

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LANCASHIRE
GUIDANCE NOTES
FOR JOINT ANGLICAN, METHODIST AND UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
CONFIRMATION SERVICES IN L.E.P'S

1. There shall be careful preparation of the candidates and this must include instruction about different denominational traditions and practices and the rationale for them.
2. All candidates must have been baptised before confirmation.
3. The confirming ministers shall be the Anglican Bishop and the minister(s) with pastoral responsibility for the, Methodist and United Reformed Church members of the LEP except that, where the minister with pastoral responsibility for the Methodist and / or United Reformed Church members is an Anglican minister, the confirming minister(s) for those denominations shall be appropriate representatives of those denominations.
4. Other ministers (including lay ministers) may conduct appropriate parts of the service.
5. Where there is no indication as to who shall conduct a particular part of the service, the LEP concerned may make proposals to the participating ministers as to what is appropriate for a particular occasion. One person should “preside” over the whole service.
6. In a multi-church LEP
 - a. the Confirmation service should rotate around the member Churches and the main liturgy for Confirmation should be the authorised liturgy of the host Church and the “president” should be from that Church
 - b. Normally the service would not be in the context of Holy Communion, if confirmation is in the context of Holy Communion the “president” should preside and again the host Church liturgy should be used and a Eucharistic Prayer recognisable to all must be included.
 - c. The preacher should be from a different denomination to the host (if possible).
7. In a single congregation LEP
 - a. The liturgy and presidency should rotate around the member churches.
 - b. Normally the service would not be in the context of Holy Communion, if confirmation is in the context of Holy Communion the “president” should preside and again the host Church liturgy should be used and a Eucharistic Prayer recognisable to all must be included. The preacher should be from a different denomination to the person “presiding”.
 - c. The preacher should be from a different denomination to the president.

8. A statement about what is going to happen in the service must be included in the printed order of service or given verbally at the start of the service. The wording of this statement must have been agreed by all of the participating ministers beforehand.
9. The confirming ministers lay their hands simultaneously on each individual candidate and say the words together.
10. There must be consultation at the earliest opportunity initiated by the “host” minister. Initially this consultation should be with the appropriate denominational ecumenical officers who will advise on who else should be consulted.
11. If there are to be Baptism(s) within the service normally the “president” would Baptise.
12. Careful attention should be made to registers and membership lists. It is appropriate to give certificates to the candidates describing the ecumenical nature of the Confirmation and signed by all confirming ministers.
13. The questionnaire and whole liturgy (including hymns etc.) should be submitted to the appropriate ecumenical officers and participating ministers at least one month in advance of the service.
14. Guideline and Questionnaire are on the CTL website
15. Denominational Ecumenical Officers
 - a. Rev’d Mike Hartley BlackburnDEO@Gmail.com
(Anglican Diocese of Blackburn))
 - b. Rev’d Keith Burrow keithburrow@talknet.net
(North Lancashire Methodist District)
 - c. Rev’d Sarah Moore revsarah@btinternet.com
(United Reformed Church Lancashire Area)
 - d. Rev’d Debbie Peatman debbie.peatman@ctlancashire.org.uk
(County Ecumenical Development Officer)

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CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LANCASHIRE ECUMENICAL CONFIRMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Please return this questionnaire to the appropriate Ecumenical Officers and participation ministers at least one month in advance of the service

1. I what Church is the confirmation to take place?
2. Please give date and time of the confirmation
3. Please give names of
 - a. President of the Rite
 - b. Confirming Ministers
 - c. Preacher
4. How many candidates for confirmation
 - a. Adults
 - b. Children
 - c. Do you wish the candidates to be anointed with oil
5. Which confirmation rite do you wish to use (please attach FULL order of service)
6. What readings are you proposing to use?