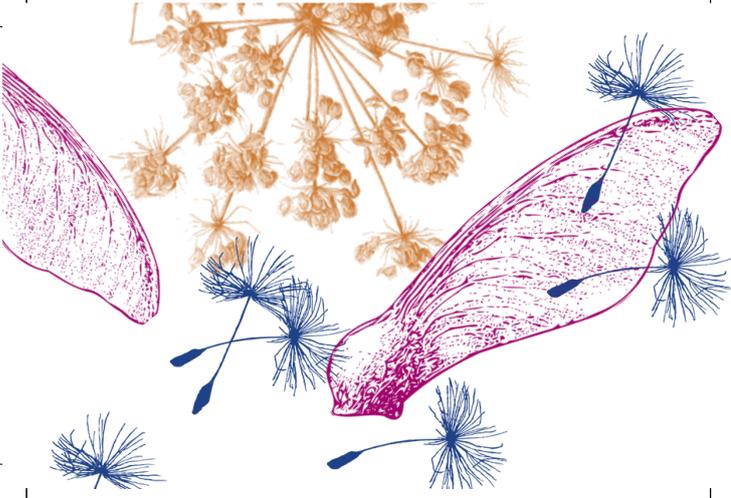
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What three words would you use to describe the community where your church is based?

7

In what ways is your church growing in faith?

8



Which season of the church year do you like best?

9

What are the ways people in your community experience church during the week?

10

Does it matter if the church has a permanent building to worship in?

11

What is your favourite hymn? Why?
How does it inform or encourage your faith?

12

If your church continues as it is, will there still be people worshipping in 10 years' time?

13

Which groups or places in the community are you connected to?

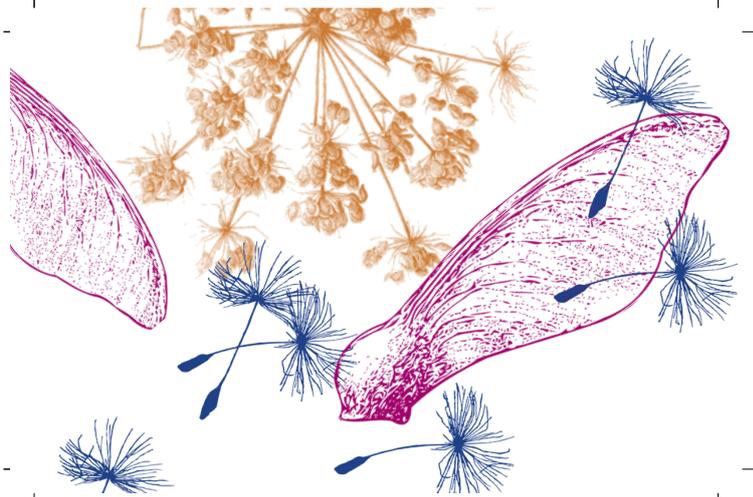
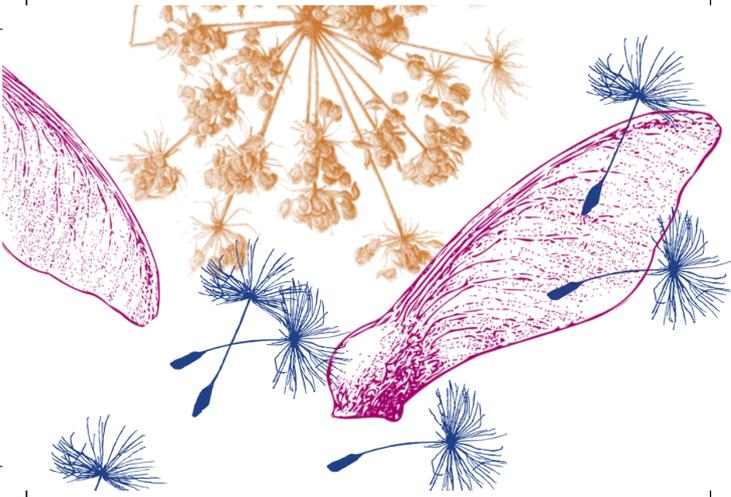
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What is the most important thing you believe about God?

15

What are the 3 biggest challenges facing your church at the moment?

16



Which groups or places in the community are you not connected to?

17

What are the three things you most value about your church?

18

Which of the Anglican Five Marks of Mission do you think your church best lives out?

19

Where do you feel closest to God?

20

Which of the Anglican Five Marks of Mission do you think your church might work on more?

21

What is the most memorable service you have ever been to?

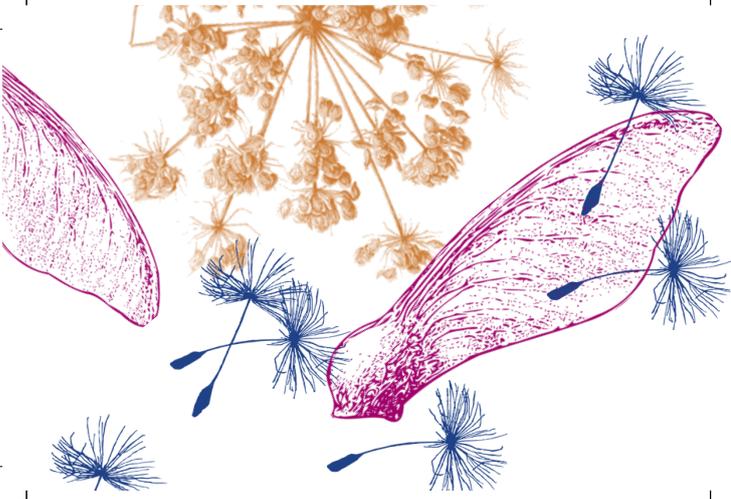
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How important is it for your church to have weekly services?

23

How does your church give and receive hospitality?

24



What is your church building a symbol of?
How?

25

How important is Holy Communion to your church?

26

What role(s) does your building have in the life of the community?

27

How is your church responding to the challenge of climate change?

28

Which part of the church building do visitors like most? Why?

29

Which part of the church building do you love most? Why?

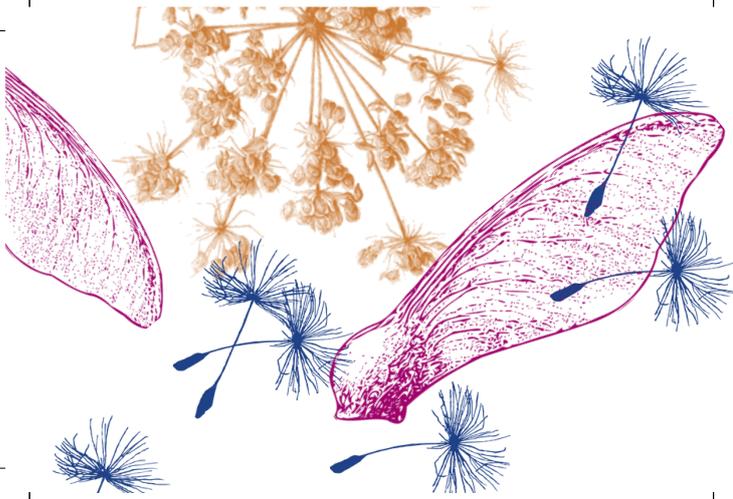
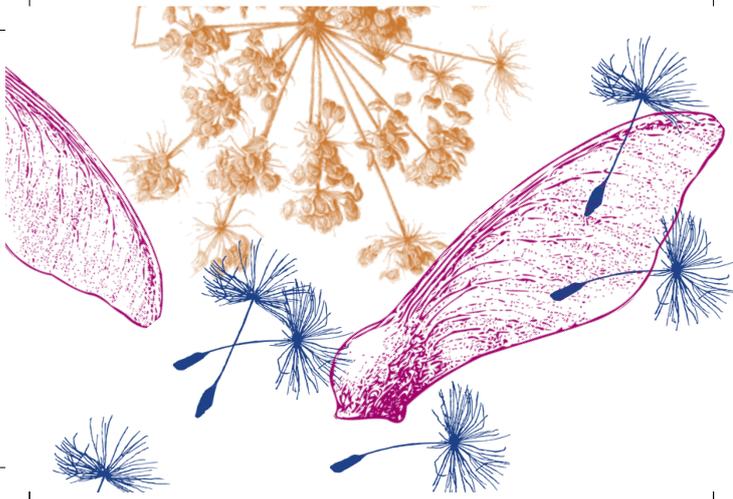
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How important is your churchyard or outdoor space to your wider community?

31

Do you see any connection between your money and your faith?

32



These cards are designed to start conversations in church groups. If people like this approach, there is another set of questions about Life, the World and Faith that works with a diverse range of church and non-church groups. To obtain a set contact charlie.peer@bathwells.anglican.org or visit www.bathandwells.org.uk/enabling-ministries



The Anglican Five Marks of Mission:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

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Church

What we are and what we could be...



DIOCESE OF
Bath & Wells

Living the story. Telling the story.

Getting started using the cards with groups

Suggestions for Facilitators

The cards are designed to help start conversations about what church does and could mean for people. There are no right answers! And you may have better ideas of how to use the cards - if so, just go for it.

The questions are in 3 broad categories, in case you want a particular focus:

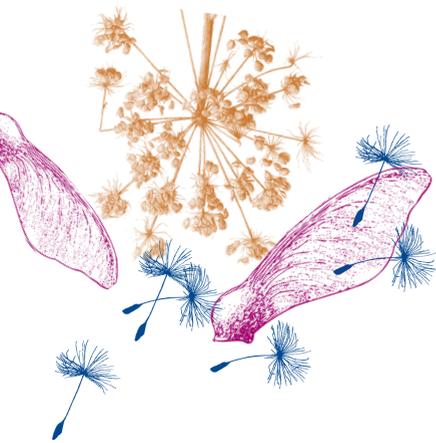
- 1 OUR PERSONAL faith
- 2 OUR faith TOGETHER
- 3 OUR faith IN THE WORLD

We suggest you give out/get people to choose a card without seeing the question - there is no perfect question and no wrong answer.

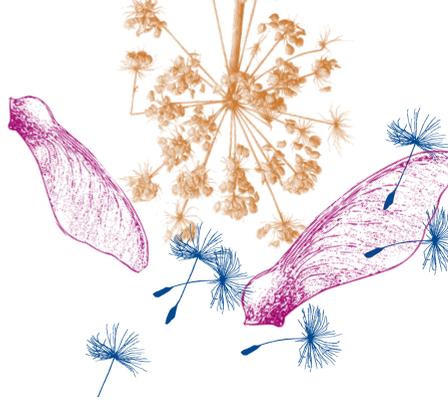
There are 5 copies of the Anglican Five Marks of Mission to help with the questions on them.

People might want different options:

- Answer the question themselves
- Answer, then ask someone else what their answer would be
- Choose to pass but see if someone else would like to answer.



Some people may give an answer and then reflect on the answer themselves. And a conversation with others reflecting too might just open up. Let it flow and see where it goes.



Helping people reflect on the answers

Suggestions for Facilitators

It's helpful to have some questions up your sleeve after the conversations e.g.:

- What are we noticing about our answers?
 - Did any of our answers surprise us?
 - Were there questions we passed on - does that tell us anything?
- Which questions or conversations generated the most energy?
- Are there any questions that we would like to think about more as a church?
- Has this helped us uncover any hints of where God might be calling us to put our energy or focus?

For more information visit:
www.bathandwells.org.uk/enabling-ministries