

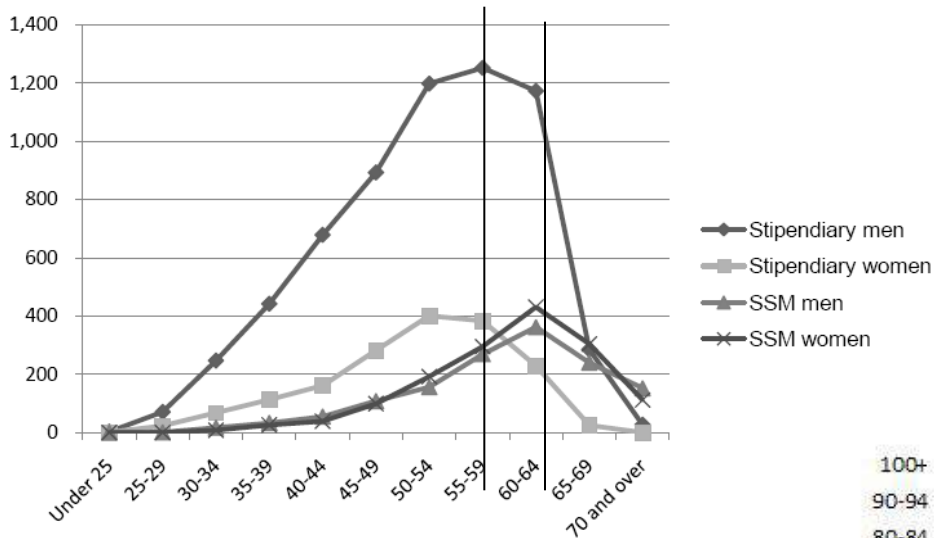
# ***Medical and Biblical Reflections***

## ***3: The Church's perspective***

# *The Potential of Ageing*

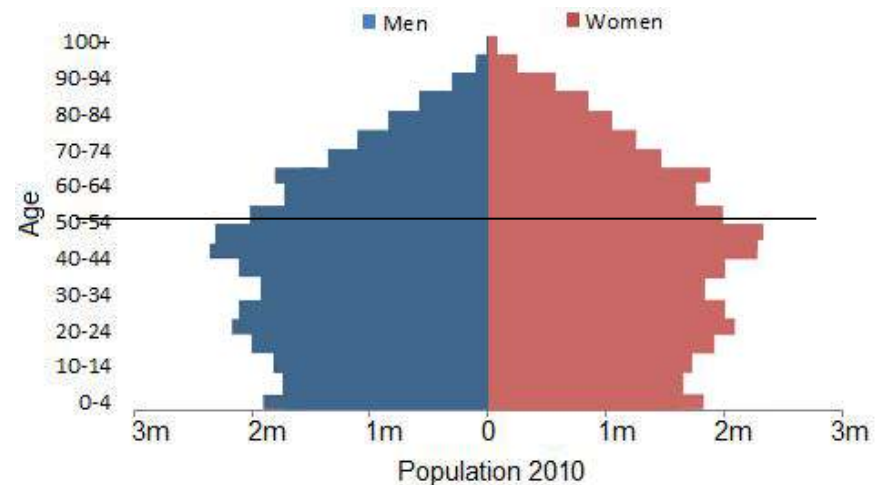
## *The Church's perspective*

Age profile of stipendiary and self supporting ministers 2010



Many clergy are elderly!

Church of England Statistics 2010



UK Department for Statistics 2010

*The Church's perspective*  
Signs of Growth

Age	Census data%	Church data%
50-59	10	13
<b>60-69</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>70-79</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>80+</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>

# *The Church's perspective*

## Signs of Growth

Church	%
• Marriage preparation	59
• Parent and toddler group	62
• Coffee bar	21
• <b>Lunch club</b>	<b>24</b>
• <b>Over sixties</b>	<b>34</b>

# ***Preparation for Ageing***

## ***The Church's Perspective***

- Value – commit resource
- See with God's eyes – avoid stereotyping
- Talk and teach about ageing and dying as a natural part of life
- Encourage ongoing spiritual growth and development
- Treasure 'older' spirituality
- Identify gifts and talents and use them

We will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is Christ

From Him the *whole* body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as *each* part does its work

Ephesians 4: 15-16

# WE are the body of Christ

All have a part to play in God's  
Kingdom

# *Preparation for Ageing The Church's Perspective*



I am making everything  
new !

(Rev 22: 5)