

# The Mission Action Plan for St Paul's Church, Hadley Wood 2018

## **Introduction**

The Mission Action Plan for St Paul's Church Hadley Wood was first developed in April 2005 and has continued to be reviewed each year at the Church AGM. This is a working plan that is constantly being used and developed. The Church council have regularly put it on the agenda of council meetings, although we need to re-energize this at our meetings.

**Mission Statement** : "To Know Christ and make Him known"

**The Vision** - **Knowing Jesus better, making Jesus better known**

*"For what we proclaim is not ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."* 2 Corinthians 4:5

St Paul's Hadley Wood is a Bible believing church which seeks to glorify God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit – by

- Teaching the word of God to build up all ages in Christ.
- Praying and caring for everyone within our church community.
- Serving our parish, our community, and the world beyond, by sharing the good news of God's love through word and deed.

St Paul's exists to know Jesus better and to make Jesus better known.

The business of God is that he is gathering people into his Kingdom through the prayerful proclamation of the gospel in the power of his Spirit. So, there are then two fundamental serving activities of the Christian life - proclaiming (speaking the words) and praying (calling on God to pour out his Spirit to make the word effective in people's hearts).

According to Ephesians 4, we believe the church family has been gifted by God's grace with various gifts. So we are to speak the truth in love, in order that the body of the church might grow up into Jesus who is the head of the body.

According to the Parish Profile, "We are an Anglican Evangelical church which welcomes Christians of every denomination who share our loyalty to the Bible and the Gospel. We seek to adhere to the fact that everything the Bible says is essential, yet at the same time, are enthusiastic for a progressive, up to date approach to everything the Bible gives us."

For its visitors: - That visitors will grasp a biblically clear understanding of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. That people will be welcomed and befriended in a genuine caring way that attracts people into our fellowship.

Community : - That St Paul's will be known as a classical evangelical church which it holds on to both by word and deed or to put it another way a bible believing church that lives and trusts in the person of Jesus Christ. As a church family we would be known as

friendly, welcoming and accommodating. We will look to strengthen links with local groups within the community (Hadley Wood Association, Hadley Wood School, various clubs, local shops and businesses).

## **Diocese of London Capital Vision 2020**

A copy of this plan is available in church

- Give thanks for what God has been doing
- Reflect on the times we live in
- Communicate the message of the gospel

Action: Be confident in speaking and living the gospel of Jesus Christ

Be compassionate in serving communities with the love of God the Father

Be creative in reaching new people and places with the Good News in the power of the Spirit.

Pray for friends to understand the Gospel

The Diocese of London this year has also introduced a Capital Vision journey to 100,000 **Ambassadors for Christ**. The plan is to Commission those who have formal roles within the church or who have outreach beyond London who are commissioned formally. We would like to join the Diocese of London in their Ambassadors program in commissioning members in our church family to be Christ's Ambassadors. There is a short training course which we might use. 2 Corinthians 5:20

*'We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be the sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.'*

Action : Introduce Ambassadors training and commissioning

## **B Squared ( 11-14 yrs. ) which means Baking, Bibles, Bean bags**

It is sad to report that as a lack of interest this has not been running since the summer 2017. We are grateful to Hillary for having started this ministry and we look to others who might take this important area of ministry on in the future. It might be re-started as there is a desire for confirmation classes for a service in November.

Action : Pray for leadership and a re-start of this group.

Give thanks for this group and Hillary's leadership

## **Bible study Discussion Groups**

*'An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seek knowledge.'*  
Proverbs 56:15.

To encourage every member of the church family to be in a small group, so as to be committed to God's plan of growth of the gospel in people's hearts by the power of the Spirit. Study similar material so every member of the church family might grow together in understanding of God's word. Emphasis not on the number or structures of the groups, but on the growth of the gospel in peoples' hearts under the power of the Spirit. As and when peoples' gifts come to light to train new leaders within existing groups and

specific leadership courses. These groups will continue to be the main area of pastoral care within the church family.

Action : Pray for God's Spirit to change people's hearts.  
Encourage membership amongst the group members.  
Review and plan study material within ministry team.  
Look for growth of the gospel in people's hearts.  
Co-ordinate regular leaders meeting or visits by Rupert.  
Try to develop wider integration amongst the different groups.

### **Book Stall**

Encourage people to read Christian material to strengthen their knowledge of God and desire to serve Christ. Continue to have pop up book stall as organized by Kim Politzer. Recent special discounted promotions from 10ofthose.com have been very popular with over 30 books sold (City Lives, The Hiding Place)!

Action: Continue to promote Christian books on a regular basis using discounts  
Regular 'pop up' book store – May/June; Oct/ Nov time

### **Budget**

*'Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.'*  
Proverbs 23:19

The 'indicative' Budget is prepared in November and presented in January which worked well. New initiatives with people and buildings will require specific funding. We are very grateful for all the efficient actions that David Hawkins has undertaken this year. In negotiation with the Archdeacon we have continued a reduced Common Fund contribution for more stable and balanced accounts.

Action: Preparation of an indicative Budget for 2019 in November 2018 to Council and Trustees.  
Presentation of the indicative Budget to the Church Family in January along with the vision for 2019.  
Have regular reminders of giving.  
Look for specific fund raising for gospel growth opportunities (youth worker, music, missionary, training courses, buildings and repairs).  
Build up a building fund for repairs and enhancements.

### **Evangelism**

Continue to run Christianity Explored Courses. Develop peoples' skills in evangelism, 2 Ways To Live, one to one reading the bible and apologetics. Continue to run events (Aspects of Easter – 'God's General', West Lodge Park Hotel, Jazz evening, dinners and speakers events). Draw the fringe of the church family into the core of the church family perhaps by adopting some of the Baxter model. Continue to partner with other local churches in outreach and bible teaching (GU3 at St James, Muswell Hill, St Mary's Monken Hadley).

Action: Plan and promote Christianity Explored courses.

Plan and promote events Men's and Women's along with joint events.

Encourage and train members to share their faith with confidence.

Reading one to one.

Partner with other churches in outreach.

Encourage Prayer for people

Draw the fringe into the core, looking at the Baxter model.

More history events like 'God's General.'

## **Leadership training and preparation**

To support and encourage present and future leaders in leading Bible Study groups. Develop peoples' skills in leading Bible Studies. Review present leaders to ensure accountability and encouragement.

Action: Meet & plan with present leadership.

Develop peoples' skills in leadership particularly within existing groups.

## **Management Structures**

Barbara Williamson has taken over this role as church administrator and PA to Rupert. Please contact her by email at any time or by phone during her office hours of Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. We need to continue to review our current management structures by asking, 'Who does what within the church family?' The current Wardens and staff team discuss and implement the spiritual programmes. The Trustees, along with Barbara's help, delegate the practical side of the church (buildings, lights, repairs, heating, service contracts, etc.) by buying in various specialised skills. We are very thankful that Sally Sloan has taken on a few major enhancement projects such as the re-decorating of the kitchen. We are looking forward to freshened up bolier/flower/storage room this summer and repairs done to all our outside doors.

Action: Continue to buy in help (handyman, contractors, cleaning services).

Keep asking others to share the practical responsibilities – Sally.

Continue to thank and encourage faithful helpers.

Continue to develop the PA/administrative help for the ministry team.

Regular meetings with council, staff, wardens and trustees.

## **Ministry Resources Required**

St Paul's is well placed geographically to draw upon a wealth of experience to develop our ministry. Oak Hill continues to provide us with an academic link to theology and to train our church family. The South East Gospel Partnership conference was an enormous encouragement to prayer within our ministry and a helpful network to partner. There are other local courses such as the TnT and Sunday School training days held at Christ Church, Cockfosters. Our links with other local churches continue to be strong

within the leadership at St Mary's, Holy Trinity, St Thomas, Grace Church, and Christ church (Cockfosters and Little Heath). It will be good to build on these links in other areas of ministry within the church family (practical demands, evangelism training, Bible Study groups, Rompers group, Sunday school leadership, Youth and Workplace ministry for example). Renew prayer meetings held each quarter have been a good encouragement to Rupert. As a church council we regularly attend the SEGP two day conference where this year we were encouraged by believing in the God of mission with various talks and interviews. We aim to continue to make this conference a priority in being built up in Christian ministry.

This year will see the merger of three large conservative evangelical groups within the Church of England; 'Reform' and 'Fellowship of Word and Spirit' will merge into a relaunched 'Church Society.' This is long overdue as they have worked together for several years on reforming renewing and encouraging growth within the Church of England. This will cut down on administration costs and will focus resources to grow the church within our land. This merger should take place in May and I strongly encourage you to support 'Church Society' in this merger.

This year the Church Council decided by a majority vote to come under alternative oversight of the Bishop of Maidstone (Rod Thomas). As a Church Council we were led by the bible to believe in a 'complementarian ministry rather than identical ministry.' So we took up the Archbishops offer to have an alternative oversight. We are still very much in the Diocese of London and will continue to be an active participant within the area , but will also have the leadership of the Bishop Rod Thomas who presided at our last confirmation service.

Action: Support merger into 'Church Society.'

Church council to continue with SEGP conference.

Continue to use and encourage good training courses.

(London Preachers Conference, EMA).

Share ideas and resources at all levels of ministry.

Men's and women's conventions.

Regular 'Renew' meetings.

Maintain links with Bishop of Maidstone, Bishop Rod Thomas.

Continue to have an active role within the Deanery and Diocese of London.

## **Mission Partners**

The aim of our Mission Partners is to partner Bible-based evangelism. We should continue with our strategy that was encouraged to us by Crosslinks. First priority is to support those who are actively engaged in Bible based evangelism. Second priority is to support those who have local origins from Hadley Wood. Third priority is to support those who provide administrative and practical support to the wider church. We will continue with a Mission Partner Sunday in the Autumn. It has been good to see our mission partners here locally over the last year. It would be good to encourage two way

visits amongst our mission partners and ourselves. Power point photographs have been a good way to keep the links going. The Nesbitt's have returned to the UK with Glenn taking up an associates ministers role at St Ebbes Church, Oxford aimed at postgraduates and international students. Lizzie has taken on the role of Principle at Emmanuel Christian school. We will now longer support them financially, but will continue to treasure are past partnership with them.

Our mission partners is now made up of two families – Machell's and Oatridges who's ministry will be reviewed this year by the church council.

Action: Continue with Mission Partner news every month.

Encourage Bible study groups to support and pray for existing Mission Partners: Steve and Katie Machell AIM- (Friday am);

Glenn and Lizzie Nesbitt CROSS LINKS - (Thursday am)

Develop more two-way traffic of prayer between the partners and the church family of St Paul's.

## **Music**

We are very thankful for, and pray for, Alison Ruoff in all her help in this area of ministry. We are also helped by John and Emma Turl once a month.

Action: Give thanks for Alison's leadership, along with John, Emma.

Continue to pay for outside help as required.

Continue with music rota.

## **Plant and Buildings**

*Our outward appearance says a lot about the message we believe in.*

We are grateful to the Trustees who have continued to monitor the structural state of the buildings. The root barrier seems to have stabilised the water content of the soil under the building. It is still the long term aspiration of the Church council to develop the whole site, but this will take time, careful considerations and a shorter term project such as a new porch may be a more realistic project. A recent Quinquennial inspection has given the council and trustees something to think about, but for the moment it has been set aside while legal matters are addressed.

Action: Seek reasonable care and maintenance of the building.

Review the use of the main building during the week.

Constant monitoring of the building for cracks and water penetration.

Long term aim of redevelopment and/or a new entrance porch.

## **Prayer**

*"Unless the Lord builds the house, its labourers labour in vain."* Psalm 127:1.

Prayer continues to be rediscovered! It has been most encouraging to attend the monthly prayer gatherings at different people's homes. There has also been a call to pray for the Sunday services and the week ahead at 10am for 10 minutes on a Sunday. Long may this momentum of prayer continue amongst us.

Action: Continue monthly prayer gatherings during the day and in people's homes. Circulate prayer needs via email.  
Prayer basket in church for requests.

## **Preschool**

Alphablocks have a shared user agreement to run a pre-school that has increased in numbers over the last year. They have been patient and hard working in their marketing. Numbers are up, Monday & Friday 19, Tuesday & Thursday 22, Wednesday 25! Rupert makes a regular weekly visit to read the bible stories to the children. Barbara has regular informal meetings to manage the co-ordination of the hall with the other users. Tania and Rupert are on the management board.

Action: Close working relationship with Alphablocks.

St Paul's representation on the board of Alphablocks.

The minister visits the school to read Bible stories and hold occasional seasonal events in church.

## **Rompers**

Rompers was re-launched in January 2016 with morning and afternoon sessions. This initiative has gone very well in getting to know people. The mornings have been more popular but there is a selective few who come to the afternoon slots. Occasional seasonal talks (Christmas, Easter etc.). We are grateful to the existing team of Mary Atkins, Sally Sloan and Frances Alger; also appreciate the help of Alice Millais who we will miss when they leave in the summer. Although numbers have been low, we trust that this is a helpful venue for mothers and carers. If numbers do drop considerably we will have to think of an alternative outreach – perhaps a free English speaking course or a retired social club?

Action: Continue to assess, support and review Rompers (programme, time).

Develop links between Rompers and church family.

Encourage Mums from church family to be involved.

Continue Christianity Explored groups.

Always have a Bible story that includes everyone.

Continue to market the relaunch of morning and afternoon opening

## **Social events**

Welcome lunches, BBQ's, one-off socials, teas and other events provide a useful way for the church family to integrate amongst themselves. Many thanks for all those who helped to make these events happen over the years and may we be bold at running future events over the year

Action: Use Harvest, bring and share meals and Mission Partner Sundays as opportunities to bring together our existing and new members of the church family.

Continue to run events to help people get to know each other.

Evaluate each event.

Follow up.

## **Sunday**

*'A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.'* Proverbs 17:22

Aim: 'Prayerful proclamation of God's word trusting in God's Spirit to bring about salvation of souls.' Develop people's skills at serving - leading, preaching, praying, hosting, welcoming, Sunday School, coffee, etc.

Action: Staff Ministry Team to help plan and review Sunday ministry.

Prayerful preparation of talks, leading and praying.

Encourage others in preaching, reading, praying and serving.

Look for changed lives and love amongst God's people as a result of focusing on the above aim.

Occasional Q and A after sermons.

## **Sunday School Leaders**

*'Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.'* Proverbs 21:6.

Recruit and train new teachers and helpers, use TnT training days, review and encourage leaders, Commissioning Sunday. Review current leaders to ensure accountability and to have a formal process of appointment. Sunday School leadership – Martin and Kim Politzer; Children's Champion – Mary Atkins.

Action: Review Leadership teams.

Seek out and equip new leaders.

DBS checks

Regular termly meetings to review, plan and pray.

## **Team Building**

To encourage an every-member participation within the church family. A team of people to help serve within the various parts of the church family. (Rotas - readings, prayer, leading services, PA, etc. Publicity, Social Committee, Music, Rompers, etc.)

Action: Delegate as appropriate.

## **Warden**

The role of warden : -

1. Be a godly example in life and doctrine - 1 Timothy 3, Titus 1;6
2. Be devoted to the Apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer.  
Acts 2:42.
3. Ministry and People as a priority.
4. Help plan and review Spiritual ministry of St Paul's.

Mission Action Plan - along with the Church Council.

Leaders - example, train, equip, review, encourage.

Sunday content - Biblical content, crits, yearly series plan.

Small groups - Bible studies content, Christianity Explored, Sunday School.

Action: Appoint new Wardens as and when on this basis.

Appoint deputy wardens.

Regular meetings and reviews.

### **Week-end Away**

There are some good memories of a week-end away back in 2013, with Jonathan Fletcher as our speaker and we would like to consider doing something similar again.

April 2018