



The Church of Scotland

Migrant and Multi-cultural Church in Scotland Mission Forum Report 2018

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Introduction

The 2016 General Assembly instructed the Mission and Discipleship Council, in collaboration with the World Mission Council and the Ecumenical Relations Committee, “to reflect on the evolving church situation in contemporary Scotland, by undertaking a study of ‘immigrant’ churches in Scotland and developing initiatives to strengthen relations for mutual learning, partnership and closer working with the Church of Scotland, and present an interim report to the General Assembly in 2018.”

As reported at last year’s General Assembly, the Mission Forum has been developing work in response to this deliverance, including hearing from migrant Christians and ministers working in parishes that have a significant migrant population.

In the summer of 2017 the Mission Forum conducted a survey of parish ministers and other local office-holders, which received 227 responses. The Forum is grateful to all those who engaged with the process and this high number of experiences has been useful in drawing up some conclusions. A compilation of responses is included as an appendix to this report.

In the Forum’s discussions it quickly became clear that the label of an ‘immigrant’ church is problematic. For example, does it mean:

- A church congregation which includes foreigners as well as UK citizens?
- A congregation which is entirely composed of migrants?
- A congregation which is part of a mission project of a denomination from overseas?
- A congregation which primarily serves a single cultural or linguistic group?
- A congregation which is led by a migrant?

There are some churches in the UK which might have been considered ‘immigrant’ when they were first established, but which may have had a presence here for many years or even decades, and where their membership and leadership include many British citizens.

The Forum agreed to interpret as broadly as possible the Assembly’s instruction to look at how best the Church of Scotland can respond to mission in the light of a society which is becoming increasingly multi-cultural and where the contributions made by migrants to faith and life in Scotland are increasingly important. It is for this reason that the Forum has chosen to talk about ‘migrant and multi-cultural church’ rather than ‘immigrant church’ when describing Christian communities that worship and witness in Scotland which either brings together people from different nationalities, cultures, races or languages or which are primarily composed of or serve people who are not Scottish/British, in a language other than English, Gaelic or British Sign Language, or some other cultural association.

Survey – Summary of Results

We found that:

- Around one third of respondents were aware of groups within the context of their locus of ministry of people born outside of the UK sharing in Christian worship or fellowship. 40 different nations from 5 continents were mentioned.
- A quarter of respondents said that they currently have a formal or informal connection to one or more of these groups in their area. 15% of respondents said that their premises were used by or shared with one or more of the groups in their area.
- More than half of respondents had people born outside the UK who were regular members of their own worshipping community.
- Around a quarter of respondents reported that office-bearers of their worshipping community were born outside the UK.
- Most people (80%) said they thought that their worshipping community had fewer people who were born outside the UK as members, compared to the wider population. 16% said they had about the same and 4% of respondents said their congregation had more people born outside the UK as members than the wider population.
- Around a quarter of respondents said that their congregation offer practical support or services aimed specifically at people born outside of the UK (including asylum seekers, refugees and migrants).
- We found that few respondents (less than one in ten) observed Racial Justice Sunday in their congregation, but that nearly two thirds did observe the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Behind these statistics are people; people who demonstrate that the nature of many of our churches and communities is changing and how we are being immeasurably challenged and enriched by that experience. There are the growing number of Church of Scotland ministers who have come from other parts of the world to serve here. There is the network of Minority Ethnic Churches Together in Scotland (MECTIS). There is the growing number of churches with share their premises with

congregations that have their roots in other parts of the Christian family, including Pentecostal and Orthodox, and many other parts of the world such as Russia, China, Zimbabwe and Iran. There are congregations where the worshipping community is increasingly diverse and others which struggle to relate to their changing environment. And then, of course, there are Church of Scotland congregations that are part of the International Presbytery where they continue to live out their faith as part of a minority culture, often attracting people from many parts of the world with their combination of English as a shared language and the Reformed tradition.

Case Studies

Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (Lutheran) in Scotland

Some facts about the Ethiopian Community in Glasgow: An estimated 2,000 Ethiopians live in Glasgow, which are from different religious backgrounds. The majority of those gather in different worshipping places according to their religious background and tradition, be it Ethiopian Orthodox Church or Protestants of various denominations. The members of Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (Lutheran) in Scotland meet every Sunday from 3-5pm at St George's Tron Church of Scotland, Nelson Mandela Place in the City Centre of Glasgow. (We would like to express our gratitude to the members of the Tron's Church for warmly welcoming us and letting us use a room to worship). The worshippers come from Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Although almost all of the worshippers go to local, mainly Church of Scotland, congregations on Sunday mornings, this Ethiopian Lutheran congregation is very important as it is the place where they could fully express themselves in their own language to worship God freely. It is also an important place for keeping the social connection among the Ethiopian community, where those who have been longer would welcome the new arrivals into the new country and introduce to the culture, guide and comfort in times of difficulty experienced in their life journeys. It also gives the opportunity for children who were born and brought up in Scotland to see a glimpse of their parent's culture, languages and Church tradition which is highly valued by all the worshippers.

The Church's mission is not purely to serve those people who are Ethiopians and Eritreans, but also to encourage each other to actively share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the community they live in here in Scotland and, hopefully, to work together with local churches to bring about positive impact in every possible way. Worshippers are encouraged to become responsible and active members in their new communities.

The Rev Daniel Manastireanu

Minister of Glasgow St Paul's Church of Scotland, Provanhill

As a Romanian, the Church of Scotland was completely unknown to me, until I visited Iona in 2001 and met John Bell. A few weeks later I met another Kirk minister in a London conference and we became friends. He and his wife visited me and my wife in Romania, and that's when the question of being called to foreign mission was asked. A few years later, and after a long process, I was ordained in my first charge in Bishopton.

The fact that I was Romanian was never a real issue, either in my training or during my ministry in Bishopton or in my current charge in Glasgow St Paul's. People were welcoming, warm and curious about how I grew up as a Christian during communism: a favourite theme for Guild talks. While being from another culture gave me a unique insight into Scottish culture from a different perspective, it also meant that sometimes people felt I needed help to understand "how things work around here." I was reminded once or twice that I'm a foreigner: once in my first charge by an elderly gentleman, and once in my current charge, being told that "Scots don't trust foreigners" and they need to get to know me first before they can trust me. I could have taken offence at that, I guess, but I actually thought that is true of anyone, native or not.

All in all, I felt welcome in Scotland, and Glasgow is very much my city now, more than any other place in the world. Irrespective of my ministry role, I feel at home in Scotland, which is why spending nearly £5000 to apply for citizenship for me and my family is something we simply have to do. Scotland is our homeland now: paperwork to follow.

The Rev Aaron Stevens

St Columba's, Budapest

Founded as the Scottish Mission in 1841, today St. Columba's is a multicultural congregation made up of international students, employees of multinational corporations, refugees, diplomats, and people on short-term volunteer assignments, as well as Hungarians who have international spouses or who wish to worship in English.

At first glance it would seem that what draws people to us is worship in a language that they can understand. More than language, though we have received from previous generations a heritage of open-ness. There is a natural development in a Mission that sheltered Jews in the past finding itself reaching out to refugees today.

We enjoy the multicultural richness of CH4, with its tunes from other countries and songs in other languages. Often our baptisms will be conducted in Hungarian and English in order to accommodate the Hungarian grandparents of children born in international households. For adult baptisms and public professions of faith, we encourage the candidate to state the Apostles' Creed in his or her first language. When an Iranian refugee proclaims in Farsi what we all believe, it means more to her while teaching the rest of us about the greatness of God. The United Bible Societies are a great resource for Bibles in other languages. In addition to English, occasionally we have someone read the scripture in a language spoken only by a few in the congregation.

These practices express our Reformed heritage, recognizing that today for people to worship or read scripture in their own language will necessitate an open-ness to using more than English in congregation's life of faith.

What we have learned is that a hospitality can be contagious, and that regardless of original language or culture, those who are welcomed enthusiastically will by that same Spirit welcome others, a ministry truly shared by all.

Conclusions

More than half of the congregations that responded include people born outside the UK; while we may officially still be the Church of Scotland we are also a migrant and multi-cultural Church *in* Scotland. Whilst this has, to some extent, always been the case, the global flows of peoples means that it much more pronounced today and likely to increase further in coming years. It is difficult to underestimate the significance of these changes, particularly at a time when there is an increasing rise of xenophobia and racism. Within this context the Church is called to: celebrate diversity of church life in Scotland; affirm that we find our identity primarily in Jesus Christ and that our own nationality, culture, race and language should be no barrier to the fellowship we seek in order that we might fulfil Christ's wish that we may all be one, so that the world might believe (John 17). The Church, from that first day in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit came upon the crowds who had gathered in the city from across the then known world, has always been racially, culturally and socially diverse (Acts 2). We must find ways of nurturing that diversity today and to celebrating and supporting those who already are.

The survey also highlighted the need for action nationally, considering whether there are better ways of managing the expectations on congregations to celebrate the apparently ever-growing

number of special Sundays and the ways in which our current ecumenical structures can more effectively reflect the increasing diversity of Scotland's Christian communities.

Recommendations

Among Church of Scotland congregations we found an openness and interest in trying new things, but we know that local contexts and issues can vary. The survey results produced a large number of suggestions, ideas or examples of good work that is currently taking place. **There is an opportunity for the national Councils of the Church to share these and develop resources or programmes that might assist congregations wishing to find out more.**

Questions about marking Racial Justice Sunday produced a lot of responses saying people did not know about it, or that they do not use resources as there are 'too many' special Sundays. A lot of effort goes into making resources (from CTBI), but if there is very little take up, there is a question about whether this is a good use of time. **There has been a suggestion that it may be worth looking at every special day, week and month in the life of the Church of Scotland and start to plan better for what issues, causes or ideas are promoted,** and to offer these as options alongside the Weekly Worship side of the website.

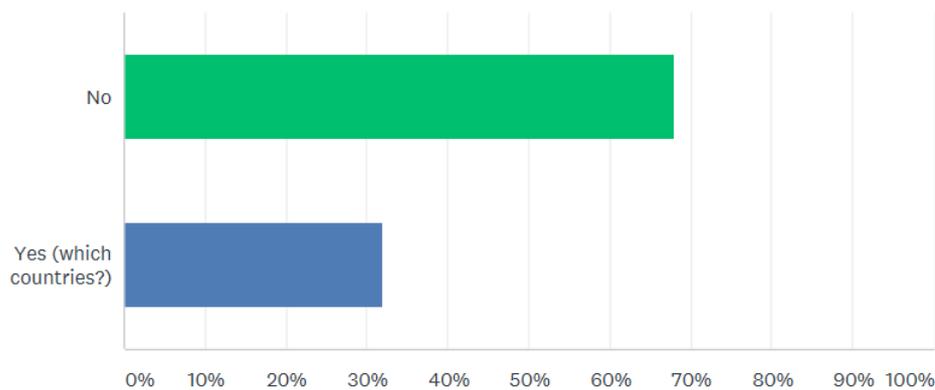
In order to help build and maintain good relationships with all Christians and churches in Scotland, there is a role for the Church of Scotland as well as other Churches and ACTS to build bridges at the level of institutions nationally and between groups and individuals locally; a **particular emphasis could be given to establishing ties between the ACTS member Churches and churches which have a migrant or multi-cultural tradition.**

Appendix - Migrant Church / Migrant Christian Survey (summer 2017) Results

Q1

Within the context of your locus of ministry, are you aware of any group or groups of people born outside of the UK sharing in Christian worship or fellowship? For example, groups of Christians from the same country meeting regularly or meeting to worship in the same language. This might be within the life of the Church of Scotland, or known to you happening somewhere else or through another Church.

Answered: 225 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
No	68.00% 153
Yes (which countries?)	32.00% 72
TOTAL	225

Nigeria

We have a 'pan African' pentecostal church who meet in our premises Africa (sorry not more specific), some EU Countries.

Romania, Egypt

Koreans : Germans : Greek Orthodox

Ethiopia

Korea & Canada

Nigeria, Malawi, Kenya abd Ghana

Russia, Iran, Nigeria

Nigeria, China

Korea and Germany

I am aware of a number of

Ethnic based churches in Edinburgh.

Poland

Ethiopia, Africa and Norway

Germany, Sweden, Norway, but not at my church

Group of Polish people worship at the local RC church

China (many may now be 2nd and later generations)

Ghana and Nigeria

Nigeria

Filipino; Polish

Philippines, Russia, Sudan

A romanian Orthodox

church, an Evangelical Nigerian church, an Eritrean Orthodox Church

Romania

Pakistan, Eritrea, Russia

Kenya

Europe

Various

Syria

Nigeria. Poland

Poland, China

Poland

Syria and Nigeria

Don't know. Mostly african I believe.

Romanian

Nigeria. Also, more generally, Africans.

mixed (not my own church;
churches I know of)

Zimbabwe, Philipines

Africans, Columbian,
Russian

Poland; Germany; France -
Europeans are members of
the worshipping
community; India

Nigeria, Korea, China

Pakistan, South Africa,
Korea, Tamil, Eritrea,

NIGERIANS AND GHANAINS

Syrian

Lithuania; Poland;

Romania; Bulgaria; Latvia

Fiji

Mauritius

Various nations from
Africa.

Mixed African

India, Slovakia

Romania - meeting in a
local baptist church

Zimbabwe, Nigeria, China

Pakistan

Zimbabwe, Brazil, Portugal

Africa - but not sure which
countries, Romania

Polish RC mass every

Sunday at St Mirin

Cathedral, Paisley

Romanian orthodox and
polish catholic

China, Korea, Nigeria, Iran

Nigeria, Ghana, Pakistan,

Eritrea

Poland, Philippines,

Hungary

Nigeria; Poland; Germany

There are Polish and
Philippino families and
individuals worshipping
with the Catholic church

locally but in English.

Slovakia, Romania,
Hungary, South Africa,
Zimbabwe

Yes, I as the Church of
Scotland minister of two
parishes, an German.

Africa and Pakistan

Poland, Portugal

Quite a few African based,
Serbian, Greek and Polish
India, N Africa

Nigeria

Nigeria

Democratic Republic of
Congo

Ethiopia; Iran; African
churches

Kenya, Korea, Ghana,
China, Nigeria, Zambia,
China,

Q2

How might the Church of Scotland increase awareness and support such or groups of people born outside of the UK sharing in Christian worship or fellowship?

Answered: 118

Skipped: 109

make space available, occasional joint worship, space in church magazine

Not sure - but open to ideas.

continuing warm and friendly fellowship and christlike care

give space in buildings for worship, have churches open all day every day (CofS insurance ?!),

maintain contact and assure them we think of them and pray for them

Go and talk to them !

In our village context I believe we would be aware of a sizeable group via word of mouth but this does not mean there could not be a small cell of people meeting together. We could use our magazine to seek contact. The church centrally or at presbytery level is best place to seek contact via local authority or government liaison.

being known as a loving group in their community - use of social media

Persuade local councils to pass on information about the Church

Presbyteries might make contact with such groups through dialogue with local City Councils

Providing a venue for meetings. Offer support and encouragement.

Get in touch and invite them to meet with us or share in worship: swap services

Get to know them and their needs and let them meet in our buildings.

Sharing buildings

By being flexible in their own worship, providing a genuine welcome, having opportunities for people to meet and eat together. Eating is particularly important to many other cultures.

Big Idea: Open up channels for these congregations to become a part of or associated with the CofS so as to extend help with resourcing and blessing them. Other than English and Gaelic it would be good to have a better language spread. Simple Idea: get a list of such fellowships in order to signpost people

Offering space to meet in churches or halls, sharing some activities, fellowship

I think we should be offering our buildings to such groups and offering them any appropriate support they need and want.

Find the closest such church and have the local churches make contact with them; plan a visit to their congregation and listen to their stories. Then talk about how to strengthen ties between the two congregations.

welcome

Identifying which immigrant groups present - eg through house groups

I think this has to be a long term committed support. We share Remembrance Sunday with the German Speaking congregation in our city and have done so since the 1970's. Such commitment from Kirk Session over generations becomes part of congregational DNA.

Provide space/rooms within their buildings to support gatherings.

C of S Website, Presbytery newsletters

Visit and give welcome.

Facebook, language teachers, local press, local authorities and colleges

offer our buildings as a place of worship for them and build relationships through friendship and hospitality

Joining with them in worship sometimes

Learning about each others' fellowship, taking away boundaries or ignorance

By inviting them to events mutually organised to learn about each other and to see how each

group can support each other. The church can undertake research into this as they are doing now.

Building bridges and sharing worship may be a start

We hosted the Filipino church for a time; the RCs have a dedicated Polish priest.

NEWSLETTER

offer worship opportunities in addition to Sunday people work anti-social shifts and irregular shift patterns

Making church buildings available to churches for services or special occasions, where possible sharing fellowship together. Often worship is celebrated in the language of origin making it not suitable for everyone but certain special occasions can be shared providing translation. Often translation is required not just for language but for customs and traditions as well so that respect for everyone is achieved.

Featuring them in our promotions

use of premises

Invite them to join us in worship on occasions

We saw a church for deaf people who uses sign language and at the present we have nobody from the ethnic minority group attending.

support work for refugees in the area

By working with refugee/migrant support groups.

Be open and welcoming and make an effort to understand and appreciate different cultures and customs and make space for such within church life

positive reaching out/welcome/invitations to shared initiatives

Include readings in other languages and welcome diversity into the C of S

respect their culture and their form of worship

information sharing

Local and National Co-ordinated publicity under advice to Parish Ministers

Information sharing

Ask them perhaps, if they are willing, to tell their stories to congregations

By befriending them and treating them as family

Website / Facebook

Be open and welcoming. Realise that we can learn from such groups.

Why do we think this is our responsibility?

Invitation

Make contact. Offer friendship and hospitality.

Notices in local newspapers and public libraries/shops where agreement is obtained.

no comment

We have some local East European farm workers within the parish, It is possible that some of them attend RC services in Stonehaven or elsewhere but we do not see them with the CoS

Identify them first

Advertise on Church website.

invite them to join with the local church

On websites or social media and via GP surgeries & councils

Developing worship at times/days appropriate to their needs. Many foreign people work in hospitality and therefore cannot worship on Sunday.

Arrange for a pro-forma to be completed at local church level where immigrants attend a local church

Their churches are doing considerably better than ours. Perhaps it should be us looking to them for support.

Special features in media outlets

Advertise

We rent out our buildings to three foreign groups and another Scottish group.

Don't know.

being open and innovative

Invite to participate in local church networks

Social Media

Database of groups using CofS premises

Open and welcoming - work to connect with the difference groups

We are aware of groups through our contact with other churches who have such groups, or with missionary organisations

By creating partnerships with them in order to find out their worship dynamics and motives for existing in the United Kingdom

Not sure

Introductions

Every effort should be made to build strong relational bonds between the Cof S and incoming churches in terms of joint understanding, worship opportunities and social events, while offering a sharing of resources.

Offer practical facilities and opportunities for fellowship

The Fijian community worship in the Station Church as they are soldiers in the British Army. advertise

offer premises

love and caring for them in practical ways

Offer them our unused buildings.

Don't know

by providing accommodation for worship services

explain our culture and language

Carer and Toddler groups are often first port of call

this might be via parish ministers who you would hope knew what was happening in their parish - indeed on occasions there are congregations of people born outside of the UK using Church of Scotland premises.

don't know

presbytery may have a committee/ group -world mission/ecumenical relations?- that may have data base/contacts with such gatherings

Through parish ministers working with local councils and charity groups

Use of building and inviting each other for cultural evenings and events. Ecumenical services

Draw up some protocols regarding the use of church buildings

not sure

By working ecumenically on a local level

create some kind of directory, hold a conference to explore best practice in sharing buildings and worship

I don't know

providing space for worship, talk about migrants who are Christian so as to avoid stereotyping

Start by finding out if such help is wanted

By sharing church premises where it is feasible to do so; by including such congregations in Ecumenical activities.

I think Catholics are doing a good job. Don't think there is more we could do here.

Providing physical spaces, building relationships, partnership, exchange

By inviting them to become part of the congregation, being open to their ideas and traditions too, or - where a gathering of Christians from one region is sought - offering to share the church space, and offer fellowship.

We have helped them in fundraising advice

By connecting with them

It might be wise as a church to offer workshops under the heading of 'Understanding World Religions' and adapting this to the local setting. It may also be fruitful to invite key-note speakers

on this subject to address Presbyteries.

Sharing premises when required and possible.

Encourage friendship

ecumenical gatherings

By offering them space in buildings, welcome them to services, focus on unity in diversity, arrange for meals together, learn their songs

Join with them in community projects, worship together occasionally

Library, volunteer office, external church notice boards, social services, health board, police community staff.

Contact, support, invitation, language hel[

Prayer and use of social and mainstream media to share their plight

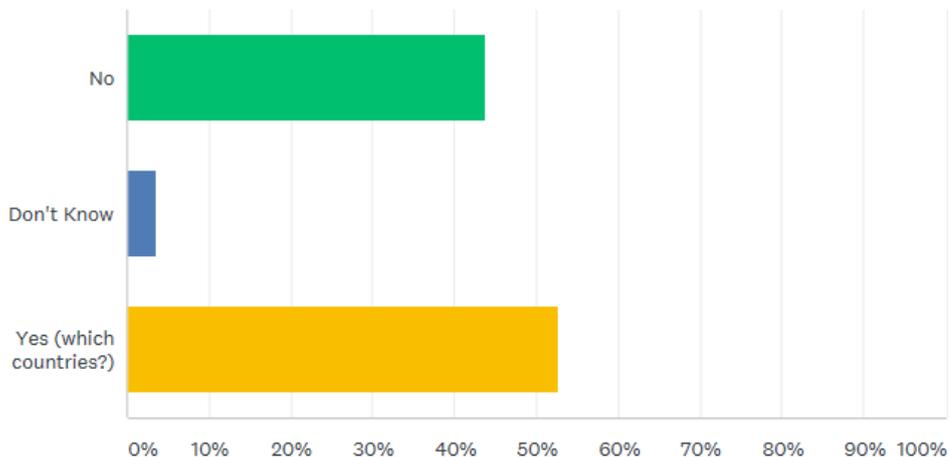
It could network more with these fellowships where possible and raise awareness of them; we can create opportunities to worship together

Local congregations sharing a building, or who have groups in their parish should be more welcoming. Joint events, fellowship etc. With people from Presbyterian Churches overseas look for opportunity to invite folks to be part of congregation (you may still want to offer space for local language services as well)

Q3

Are there any people born outside of the UK who are a regular part of your worshipping community?

Answered: 226 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	43.81%	99
Don't Know	3.54%	8
Yes (which countries?)	Responses 52.65%	119
TOTAL		226

Japan, USA, Canada, Germany, Mexico, Slovakia, France, Pakistan, Iran, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, China

Africa, Italy.

Poland

Germany, USA

Ireland Canada South

Africa Nigeria

Africa, South America, EU

One person from

Mauritius.

India

Nigeria and Malawi

India

Ghana, Sierra Leone,

Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad,

DR Congo, Malawi, Russia,

Sri Lanka, South Sudan

China, Poland

Indonesia, Canada, America, India, South Korea

Netherlands, United States

China Germany

Finland, Ghana, Pakistan,

Zambia, China

USA

Nigeria, Ghana

Southern Ireland

Germany

Poland

USA

Germany, USA

Indian, Iranian and Czech

China, Sri Lanka, Jamaica,

Eire, France

South Africa

one person from the

Philippines

India

Germany

we have occasionally had an east European appearing at Sunday morning worship. They have been warmly welcomed by the congregation and myself. Inevitably however they have been RC and have found their way to the local RC church

Ethiopia, India

Germany and Canada

Nigeria, Ghana

Nigeria, India, Pakistan, china

Various Caribbean countries; the Seychelles

Philippines
 Congo, Nigeria
 Zimbabwe, South Africa
 (both white)
 Nigeria, Pakistan
 Holland
 Germany
 Hungary
 South Africa, Belgium
 Belgium
 Europe
 Czech Republic
 Denmark, USA
 One German person
 Nigeria
 Zambia. Zimbabwe.
 Canada.
 India
 Italy, Canada, Africa
 We had a Chinese Christian man who came to church several times bringing his Chinese Bible with him. We have a Chinese speaker in our congregation which was wonderful but the man understood little English and did not really speak it. We also have an African lady who regularly attends with a lot of support from one of our members.
 Puerto Rico, South Africa, Netherlands
 India West Africa
 Sweden, Netherlands
 Sweden, Zimbabwe, Pakistan
 France
 Ghana, South Africa, and several co-workers in a local Camphill Community from all over the world.
 Various
 Germany, Hong Kong
 Poland India
 Carsphairn - 1 Swiss, 1 German, 1 Australian; Dalry - 1 Finnish
 Columbia

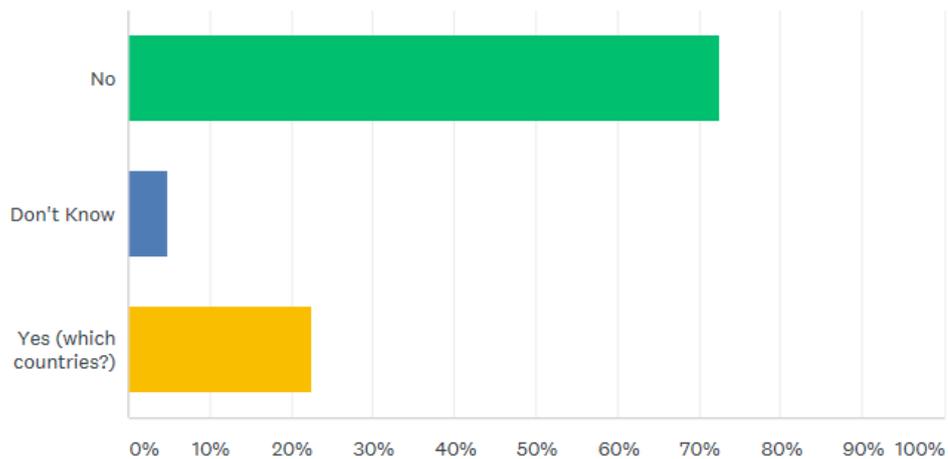
Greece, South Africa
 South Africa
 USA,
 Peru, China, Poland, Germany, South Africa, [Caribbean nation], Previously: US, Iran, Colombia
 Various African, Pakistan, Uropean backgrounds
 Nigeria, China
 Mexico, Guatemala, Nigeria, China
 Cameroonians
 Germany
 Africa, United States
 Canada, Nigeria, New Zealand, Kenya, India.
 Fiji
 Rumania, and French/african
 africa
 philipinnes
 Mauritius
 Ghana, Nigeria, Malawi, Kenya, Cameroon, Pakistan, Iran & India
 Ghana S Africa Zambia
 Germany
 Finland
 Uganda, Nigeria, Estonia, Columbia, India, Siera Leon
 India
 South Africa
 Nigeria, Ghana, Romania, Pakistan
 Zimbabwe, Brazil, Portugal
 India (1); Nigeria (1)
 Lithuania, Burundian, Ugandans, Croatian,
 Spain, Jamaica, Kenya, Iran, China, Holland
 Poland, Latvia, Azubaijan, Canada,
 USA, Ghana, Greece
 Kenya
 USA
 Small but increasing number of nationals from African Countries

sporadically worshipping with us.
 Germany
 Nigeria
 Canada
 Cameroon; Malawi
 Poland (myself!), France (a girl who comes to our Sunday Club)
 Iran, France, Germany, Ghana, New Zealand, Pakistan, Switzerland, United States, Zimbabwe
 The minister is German, and, despite being in a very rural area, we have church members from the Netherlands, France, Zimbabwe and South Africa.
 Pakistan
 Thailand
 Serbian
 India
 Spain and Poland
 Netherlands, Kenya
 Poland, Korea,
 The odd one or two e.g. a lady from Brazil who is married to a Scottish man.
 Italy, Brazil, China, Hong Kong, Netherlands
 Indonesia, South Africa, Republic of Ireland, Armenia.
 Australia, South Africa
 South Africa, Slovakia, Bulgaria
 Drc Biafra/Nigeria
 Iran, Syria, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Burundi, Congo, Ghana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Pakistan, India, Cameroon and probably some more I've forgotten!
 Sri Lanka

Q4

Are there office bearers of your worshipping community who were born outside of the UK?

Answered: 226 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	72.57%	164
Don't Know	4.87%	11
Yes (which countries?)	Responses 22.57%	51
TOTAL		226

Germany, Nigeria, Japan
 USA, Germany
 Nigeria
 South Sudan, Russia, Sierra Leone
 China - currently back in China for work, so not active on KS, but still on our roll
 Netherlands
 Southern Ireland
 Germany
 Sudan
 Australia
 Sri Lanka, Eire
 South Africa
 Elder, OLM - I come from Ghana myself.
 The Seychelles
 Zimbabwe (as above)
 Treasurer
 Nigeria

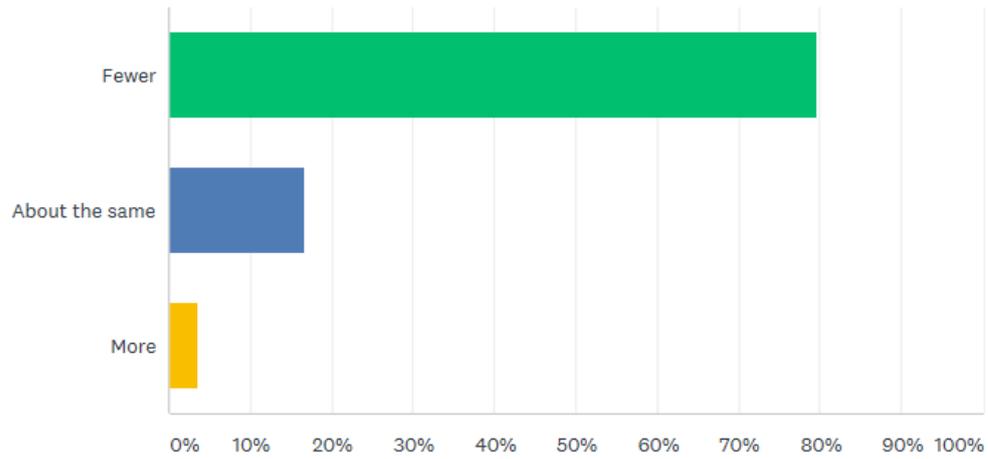
Germany
 Denmark
 Zambia. Zimbabwe.
 Germany, Iran, America
 Our Minister (albeit not an office bearer) is South African
 West Africa
 Minister was born in the USA
 Zimbabwe
 France
 Africa
 Germany
 Carsphairn elder - German born
 Middle East; Africa; Europe
 Nigeria, Mexico, Guatemala
 Cameroonian
 Kenya, India
 africa

south africa
 Pakistan
 Ghana
 Siera Leon
 Nigeria
 Burundian
 Holland
 Canada
 Fiji (but a longtime UK resident and citizen now)
 Canada
 Cameroon
 minister (Poland)
 Zimbabwe, United States
 Again, the minister is German.
 Poland
 Not applicable
 Nigeria x2, Pakistan, Ghana x2

Q5

In comparison to the wider population, would you consider your worshipping community to have: fewer, about the same, or more people who were born outside the UK.

Answered: 221 Skipped: 6

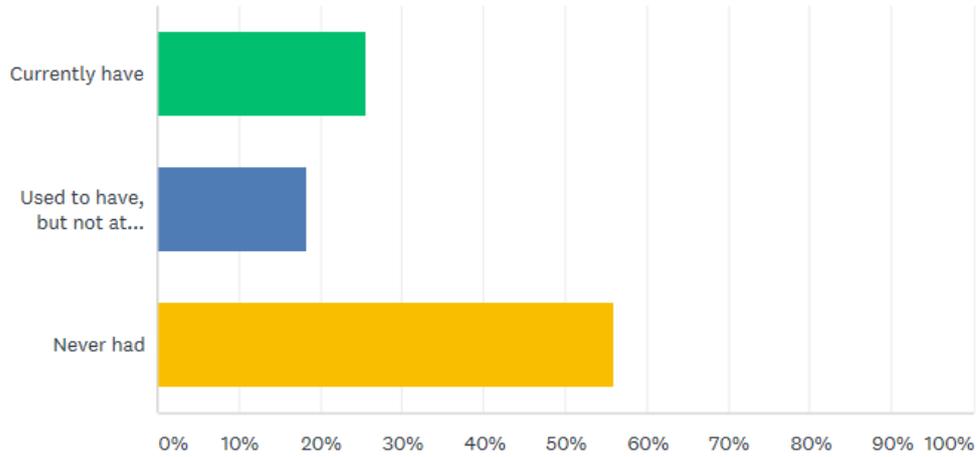


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fewer	79.64%	176
About the same	16.74%	37
More	3.62%	8
TOTAL		221

Q6

Do you or any people within your worshipping community, currently have, use to have but not at present, or have never had a formal or informal connection to any group or groups of people born outside of the UK sharing in Christian worship or fellowship.

Answered: 223 Skipped: 4

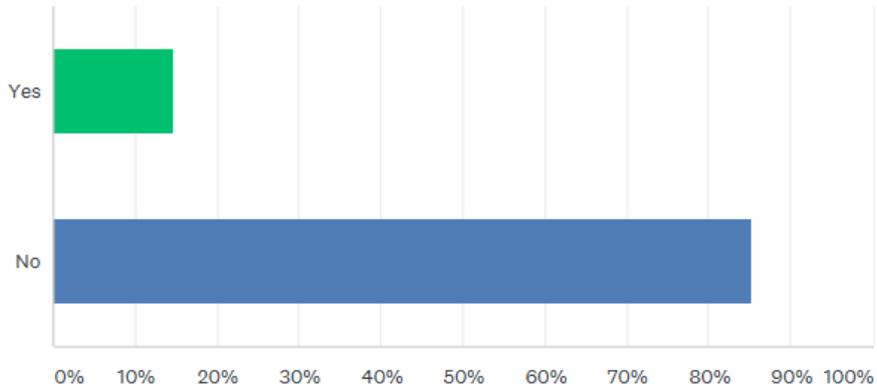


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Currently have	25.56%	57
Used to have, but not at present	18.39%	41
Never had	56.05%	125
TOTAL		223

Q7

Do a group or groups of people born outside of the UK sharing in Christian worship or fellowship use any of your church properties?

Answered: 224 Skipped: 3

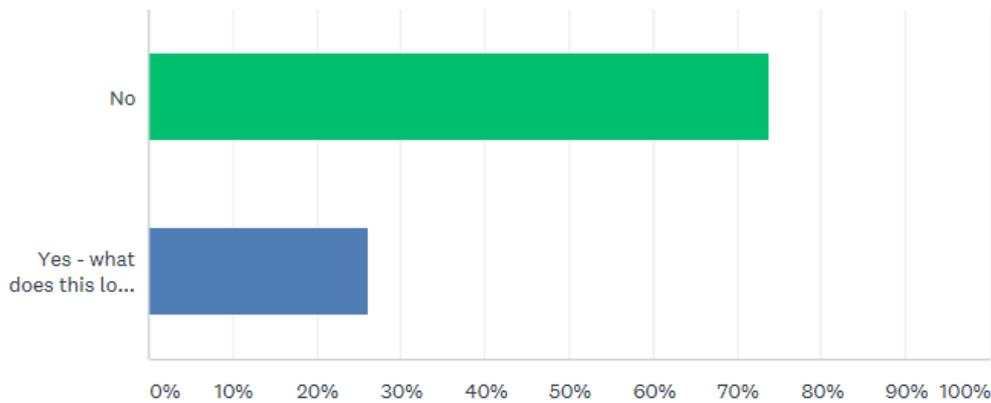


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	14.73%	33
No	85.27%	191
TOTAL		224

Q8

Does your worshipping community offer any practical support or services aimed specifically at people born outside of the UK (including asylum seekers, refugees and migrants)?

Answered: 226 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
No	73.89% 167
Yes - what does this look like? (i.e. Language, befriending, advice, ecumenical, interfaith, others)	Responses 26.11% 59
TOTAL	226

Comments

- befriending, campaigning, supporting, housing**
- Pollokshaws Community Project / Adult Literacy Network**
- unsure**
- Some practical/ financiL support for Muslim Syrian families.**
- practical help on arrival**
- We gather food for a local food bank. Support Glasgow City Mission in their outreach to those in need form outwit the UK.**
- Let Living Waters Church use our church halls.**
- Collection of clothes eat for refugees, donations to welcome packs (food etc) for refugees being settled in Midlothian**
- English language class, thrift shop and drop-in**
- English Language Course**
- Community cafe**
- We offer hospitality to those who travel through our parishes (usually they are heading to/from East Coast to West Coast)**
- Befriending and advice**
- Our church halls are used regularly by a group of Indian Hindus but for social purposes only**
- Occasional collection of clothing/goods for Moray Supports Refugees, mostly to go overseas, but they work with locally placed refugees**
- befriending**

In prison I have a ministry in this connection.

child minding during English Language lessons

We financially supported the befriending project of Fife Migrant forum. We had a display of children's art work created by children in refugee camps.

donations of clothing

Yes, one elder works in an asylum seeking support project

Twinned with St Rollox Glasgow. We supply Sunday teaching staff to multi-racial congregation.

Fund part time pastoral worker. Assist with running of second hand goods sale

Helped to families get flats, painted, decorated, and furnished them, all for free.

Support for Syrian Refugees rehoused within the Presbytery

We have offered practical assistance and goods to refugees via local support group

befriending

We are investigating a twinning opportunity with a church in Jordan.

We are part of a group of church reps that befriend refugees

We have a drop in cafe at a local community centre with input from Cyrinian's in regard to housing and benefits. So far it has only been UK residents who have been involved but we hope and expect once the word gets out this will change.

We are developing a relationship with a Filipino congregation and are exploring ways of supporting Syrian refugees in West Lothian

We are a part of Edinburgh Churches for Sanctuary, largely through the work of one volunteer

Involvement in local project to support Syrian Refugees, including help with language

Support work of The Well, Glasgow. Some of fellowship have had a direct involvement

Overseas Mission, Overseas Aid

We run peer education for Refugees

ESOL Classes

financial, housing, food, work

As regular attenders and members, they receive as much support as we can give spiritually and practically.

Two members attend local interfaith group

Helping with Asylum claims, financially from time to time

References for Job Applications, Ecumenical Services, Interfaith Work, Foodbank

But Rev Hugh Wallace has a ministry among Syrians..contact Presb office

a number of members work with a charity supporting refugees- gathering and passing on material help . My brother -in-law set up and runs BOAZ TRUST and is involved in national network of groups supporting and advocating on behalf of asylum seekers. We seek to highlight this ministry within the congregation

Support of food banks, support for Christian aid, individuals have provide accommodation for refugees (short term emergency)

Support for asylum applications

Anonymous support through local authority for incoming refugees

in partnership with Cranhill Development Trust: ESOL, New Scot Social and monthly community meal

food bank support

I am chair of a local group supporting work in our local area with resettled Syrian refugees and also collecting aid for overseas.

Language, befriending, sharing of meals, advice

A number of people from our congregations are involved in groups welcoming and helping refugees coming into our area (although outside of our parish).

We work with Syrian refugees, Taught by Mohammad, and folk who come to messy church

We regularly send donations of money to Christian Aid and other charities. We also send knitted goods to Malawi, we hope this brings comfort to all who receive them.

befriending

The Welcoming Choir for refugees and foreign students, and a Nigerian Pentecostal group meet in our church weekly

We have had collections for Asylum Seekers in the recent past.

Welcome cards for refugee children moving into area

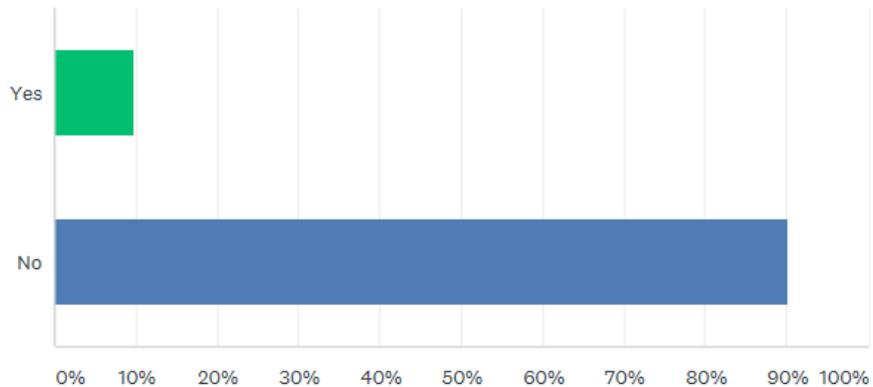
Befriending advice support

ESOL classes, Advice Worker, Sewing Class, Charity Shop, Prayer Group, Drop-In Cafe, Food Support and Desitiution support, Volunteering opportunities, Pastoral Support, Computer Class

Q9

Does your worshipping community observe Racial Justice Sunday?

Answered: 222 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	9.91%	22
No	90.09%	200
TOTAL		222

[Comments \(82\)](#)

Comments

but not every year

Cannot do everything. I plan to start this next year.

unsure

Don't know about it !

have done a few times

We have from time to time, by using the CTBI material.

Never heard of it, and not drawn by the title! And we don't tend to "observe" any of the made up weeks for this and that...

Hadn't hear of it...

Not aware of this day

Prayers and raising awareness

Can't do everything

We will, but not sure how it will look yet.

It forms the theme of the service

I didn't know there was one.

Sunday sermon, Sunday prayers

Never been told about this, I'm afraid

No. It is not a big topic here.

Hadn't heard of it

It's never quite been planned into our worship life

not necessarily - but we do on occasion

DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT IT

Interactive service with participation of many people including children
we have no ethnic minority groups attending here but they would be made more welcome to attend.

Not aware

too many Sundays for this that and the other

Use church resources and incorporate it in worship

need to know more

Never heard of it

No

mentioned in prayers

Lack of knowledge

No particular reason; there are so many themed Sundays!

Never heard of it.

No

Prayers and sometimes the sermon will mark the occasion

Lack of awareness - we should do it.

Prayers

Special Sundays are periodically marked - just happened that we have not done that one

Minister and Kirk Session have not prioritised this

Prayers, stories, awareness

Not aware of such a day

Did not know about it

Not aware of when it is.

purely an open welcome

We include the topic in our prayers.

Elderly people all white

Not heard of it.

no particular reason but I pray for it most weeks

worship with candle lighting litany and themed prayers

No particular reason, other than there are a lot of Special Sundays

in context of regular worship, or hosting special services

A focus of the main Sunday morning service

No particular reasons

No - hasn't done in the past and I've had other priorities

We rarely make use of special Sundays of this sort

No reason.

Never heard of it!

I have used the material for racial justice Sunday

did not know about it

Not aware of the date and if resources are available.

In prayers.

Unaware of it

But as Parish Asst, I might ask KS if we can...

Depends on parish minister and I'm not it.

For luck if information about it

Not specifically, but we would say the same for most of the 'specially designated Sundays'

Not widely known about

Every Sunday is a Sunday for something. In our parish 94% of the population is white British (although that might be a reason for observing Racial Justice Sunday).

We don't tend to observe many special Sundays

May mention in a prayer, but there are too many designated Sundays to observe them all.
never heard of it!

No reason for not observing apart from ignorance.

We mark it in the service, as we believe it's important to raise awareness, in the same way as we mark Christian Aid Week and Refugee Week.

I follow very few campaign Sundays

Has had a series of locums over long period

Multi-linkage with variety of preachers; so we stick to the lectionary to avoid confusion
the diversity of christians and the need to speak and act against prejudice is often mentioned

Not heard of it. Probably too many Sundays with different themes to fit this one in too!

Try to use some of the material available in the service

Hadn't heard of it

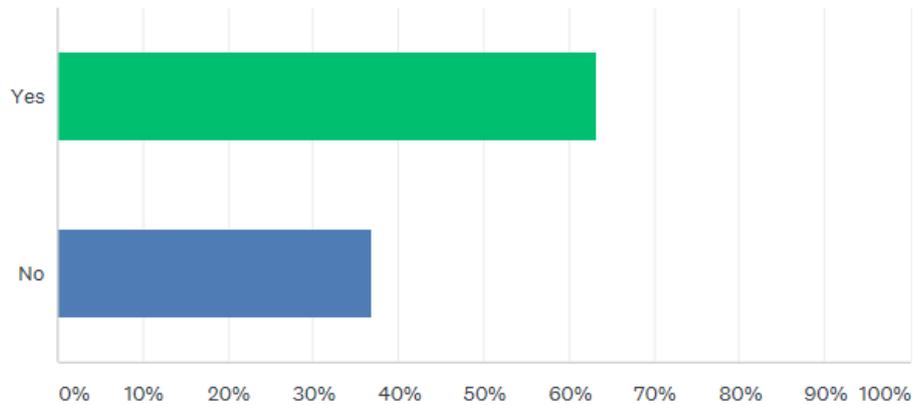
We can't support every "special" Sunday

If we observed every "special cause" on Sundays, we'd never get anything done and preaching
schedule would be constnatly changing... It's also not needed, as it's just a part of who we are
week by week

Q10

Does your worshipping community observe the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity?

Answered: 223 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	63.23%	141
No	36.77%	82
TOTAL		223

[Comments \(134\)](#)

Comments

- but not every year**
- We take part in this annually. Attendance patchy.**
- Pulpit swap on Sunday morning with 8 other local churches (5 CofS, 1 Episcopalian, 1 Catholic & 1 Evangelical) + Sunday evening event for everyone in one of the church buildings.**
- Ecumenical service**
- some years, not all**
- Special prayers , joint services**
- joint services every day during week plus involvement schools and sharing food**
- The local churches in my community observed other occasions for shared worship and prayer**
- We take part in an ecumenical prayer meeting**
- Using WPCU material in Sunday worship**
- Joint service of 13 local congregations**
- We don't tend to "observe" any of the made up weeks for this and that...**
- Not aware of this as yet**
- Ecumenical service led by Church members.**
- This was before I arrived, but we will be observing it next year.**
- Combined worship time with other local churches**
- Take part in the March prayer event and promote it in worship**
- We take part in a locally organised service**
- sermon links**
- Week of services with all denominations in our area**

We join with the local Roman Catholic Church for prayer and worship and a time of fellowship following the service.

Annual Service

We meet with two neighbouring congregations selecting a different building each year. We usually have communion and involve clergy and members in leading the service.

as above

Joint service with RC church

Various

The 3 denominations in the village (Ch of Sc; RC; Free Ch) each hold a service in the week to which the others are invited

Special Sunday Service + a town Ecumenical Service

ecumenical worship

Prayer for all Christian denominations in area - prayer for the church overseas is included on a weekly basis in our intercessory prayers, especially those suffering because of their faith

Special mention in church the first Sunday and an extra prayer meeting

All churches within Strathaven area meet

Varying amounts of prayer/themed materials used in Sunday or midweek worship

united service in the town, daily reflections throughout the week

this is less strong than it once was, with other churches

lunch and short service

A group of lay people organise the week, in the last few years it has been reduced to one service taken in turn among several churches (Cofs and Roman Catholics,

it is mentioned in the prayer for the week preceding the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Week

Prayers for ecumenical friends, occasional joint service

local pulpit exchange

The Fellowship of Kilmarnock Churches organises an ecumenical service.

Ecumenical services

in the past pulpit exchange

varied, in connection with other congregations

Joint Ecumenical Service

We had a Sunday evening service in the RC church and i and another Cof S minister prepared and led this service with the Priest.

In partnership of churches in the area

Building share with Scottish Episcopalians. Midweek joint sacrament with global invitation to local denominations

Joint services and meal

mentioned in prayers

Joint service

Joint observation with other churches

Prayers on the Sunday.

Shared involvement with other churches in Peebles

Covered in our weekly prayer meeting

Shared with local churches, we present the suggested service.

No

Shared worship, extra services, pulpit exchanges.

Special services with local churches

It's not our usual custom to observe it.

Join service at link church

Prayers and sometimes the sermon will mark the occasion

Lack of awareness - we should do it.

We do observe the World Day of Prayer
Exchange services with URC and Methodist Church
Highlighted in the service
local churches worship together
Prayers, stories awareness
Attending services in the wider community
Individual private worship
focus on prayer within small groups with sometimes a sermon on the topic.
Happens within the diet of Sunday Worship
Working with local partnership of churches and sharing services, prayer and events
We support local gatherings which use the liturgical resources offered.
Themed services, encouragement to attend Mass, and other traditions.
It advertises a service in the city and a few church members attend
Don't know
All the South East Edinburgh Churches are involved in a joint service
Maybe passing mention in prayer
prayers, sermon pertinent to topic. There are no other denominations here so I can't be ecumenical.
Ecumenical service
Joint service with other denominations
ecumenical service of worship
Newington Churches Together Service & Prayers of Intercession
as above and also ecumenical service/event
An ecumenical service in one of the local Churches
United ecumenical special service
A joint ecumenical service with churches in the area
N/A
No particular reasons
Have thought about it but not done it since I came here and was not done before
No reason.
We do World Day of Prayer
Highlighted during sermon and prayers
They are no other denominations within the parish, so simple by prayer.
little interest
did not know about it
pulpit exchange
We meet with other congregations in our community.
We join with other local congregations
Joint service with local Church of Scotland, Baptist, Salvation Army and Roman Catholic congregations.
It is ecumenical in nature.
Local clergy used to swap pulpits, but vacancies and changes have seen this stop. Now the week is referred to in prayers.
usually a Guild Cttee do it
See answer above - but where I have been deployed and the deployment has included WOPCU, I have observed it
pray regularly for neighbouring congregations ; share in services at holy week , christmas
Pulpit swap among local churches of all Christian denominations; joint evening service
We host it and other Neighbouring churches would come along
Yes, together with the other churches in our local ecumenical grouping
Not well publicised

There has been no tradition of observing this week.. Indeed when I arrived there was no tradition of observing Good Friday, we've addressed that. We do observe World Day of Prayer. So we evolve and grow.

Ecumenical Service

Ecumenical services

Joint church service or event most years

shared worship with RC church, shared prayers

Share in daily worship as outlined in the prepared materials.

Pulpit exchanges with other local churches

We have a pew swap with a church locally, a different one every year.

Locally focussed

No reason for not observing apart from ignorance.

We mark it in the service, as we believe it's important to be aware of it.

Yes prayers for this week are observed and a worship service is shared in with others who belong to a local ecumenical group in the area.

Used to - so many changes recently.

A lay led Service

Ecumenical service of worship

As above

shared services with RC church locally

we make this the focus of one service and have regular contacts with other denominations through the year

It may be mentioned at our Prayer Meeting, but otherwise not something we do.

We work with our Ecumenical partners in the area and hold joint services to mark the beginning and the end of the week

It tends to be promoted too late for it to be practically implemented

Mainly in Sunday worship

We do sometimes

Use the worship materials occasionally

Q11**What is your role (e.g. parish minister, office bearer, ecumenical contact)**

Role	Number of responses
Auxiliary Minister	4
Church & Community Development Worker	1
Church and Society contact	1
Deacon	4
Elder	17
Family Worker	1
Interim Moderator	1
Locum	4
Ministries Development Staff	1
Office Bearer (other)	19
Parish Assistant	1
Parish Minister	135
Presbytery Elder	1
retired minister	1
Safeguarding Officer	1
Session Clerk	21
Treasurer	1

Q12**What is your Presbytery?**

Presbytery	Number of responses
Aberdeen	6
Abernethy	2
Angus	5
Annandale & Eskdale	6
Ardrossan	5
Argyll	11
Ayr	2
Buchan	1
Caithness	1
Dumbarton	7
Dumfries & Kirkcudbright	3
Dundee	7
Dunfermline	4
Dunked & Meigle	2
Duns	2
Edinburgh	18
England	1
Falkirk	3
Glasgow	33
Gordon	4
Greenock & Paisley	7
Hamilton	13
Inverness	4
Irvine & Kilmarnock	8
Jedburgh	2
Kincardine and Deeside	3
Kirkcaldy	77
Lanark	2
Lochaber	3
Lochcarron Skye	2
Lothian	6
Melrose and Peebles	4
Moray	4
Orkney	1
Paisley and Greenock	1
Perth	5
Ross	3
Shetland	3
St Andrews	5
Stirling	7
Sutherland	3
West Lothian	3
Wigtown & Stranraer	1
Lewis	0
Uist	0
Jerusalem	0
International Presbytery	0