Reconciliation

These are examples of 'ecumenical' churches, or churches for all Christians, of any background and church membership.

The word 'ecumenism' comes from the Greek '*oikumene*' which means 'the whole inhabited earth', a reference to the idea that Christian teachings are for the whole world.

Taizé Community

Location: near the village of Taizé in Burgandy, France
Founded in: 1940
Main aim: a house of prayer

Taizé is a French monastic community, made up of around 100 brothers, encompassing both Catholic and Protestant monks from around the world. The monastery welcomes around 100,000 pilgrims every year, most of them young people. The monastery has a particular focus on the young. Pilgrims can make use of a space to talk and ask questions. They can experience a simple life which allows time for prayer and reflection, as well as communal work and the practice of kindness. Worship draws on Christian traditions from around the world.

Corrymeela

Location: Ballycastle, County Antrim, Northern Ireland (with a Belfast office)
Founded in: 1965
Main aim: a Christian community devoted to reconciliation

Corrymeela is a Christian community in Northern Ireland, founded by a pacifist priest horrified by the brutality he witnessed in World War 2. Corrymeela offers a place for all people, Christian or otherwise, to discuss their differences, talk and listen. The centre mostly supports groups in Ireland and Northern Ireland resolve conflict but is open to all groups experiencing conflict.
Video on their website: http://www.corrymeela.org/about

Iona Community

Location: Isle of Iona, Inner Hebrides, Scotland
Founded in: 1938
Main aim: a Christian community connecting work with church teaching

Members of many Christian denominations come to live and work at the Iona community, but many more live around the world, upholding the ideals of the community. The key focus is communal living, including communal work, meditation and worship. The community runs a publishing house to disseminate its principles for life.