

Dementia Inclusive Church Workshop

Hosted by Compassionate Communities
Delivered by Story Chaplain



April 2021

Context for the Workshop

1. Dementia is the most common pre-existing health condition in people dying from COVID-19
2. 78% ppl affected by dementia said they felt lonelier and more isolated due to Coronavirus (Alzheimer's Society)
3. Lockdown and dementia: for some, COVID-19 has created an isolated, confusing but calmer world - <https://theconversation.com/lockdown-and-dementia-for-some-covid-19-has-created-an-isolated-confusing-but-calmer-world-153065>
4. There has been a clear decline both in people's cognitive function and in their mental health - <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.03.17.21253805v1>
5. Dementia diagnosis rate dropped 40,000 in the past year - <https://www.charitytoday.co.uk/charity-extremely-concerned-by-drop-in-dementia-diagnosis-rate/>
6. 'Worst Hit' report from Alzheimer's Society - <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-09/Worst-hit-Dementia-during-coronavirus-report.pdf>
7. Fact sheets from Alzheimer's Society - <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-support/publications-factsheets>
8. Dementia Friends Information Session - <https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/>

Dementia Inclusive Resources

1. Creative Meaningful Moments (Time to Telephone Befriending) - <https://www.tttb.org.uk/resources> (scroll down and click on resource)
2. A-Z Telephone Conversation Starters (Time to Talk Befriending) - <https://www.tttb.org.uk/resources> (scroll down and click on resource)
3. Travelling Together: Dementia Inclusive Church Guide (Livability) - <https://www.livability.org.uk/resources/for-your-church/travelling-together/>
4. My Faith Matters (Livability) - <https://www.livability.org.uk/resources/for-your-church/my-faith-matters/>
5. Ingredients Cards - <https://www.storychaplain.com/ingredients-cards>
6. Dementia from the Inside (Jennifer Bute) - book shops / online
7. Faith Lists book - <https://spckpublishing.co.uk/faith-lists-pb>
8. Tips from Innovations in Dementia - <http://www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Tips-checklist-to-share-with-a-volunteer.pdf>
9. 'I want to speak please' (Innovations in Dementia) - <http://www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/2019/03/i-want-to-speak-please/>
10. Holding cross - Etsy UK / online

Invitation to reflect on your specific context

What is your goal in supporting people living with dementia and carers?

What have you done in the past?

What are you doing now?

What are you hoping to do next?

In person / on the phone / doorstep visits / Zoom / post / social media?

With your hopes in mind...

What are you hoping to get out of our time together? Be specific.

What now?

Make a note of the next steps you are going to take

Who will help you to take these steps?

How can we support those living with dementia to continue 'shining'?

Include prayerful / pastoral / practical examples.

Be encouraged and start where you are with what you have.

The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing.

If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance. You are Christ's body—that's who you are!

1 Corinthians 12:25-27, The Message translation

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