

# **SHARED WAY OF LIFE - DISCERNMENT PATHWAY**

*plain text version*

MONTH: 0

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### CONVERSATION

*Clergy/Lay Lead*

*1 hr*

AIM > Get familiarised with Way of Life discernment pathway and resources, shaping process to fit unique calling and context of the church.

>> *Way of Life downloadable PDF resources*

MONTH 1-2

## **2. NOTICING**

### QUIET DAY

*Clergy/Lay Lead | PCC / Leadership Team*

*4.5 hrs*

AIMS > Introduction to Way of Life;

> Noticing our current shared way of life;

> Naming potential Postures of our shared Way of Life;

> First introduction to potential Patterns and Practices to embody a shared Way of Life.

>> *Discernment Toolkit*

MONTH 2-6

## **3. EXPERIMENTING**

### COMMUNAL PRACTICES

*Clergy/Lay Lead | PCC / Leadership Team | Congregation*

AIMS > Familiarise church with shared Way of Life language;

> Experiment with communal Practices of shared Way of Life, 1 or 2 at a time, and embed these in what is already going on, e.g. meetings, services, small groups, seasonal offerings.

>> *Communal Practices Toolkit, to include seven practices to experiment with: Breath Prayer, Community Examen, Dwelling in the Word, Shared Silence, Dwelling in Creation, Listening Groups, Prayer Journeying*

### REVIEW

*Clergy/Lay Lead*

*1 hr*

AIMS > Review process so far and get feedback on experimental face. Adapt where needed.

MONTH 6-7

#### 4. CATCHING

##### FOLLOW UP SESSION

*Clergy/Lay Lead | PCC / Leadership Team*

*1.5-2 hrs*

AIMS > Refresher of shared Way of Life;

> Catching our shared Way of Life by using examples of other Ways to start Naming the Postures of our shared Way of Life;

> Agree commitment to one or two Patterns and Practices to start Embodying our shared Way of Life.

>> *Examples Pack, Communal Practices Toolkit*

MONTH 8-9

#### 5. NAMING

##### NAMING OUR SHARED WAY OF LIFE

*Clergy/Lay Lead | PCC / Leadership Team*

AIM > Create an initial summary of what the shared Way of Life will look like (2x A4).

>> *Way of Life Summary Worksheet, Postures Worksheet, Patterns Worksheet*

MONTH 9-11

#### 6. SHARING

##### SHARING TO WIDER CHURCH

*Clergy/Lay Lead | PCC / Leadership Team | Congregation*

*Sermon series / Community day / Small group sessions / Lent or Advent sessions*

AIMS > Involving wider congregation in process, introducing them to Way of Life movements and church's shared Way of Life including Postures, Patterns and Practices;

> Encourage individuals to think through what this might look like in their personal lives.

>> *Diocesan Lent offerings*

MONTH 11-12

#### 7. EMBODYING

##### EMBED PATTERNS & PRACTICES

*Clergy/Lay Lead | PCC / Leadership Team | Congregation*

AIMS: > Embed patterns and practices (initially committing to at least one 'Stay with God' communal practice and one 'Share the Journey' communal practice);

> Explore what commitment to this might look like and mean, including processes for accountability and how the full congregation will be included/invited into all practices.

>> *Communal Practices Toolkit*

MONTH 13+

## 8. COMMITTING

### SERVICE OF COMMITMENT

*Clergy/Lay Lead | PCC / Leadership Team | Congregation*

AIMS > Inviting people across the congregation to commit to shared Way of Life, initially for a specific amount of time (e.g. 6 or 12 months). Potentially led by Bishop during confirmation service.

>> *Way of Life Example Liturgy*

MONTH 18-24

## 9. REVIEW

### FOLLOW UP SESSION

*Clergy/Lay Lead | PCC / Leadership Team*

*1.5-2 hrs*

AIMS > Review commitment to shared Way of Life regularly, but also specifically after 6-12 months, including thinking through the cycle of joining, renewing, and laying down of commitment.

>> *Community Examen*