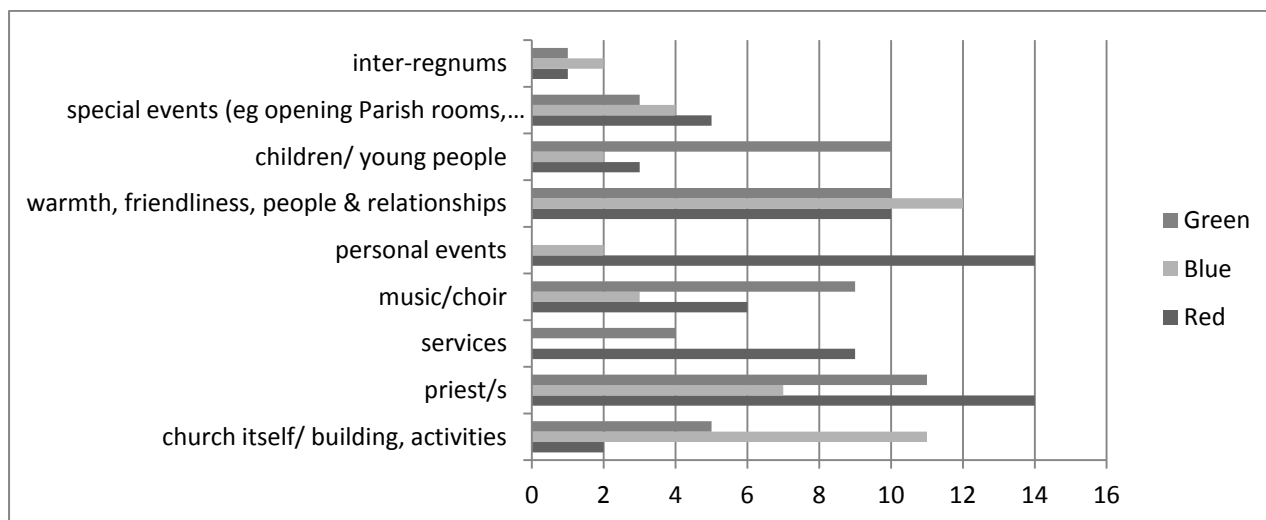


Themes emerging from St Paul's PMC Timeline event 24 January 2016

Approximately 50 members of the St Paul's congregations attended the brunch and timeline event, sharing fellowship, hopes and memories. In order to get a better idea of the themes that emerged, we grouped the topics of the responses loosely into "categories" and plotted the results in the following chart:



St Paul's red-letter, blue and hopeful green days – Timeline event 24 January 2016

Most responses about "Red letter days" (times we are proud of) fell under personal events and priests. Blue days (ones we'd like to be able to erase from history) were topped by memories relating to people and relationships, closely followed by the church itself (burglaries etc). Many green days (offering hope for the future) related to clergy followed by (in equal numbers) the young people and the relationships and warmth of the church; the music and choir were also important.

What does this mean for St Paul's?

From these responses we can see these strengths:

- ✚ our worship style and the quality of the music at our services is valued and enjoyed by many;
- ✚ the warmth and friendliness of congregation and clergy is appreciated, and
- ✚ we feel confident in the care and leadership of our priests.

Some questions arise that need our prayerful consideration:

- ✚ Do we do enough to share our spiritual journey with each other and with newcomers and strangers, making them feel truly valued and welcomed in our midst, and enabled to become an active part of our church community?
- ✚ Much reliance and emphasis were placed on our clergy and our church building; what of faith, community and mission?
- ✚ How can we support youth work better, doing more to build up and "retain" the youngsters upon whom we now build our hopes?