



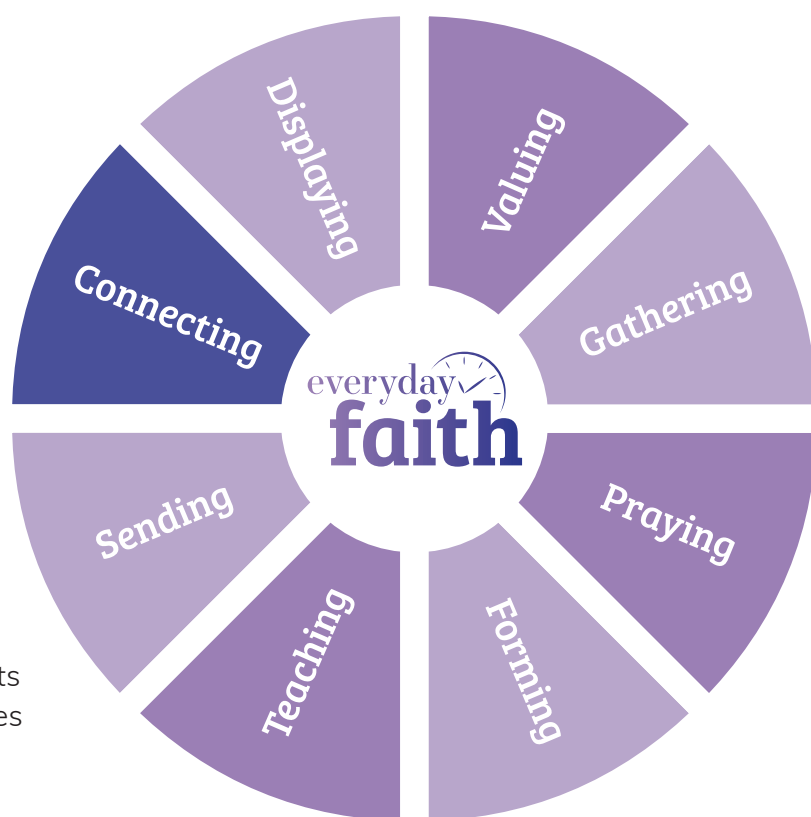
# everyday faith

## 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

Connecting

## 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](https://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.

# Connecting equipping each other's everyday faith



## Key Question: How can we support one another in our everyday faith?

It will be a great benefit for many in to have the chance to connect with others with whom we can continue to share, pray and bless each other in our everyday faith. There are a variety of ways that different churches put smaller weekly gatherings into practice. You could set up groups for different people who share similar contexts. For those familiar with small groups, it is also important that these gatherings have opportunities to share stories of everyday faith, pray for people's contexts and needs and see what wisdom from scripture can be found in these.

Chaplaincy is also an area of ministry that is often neglected in our thinking. This can animate the ministry of the whole church in their everyday networks – work, clubs, sport and school. You could encourage people to seek out a chaplaincy (or work-based fellowship) and explore with them how this might be helping to enable their everyday faith.

Find more resources on faith in the workplace at [churchsupporthub.org/everydayfaith](https://churchsupporthub.org/everydayfaith).

Vita Christi was launched during lockdown using Zoom as a way of connecting church members, including key workers under great pressure at work and people adjusting to trying to work from home.

The group provides time and space to learn from others, give and receive support and encouragement, and pray for one another. People take it in turn to share something about how they themselves are seeking to live out their Christian faith in daily life, with the associated joys, frustrations, obstacles, successes and disappointments.

Storytelling has the power to engage and inspire us, and this element is often included in the form of a more extended contribution from one of the members, or by using a video recording: plenty of useful material is available online, or a short video recorded by church members can be used.

Meetings are short, focused, regular and frequent (weekly or fortnightly).





## Key Practice: Small groups on everyday faith

Forming small group around everyday faith is something that requires planning and care. However, it does not have to be an onerous task nor an ongoing commitment.

A good place to start would be to focus a small group on questions of everyday faith. You could use one of the Everyday Faith reflection journeys available for this, or the Lent journey your diocese provides. Start such gatherings with the Changing Lives Conversations or an everyday faith story slot to help embed that our learning about being Jesus Christ shaped is for the whole of life.

After this, you might explore if people would like to keep meeting together.

## faith at home

### Talking and Praying

Families and households are natural groups to support each other in everyday faith. The most important thing we can do here is to talk more and pray for each other. Our everyday faith question cards are an ideal way to get conversations about faith in the whole of life flowing – and to highlight what issues people might want to raise in prayer.

Find more Faith at Home tips at  
[churchofengland.org/faiathome](https://churchofengland.org/faiathome)



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