

FRESH EXPRESSIONS IN 21 DIOCESES

- Their average size is 50 people
- Teams which plant are mainly 3-12
- Lay led as often as clergy led
- Multiplying the small
- Within the reach of most churches

METHODIST RESEARCH 2018

- Just over 1000 Fxs (& 4500 churches) >20%
- 38000 people involved (& 188000 members in inherited church) >20%
- 25000 of the 38000 no recent involvement in church - over half non-churched

PARTNERS IN FX

- Church of England
- Methodist Church
- United Reform Church
- Salvation Army
- Baptist Union
- Church of Scotland

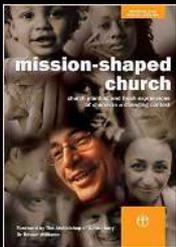
IDENTIFY AND RELEASE PIONEERS

- Church of England - Aim to double number of pioneer ordinands (OPM) each year)
- Church Mission Society - pioneer training
- Methodist Church – Venture FX and Pioneering Pathways
- Salvation Army - Pioneer meeting from 20/30 to 150)
- Baptist Church - Pioneer Collective - the vision of the Pioneer Collective is '400 new Baptist Pioneers: going to where the church isn't, doing what Jesus does and seeing what happens.'
- Church of Scotland – 'A new kind of Kirk minister – pioneering posts

MISSION-SHAPED CHURCH REPORT 2004

Some conclusions:

- inherited church shaped by Christendom
- challenge to become shaped by mission
- God has initiated all sorts of creative mission responses
- fresh expression term coined
- dying to live
- trained pioneer ministers and leaders
- fresh expressions are signs of hope



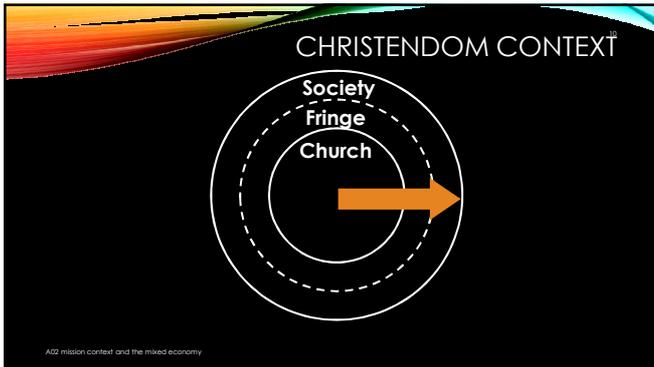


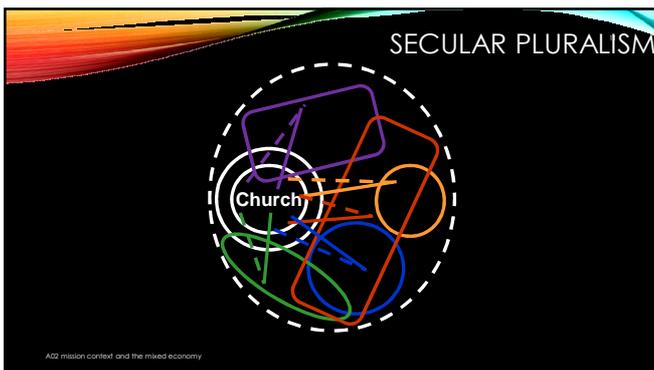
WHAT IS A FRESH EXPRESSION?

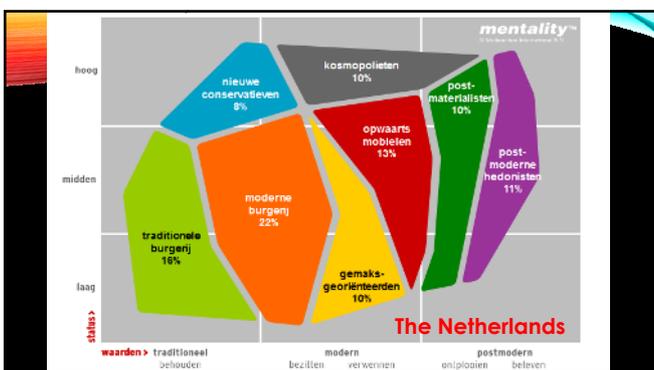
session one

A form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of people who do not attend any church

It will come into being through principles of listening, service, incarnational mission and making disciples
 it will have the potential to become a mature expression of church shaped by the gospel and the enduring marks of the church and for its cultural context







CHURCH FROM THE VALLEY...

- baptism
- education
- marriage
- festivals
- Sunday
- sickness
- crisis
- bereavement
- death

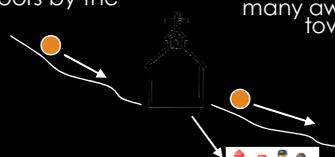


The mission task:
From door,
to font or baptistery,
to communion table
or altar,
out to the world

...TO THE SIDE OF A HILL

A few still drawn to church doors by the culture

But current culture draws many away from, not towards church



The mission task:
Go to where people are
and make disciples there

Fresh expression of church

ATTRACTONAL METHOD



← come

BackToChurchSunday



ENGAGED METHOD

go and then come



HOPE

in our villages, towns & cities

session one

COME ON IN



EMERGING METHOD

go and then stay



session one

Roy Searle:

"What God is doing today is not to arrest the decline of the Church but a new imagining from a place of exile."

FRESH EXPRESSIONS OF CHURCH:

<p>missional serve those outside church</p>		<p>contextual listen to people and enter their context</p>
<p>formational make discipleship a priority: journeying with people to Jesus</p>		<p>ecclesial form church</p>

WHAT IS A FRESH EXPRESSION OF CHURCH?



++JUSTIN WELBY

- Fresh expressions and pioneer ministry are ways in which we say, how do we ensure that people find the grace and love of God, and see the treasure that there is in the gospel of Jesus Christ, in ways that they can find accessible?"

22



A MIXED ECONOMY

“Mixed economy is essential because it gives the balance between stability [and] an openness to the Spirit of God doing new things.
Justin Welby

CHURCH PLANTING AND THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

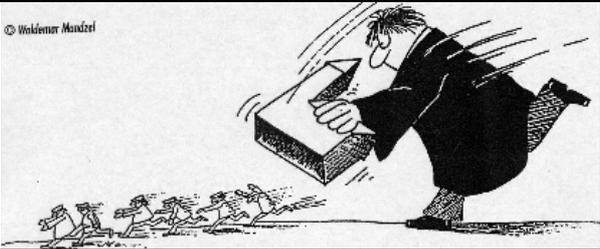
- In the Church of England today, bishops undertake to pursue and support the full range of contributions to mission and church growth ... creating and normalising a pattern of diversity, of parish and other traditional forms alongside newer forms.
- This pattern of diversity is the 'new normal'. It requires leadership from bishops in leading our dioceses into understanding and embracing this diversity.

THE ECOLOGY OF A MOVEMENT



- New imagination about the church
- New climate of permission
- New resources

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL
CONTEXT IS VITAL!



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GRANGE PARK CHURCH,
NORTHAMPTON



TALKING POINT



STEPPING STONES



GRANGE PARK CHURCH,
NORTHAMPTON



A PROCESS OF DISCERNMENT



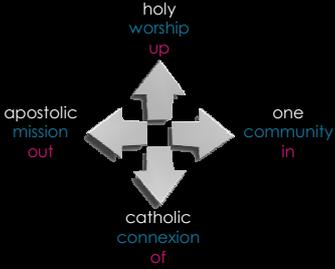
underpinned by prayer, ongoing listening and relationship with the wider church

A FORMATIVE JOURNEY



underpinned by prayer, ongoing listening and relationship with the wider church

BECOMING MATURE CHURCH



holy worship up
one community in
catholic connexion of
apostolic mission out

RESOURCES



Mission-Shaped
Ministry course

- Three Minute Guides
- Vision Days



Mission-Shaped
Introduction

- You Tube videos
- National conferences

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"Nothing else, as a whole, in the Church of England has this level of missional impact .."

IMPACT

"Evidence suggests that for every one person sent out to be part of beginning a fresh expression of church, now there are more than two and a half people"

'A discernible move of the Spirit in our day'
George Lings, lead researcher