

HOW MIGHT OTHERS SEE US? - B: THE SERVICE

		Action / Response: What to do to make it better?
1	The Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it genuine, clear and appropriate? • Does it connect with people and connect them with worship • Does it inspire confidence that the minister will provide clear direction through the service and knows what s/he is doing? 	
2	The “Hand-outs” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many different bits are handed out? • Are the Orders of Service attractive and clean? Do they signify how valuable our liturgy is to us? • Are the Orders of Service clear, easy to follow, while allowing suitable flexibility? 	
3	Explanation of and / or Immersion in the worship?? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are instructions / commands given with reason and to encourage inclusion? [Not all can stand, or want to, or know why they are being asked to!] • Are page numbers and other directions given in good time if needed? • Are Bible Readings introduced, given a context / setting? • In what way are the congregation encouraged to engage with the Readings? 	
4	Points of potential dis-ease: where action / response is required - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Peace – can be very welcoming but is also a very uncertain period, and often much too long • The Collection / Offering. Newcomers will not know how much money is considered “normal”. They may not be expecting it, and may feel guilty or anxious. • Going “up” for communion. What words of blessing are appropriate for different people and ages? Is it comfortable to stay “behind”? How do we welcome children? 	
5	The non-liturgical sections – room for variety, danger of excessive verbiage! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the sermon worth listening to!? • Does the preacher connect with people, connect Word and World, connect God and people? • Are the intercessions someone saying their prayers, or leading the congregation in corporate prayer / interceding? Are silent moments provided and structured? • The Notices – Are they crisply delivered and are all really necessary? • The Music – Is it the best we can offer? Is there suitable variety? Who chooses? 	
6	The Dismissal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it send people out to live and work to God’s praise and glory? • Does it reinforce connections made between worship and life or imply a separation? 	