

The Mission Action Plan for St Paul's Church, Hadley Wood 2019

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 regularly put it on the agenda of council meetings and we welcome any engagement with this document.

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 all people regardless of background 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, Neighbourhood Watch, other 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

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.'

The Diocese of London is also in the process of discussing a **2030 vision** which we will involve ourselves in through Deanery and other Diocesan opportunities.

Action : Be part of the 2030 vision.

Bible study Discussion Groups

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

This is the heartbeat of the church family as people meet around God's word. We 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. A particular encouragement to use 'Explore' daily bible study material for peoples devotional lives so that they might know Christ.

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 works 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 continue to maintain our Common Fund contribution to the Diocese.

Action: Preparation of an indicative Budget for 2020 in November 2019 to Council and Trustees.
Presentation of the indicative Budget to the Church Family in January along with the vision for 2020.
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 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, Christ Church, Cockfosters and St Thomas, Oakwood).

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.
Build on the Remembrance Sunday initiative of last year.

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 continues in her 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 have been grateful to Eli Politzer in her work with computer, communication, marketing, data base and web site assistance. 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 continued with the enhancement project such as the re-decorating of the boiler/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 for us has now become a more focused group called, 'London Gospel Partnership.' It is made up of London Bible-believing churches which work together to train leaders, strengthen and plant churches and advance the Gospel in London. The leadership of the church family attended the last conference in February 2019 which encouraged us to see that the local church as God's means for reaching London with God's message of the gospel for the salvation of the lost. 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 along with a regional meeting with the Bishop of Maidstone at All Souls, London.

We continue to support the merger of three large conservative evangelical groups within the Church of England; 'Reform' and 'Fellowship of Word and Spirit' which merged 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, but we are now seeing economies of scale and a more focused strategy of growing local churches within our land. I continue to strongly encourage you to support 'Church Society' by becoming a member.

We continue to come under alternative oversight of the Bishop of Maidstone (Rod Thomas). As a Church Council we continue to believe in a complementarian ministry rather than an identical ministry in terms of roles for men and women within the church family. We are still very much in and part of the Diocese of London by continuing to be an active participant within the area within the Diocese, Deanery and Chapter.

Action: Continue to support 'Church Society.'

Church council to continue with London Gospel Partnership.

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 and annual conference.

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. Our mission partners is now made up of two families – Machell's and Oatridges who have both historically been part of the local church family.

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)

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. We encourage more recent songs, yet delight in the old traditional hymns.

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

Continue to pay for outside help as required.

Continue with music rota.

Sing more modern songs along with the well known traditional hymns.

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, although we will miss Roger Dargue doing his regular reports. 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 and careful considerations. A new porch about 6 m by 6 m is being seriously considered with architects and other suppliers. This will be an exciting project which will open the church up more so that people can see what is taking place inside. It will also be a welcoming porch and reception area before and after church where other meetings will be able to take place such. Martin Politzer has made all the pews mobile which will enable a space to be made available for Rompers to be held in main church building.

Action: Seek reasonable care and maintenance of the building.

Review the use of the main building during the week.

Rompers to use the main building.

Constant monitoring of the building for cracks and water penetration.

Long term aim of redevelopment. Short terms aim new entrance porch.

Prayer

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

Prayer continues to be rediscovered! The last two encouraging monthly prayer gatherings have been held at church with increasing numbers. It has also been most encouraging to attend the monthly prayer gatherings at different people's homes which has also been done over the last year. We pray every Sunday morning before the main service at 10am for 10 minutes. Long may this momentum of prayer continue amongst us, unless the Lord builds his church, the church family labour in vain.

Action: Continue monthly prayer gatherings during the day and in people's homes and church. 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 few years. Rupert tries to make 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 is very popular on Tuesday mornings. We are very grateful to Ruth Ralhan who now runs it with renewed enthusiasm. We are also grateful to the existing team of Mary Atkins, Sally Sloan and Frances Alger who support Rompers.

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.

Move venue into main church building.

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, and we would like to consider doing something similar again.

April 2019