

We Are One Body

***Aim :** This piece was originally written for the licensing of a new vicar in a church in which many people were active in its ministry. We wanted to show the importance of understanding that ministry and fellowship, and how easy it is to be so busy that we forget why we're doing it all.*

Characters :

10 people – any age, either gender

Props/Costumes : *None needed*

Notes : *This drama should not be introduced. People should think that the first person is giving another notice. If possible the actors should form a line spaced out up an aisle of the church.*

If you don't use the particular gifts and jobs mentioned in the sketch, you could put in relevant ones to your particular situation.

The gaps in the script should be filled with the appropriate names for your church.

We Are One Body

The first person moves nervously to the front. This could be introduced as part of the notices, or as an extra notice during the service, so people don't realise it's a drama at first.

1) Good evening, I've er.. just got a quick notice. My name's ____ and I'm on the church hall committee and they've asked me just to ask that when you leave later tonight that you do so quietly, so as not to disturb local residents. I'd really appreciate you doing this, as it's my responsibility to lock up, as I opened up for you this evening

The second person moves towards the front, and turns to face the congregation, so the first person has to lean out to be seen. This then continues up the aisle as the other people get up to speak.

2) Hi ____, oh hi! I'm _____ and I actually set out the chairs this evening, like I do every week

1) Once I've opened the doors.

3) And I'm the person who welcomes people and makes them feel at home

2) As they sit on my carefully set out chair

1) Once I've opened the doors.

4) I seem to be able to chat easily with friends and neighbours, and even bring them along occasionally

3) Who are made to feel welcome

2) And comfortable

The tone is beginning to get more frustrated as they all make their points

1) And inside

5) Well I'm the person who produces the notice-sheet so everyone knows what's going on

4) Even if they're new

3) And welcomed

2) And sat down

1) And let in

6) I'm the one who runs the children's club midweek every week

5) Advertised on the noticesheet

4) Given to newcomers

3) As they are welcomed

2) Before they sit down

1) In the nice, warm hall

7) I have a real burden to pray for all areas of the church-life

- 6) Including the children
- 5) communication
- 4) evangelism
- 3) welcoming atmosphere
- 2) buildings and fittings
- 1) and ...er... the doors
- 8) I am the worship leader, focusing our attention . . .
- 7) on prayer
- 6) children

At this point they all begin to argue amongst themselves, defending what they do eg “But you’ve got to get them in in the first place”, “If people don’t feel welcomed they just won’t stay” or “If we’re not praying then there’s no point in doing anything.”

The first person leans over and watches them all arguing. He shakes his head.

- 1) I’ve had enough of this

He walks off

- 9) I ‘m the person who tries to encourage all those in the church who get involved and have a go at things
- 8) Like leading worship
- 7)praying for one another
- 6) teaching the children
- 5) helping people get involved
- 4) bringing in new people
- 3) making everyone feel welcome
- 2) adding to their comfort
- All) Together in the hall

They all turn to face “the door” where the first person was standing. There is a pause and then they all turn to each other in confusion

- 5) But the door’s locked
- 2) Where’s ____ ?
- 4) Why’s he not here?
- 3) We need him, doesn’t he realise that?

They freeze

10) We are the body of Christ. We are a Royal Priesthood, a Holy nation. We are beloved - not for what we do, but for our weakness, characters, and faith. We are called - called to be together, to work together, travel together, be taken on - together. We are called, for service; witness; worship, together.

They all say to the congregation

All) We are the body of Christ