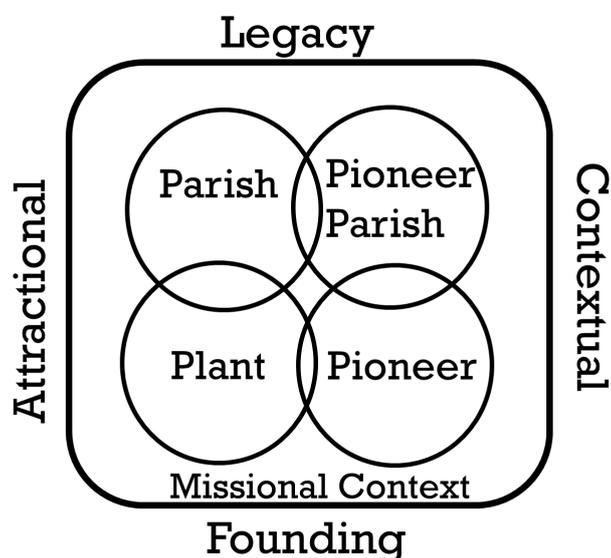


Blended Sphere tool

Read 'Blended Economy summary' and 'Mixed Economy Resource' in conjunction with this tool. An interactive tool which engages people in a practical and conversational way. Using the diagram (fig1) and map this out on the floor using ribbon, rope etc and add the appropriate labels. You will need a large floor space. This tool works well with a group of 5-20 people although it has been used with up to 100 people in a hotel ballroom! Enough space is needed for people to move around and to interact well. If participants have reduced mobility needs seating can be used and moved around or the tool could be run as a table top exercise with large paper and counters or postit notes.



(fig1)

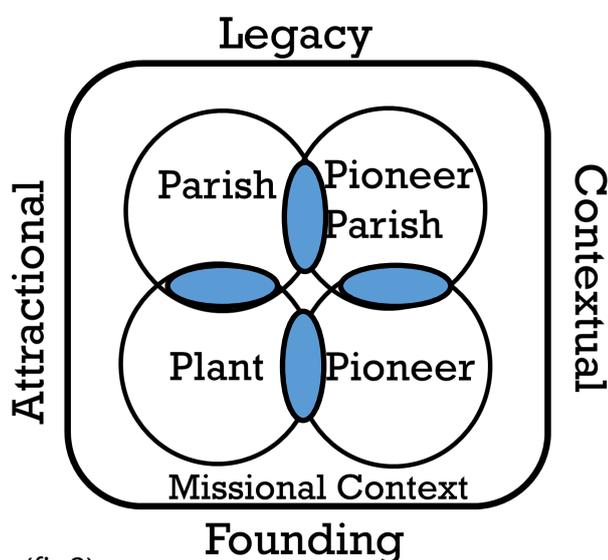
1. Personal Ministry Economy

Invite participants to stand in the space that best describes their own ministry passion and shape. They can straddle between spaces if they wish. They can also think about which direction they might face. E.g. if in the pioneer parish sphere and they face towards legacy—this might indicate more of a connection with the established church.

Invite them to talk to people who are within the same sphere to say why they have stood where they have.

Next invite them to talk to people who are in different spheres about why they have stood there. What is the same and what is different and why?

The facilitator can ask people to share some of their discussion with the whole group. Notice where are most people standing? What does this say about the ministry leadership economy of the group?



(fig2)

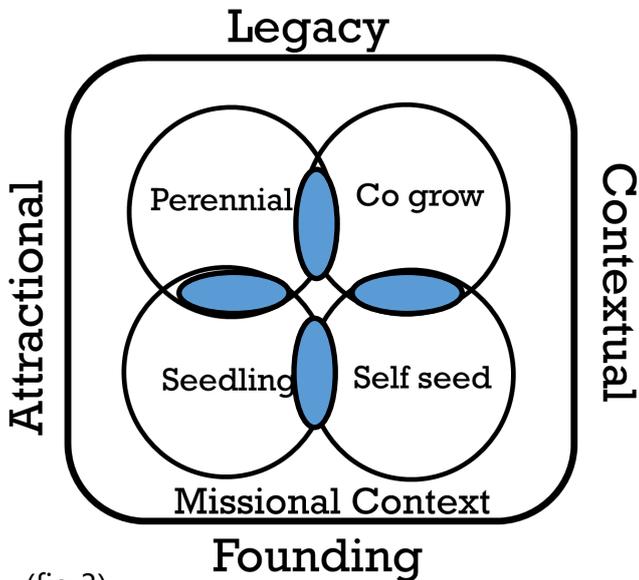
2. Ecclesial Economy

Invite participants to stand in the space that best describes the church they attend or lead. They can straddle between spaces if they wish. They can also think about which direction they might face.

Invite them to talk to people who are within the same sphere to say why they have stood where they have.

Next invite them to talk to people who are in different spheres about why they have stood there. What is the same and what is different and why? The spaces (shaded blue) between the spheres represent the 6 blended economy principles (see blended economy summary). Invite people to talk about how these principles may help the economy to flourish? (fig2). Where are most people standing? What does this say about the current church economy of the group?

Next invite people to imagine the future. If their church could exist in any sphere which one would it be in and why? Invite people to move to another part of the grid if they need to. Ask them to discuss this with those around them. The facilitator can ask people to share some of their discussion with the whole group. Where are most people standing now? What does this tell you about the aspirational church economy of the group?



(fig 3)

3. Community Economy

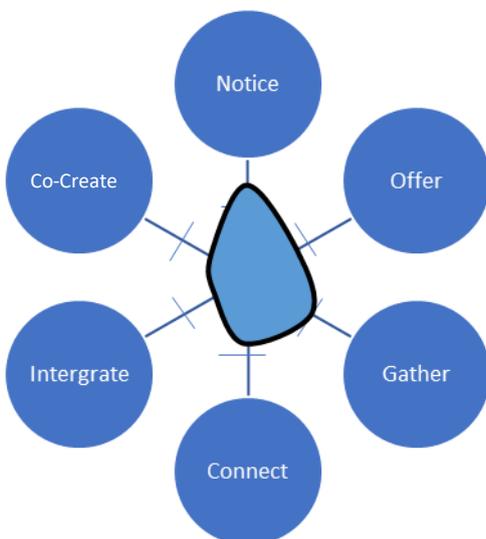
Invite participants to think of 10 churches that are close by to the church they explored in fig2. This could be a deanery, a united benefice of churches, a town, a collection of village etc. They can straddle between spaces if they wish. They can also think about which direction they might face. It can be helpful to explore a different set of language by replacing the label's as in (fig 3) to perennial, co grow, seedling and self seed.

Invite them to talk to people who are within the same sphere to say why they have stood where they have.

Next invite them to talk to people who are in different spheres about why they have stood there. What is the same and what is different and why? The spaces (shaded blue) between the spheres represent the 6 blended economy principles (see blended economy summary). Invite people to talk about how these principles help the economy to flourish? (fig2). Where are most people standing? What does this tell you about the current community economy of the group?

Next invite people to imagine the future. If the group of churches could exist in any sphere which one would they be in and why? Invite people to move to another part of the grid if they need to. Ask them to discuss this with those around them. The facilitator can ask people to share some of their discussion with the whole group. Where are most people standing now? What does this say about the aspiration if the community economy of the group?

Allow about 45 minutes for this tool.



An additional tool is also explained in the blended economy summary document (see fig 4) as a way of measuring the presence of each blended principle in context. a printable work sheet is below. This could be used to explore personal, ecclesial or community economies.

