



# 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

**Gathering**

## 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.



# Gathering

## diverse stories of everyday faith

### Key Question: What are people's experiences of faith in the whole of life?

We are all probably aware that being followers of Jesus is not confined to church activities. Most of us will pray or think about our faith at some point during the day. However, we can often miss out on hearing about people's experiences by not asking each other or by making assumptions.

When we gather in communal worship, we bring these experiences and expectations into the context of worship. Our liturgy reflects this pattern, but it isn't always made explicit for people. One way of helping to show this is by including a chance for an individual, family or group to share their experience of faith in the whole of life. Over time people will become more attuned to the experiences of the people gathering together. It doesn't only have to be about big things, but also about noticing God in the small things.

LICC developed a practice called a This Time Tomorrow slot to make sharing a feature of our worship services. You might also think about how you feature these stories of everyday faith on your website or social media.

When Anne's church started doing 'This Time Tomorrow,' Sophie, a dentist, shared her story of fixing teeth but also of caring for members of her team in times of need, telling people about her faith when they asked what she did at the weekend, and praying with colleagues and patients (with their permission).

"When Sophie shared her story during our morning service in our 'This Time Tomorrow' slot we were all encouraged, because she has been able to gently share how we can speak of our trust in Jesus with our colleagues at work in a non-threatening way."





## Key Practice: This Time Tomorrow (TTT)

TTT (as most come to call it) is a two- or three-minute interview with someone in a congregation during a Sunday or midweek service about where they will be at this time tomorrow. It is helpful to follow three simple questions:

- Where will you be at this time tomorrow?
- What challenges and opportunities do you face?
- How can we pray for you?

It doesn't have to be people in big jobs and to begin with, it probably shouldn't be. And it shouldn't just be adults. Some people have found it helpful to find a person in the congregation to lead this time – and to help find the people to interview.

Your TTT slot can also be a useful story for social media. Most people will prepare their responses in advance so these can be typed in as a story, best with a photo in the place they are discussing. Of course, for some people this might be sensitive, so do check beforehand and adapt answers for a public context.

## faith at home

### Best and Worst

As well as featuring a range of people of all ages in sharing stories of everyday faith, it is helpful to find ways of marking our experiences of everyday faith. A really simple way to do this is by sharing 'best bits and worst bits' over a meal or time together to pray. This gives an opportunity to reflect on where God has been in your day.

Discover more Faith at Home tips at [churchofengland.org/faithathome](https://churchofengland.org/faithathome).



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.