



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

Displaying

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.

Displaying a life of Everyday Faith



Key Question: What does your notice board (or web site) say about the life of your church?

Notice boards tell the congregation what's seen to be important. Websites tell the world!

What's there?

Information about church-based activities? Always.
Information about overseas mission? Sometimes.
This is important, but in telling this we miss out on letting people know that people in our churches are out and about Sunday to Saturday: an everyday faith church, living out the good news Jesus brings as grandparents, shop workers, geography students, cleaners and vets...



Key Practice: Show the whole life of faith your church leads

Why not include a map of where the congregation spend time during the week on your church notice board or website - places of work, schools and colleges? You don't need to include the detail, but something that represents how people are serving their communities in their daily lives as well as in organised church projects. Or display a Prayer for the Week – included in the notice sheet – that focuses on a particular group of people.

Find ways to share the everyday faith of your church at churchsupporthub.com/everydaychurch.



Where are you?

The fridge is often the centre of life in a busy household. Why not use your fridge to capture where people are from Sunday to Saturday? You could use a series of photos, some simple lists you change each week or some magnetic letters for people to leave messages.

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



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.