

Mission Action Plan 2020



2020 Mission Action Plan

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General Notes

Laura, the Vicar, went away to pray about the Mission Action Plan and the changes needed, due to the items already accomplished or change of direction needed. During this time away she discerned that God was encouraging the people of St James to grasp that they have all they need to do all that God is calling them to do. However, there was a sense whereby we have the plough in the hand and we just need to learn how to use it and be disciplined. We need to use what we have properly, this may require changing direction or laying some things down to pick up the right things. As Laura looked up at the wall there was this picture of a man going to work with his work tool in his hand. So, to remind us that we have all we need, and we just need to learn to put things into action the picture on the front is the picture from the wall.

This Mission Action Plan refreshed in 2018 and since then a lot has already been achieved, so let us celebrate as we continue to work for God's Kingdom: things achieved have been:

- The youth have led worship; Zone the evening children's group has grown and includes girls and boys; we have put in place a finance team and new practice; we have a preaching plan; Jim's (the advice centre) has begun; CAP has continued; the Home and Overseas Team has expanded; there are more small groups (now called Life Groups) and these incorporate different styles and interests; the men's group held successful events and a group meets regularly in the pub now; during the year a number of people who had pastoral needs have benefitted from meals provided and other care; Becky and Pam set up 'Our Place' for special needs children and their carers on a Tuesday afternoon; there are more people on the prayer ministry team and there has been more training; we have a new logo and have been able to publicise events in more places (including our church doorway); we have increased our use of Facebook; new people have preached; 'The Edge' began run by Rosemary, for those who are seeking; and the Meditation Group run by Rosemary has begun; the welcome team has expanded, and been trained in fire and safety precautions; we have held the women's brunches and had a very well attended woman's day; the worship team have met more; there are new members of the worship team; we had a successful 'Fun Day' and 'All nations day'; we also had a 'Community Fun Day' run with other churches, which won a recognised project award; we have had more ecumenical prayer meetings at St James; we have had Oak Hill students and a curate on placement; there is more diversity of worship and prayer styles; 'Prayer on the Streets' has developed and continues to be a success; there are better relationships within the Toddlers group; the fabrics team has a plan and has obtained some grants; St James has become more outward looking.

This mission action plan is targeted at each of the ministries at St James, with aims for each area. This is a working document and we will review the plan throughout the year.

Our mission is the mission of Jesus: we are to bring Good News to those in our community, leading them to the truth of Jesus.

Our action is to obediently do as Jesus did and instructed us, as in the great commission.

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

- > **Our plan** includes many areas of ministry. This is because in order to make a difference, everything we do should be intentional and missional - how we serve will show others Jesus. We are always aiming to move forward, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as we continue to develop into the family of God that Jesus wants us to be, and work to be the hub of the community. To make sure there is an equal pattern of entry (Gospel message), Big picture (how does the Bible influence the whole), foundation of faith, discipleship (life application) and challenge/discipline (belonging, believing, behaving)

'A new command I give to you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.'

John 13: 34-35

In each area of ministry we should think about:

how we include opportunities to worship and learn, to be in the presence of God, encounter God and be transformed ('up')	activities that build up the body of Christ and help us to be family ('in')	how we can reach out to those that don't know Jesus through evangelism and being good news ('out')
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This **'Up/In/Out'** measure always needs to be applied in every area of ministry and will prevent us being a 'holy huddle', or just a social club, keeping us Jesus-centred.

For instance, if we are putting on an event for women, we must ask:

- > how does this help us to grow in faith? (up)
- > how do we support each other? (in)
- > how do we reach out to the community? (out)

All teams should be thinking about raising up new leaders all the time, although there will be a few cases where succession planning is a specific activity for the coming year. It will be appropriate to have co-leaders for all the ministries.

Our plan should be consistent with the Diocesan mission plan but doesn't need to be structured in the same way:

Living God's love: Going Deeper into God, Making New Disciples, Transforming Communities



Outreach and considerations

- > We will be developing Jim's Advice Centre (now Monday and Wednesday) and our weekly activities. To increase our influence in the community; including supporting Citizens Advice; Christians Against Poverty; a women's Bible study group (Woman Alive), weekly community and we seek to be the HUB of the community.
- > We will continue to develop our relationships with other Christian Churches, through the Ministers meetings, prayer meetings and the Community Fun Day.
- We will continue the development of the Ministry Team Leaders Group; this will help to enable the MAP and primarily be concerned with the spiritual life of the church.
- The PCC will, of course, continue to be involved with the legal running of the Church but will also be instrumental in implementing the MAP.
- We also seek to change the DNA of St James to be a place of thanksgiving and belonging, to take seriously the belonging, believing, behaving model of mission.
- We will continue to seek to establish a good relationship with Oak Hill and New Wine and continue to support Students.

Our Main Goals for 2020

- . To improve our welcome and help newcomers belong
- . To continue to be good stewards of finance and resources
- . To increase our influence in the community and mission opportunities (develop Jim's)
- . To identify and invest in equipping the leaders (so they equip their teams)
- . To continue to invest in Youth and Children
- . To draw more into the presence of God through all we are doing, so our doing comes from our being!
 - To be a place where prayer is a priority!

Specific Ministry Areas

(in alphabetic order not in order of importance)

Children and Youth Team

Paul Robinson

- > Children's work and Youth work to develop leaders and helpers and find opportunities to develop relationships within the groups and with the team.
- > Developing support team for Safeguarding and appointing new Safeguarding Officer
- > Encourage more children and young people to attend church and know church is a place for them not just adults; by encouraging them to take part more in services and to interact more with other members of the church

Identify those at the Toddlers that would engage with a smaller group. To start to bridge the gap between Toddlers and Church; to encourage each age group to continue into the next age groups activity

- > Find a replacement for Soul Survivor

Fabric, Buildings & Contracts

Carol Connah and team

- > Develop the Fabric Team and generally meet termly
- > Develop a strategy to make the church assets more efficient and greener
- > Develop a strategy to deal with the issues raised by the Quinquennial Report
- > Obtain grants working with Finance Team

Giving, Grants & Finance

Zoe Jones, Chris Jones, Stewart Jones, John Price

- > Develop Finance Team and maintain good practice
- > Maintain a workable budget
- > Develop a stewardship strategy for income and expenditure and ensure we are good stewards: to build up our reserves; continue to employ our staff; continue to grow God's work in our community
- > Seek grants for Jim's; Youth and Children's Work; Fabric

Life Groups

Laura Hewitt

- > To equip the leaders of Life Groups and small groups, to have co leaders of each group alongside the leader
- > **Achieve a higher proportion of regular church membership in Life Groups and other small groups (to also include newcomers) – keep this on the agenda when meeting with Life Group Leaders**
- > Identify new Life Group leaders

Men's Ministry

Simon Vincent and Martin Smith

- > Hold one evangelistic event each term and invite those outside the church
- > Develop Men's programme of events for the year to include men's breakfasts; regular 'pub' meetings; prayer meeting on Saturday mornings with breakfast in a pub.

Overseas & Home Mission Team

Laura Hewitt

- > Increase awareness in the congregation of local and wider missional needs, Jim's, Children's Society, Tearfund, CAP, Foodbank, homeless, Christian Green Group etc.
- > Discuss and agree how the tithing and giving of the church should be used. Promote awareness in the congregation of where the money has been spent
- > Support our Mission partners and increase awareness in the congregation
- > Develop Christians Against Poverty and Jim's (advice centre) (awareness)

Pastoral Care & Visiting

Alistair Heagerty and Laura Hewitt and others

- > Train people to visit and give home communions and identify those housebound who have been missed
- > Develop a team of people willing to cook or do chores during a crisis period
- > Develop a ministry to families with special needs (Becky Craggs and Pam Bayman)
- > To encourage awareness of the Hardship Fund and ensure good use of the funds

Prayer Ministry

Christine Mulford, Rich Coombes, Rosemary Leaver

- > Train a ministry team available on a Sunday and at other times
- > Develop the 'Prayer on the Streets' team
- > Teaching on healing and prophecy. Increase the involvement of St James in prayer life of the church, through different prayer styles
- > To develop a corporate prayer pattern (times of prayer and reflection) – **awareness of the meditation prayer meeting etc. (produce an up to date leaflet)**
- > **To develop an all member ministry, whereby praying for each other is the DNA of the church**

Publicity & Marketing

Bryony Porter and Caroline Jones

- > Increase awareness of activities and church presence in the community (therefore more people attending).
Increase use of our website by congregation members and visitors. Develop a plan for social media use to increase awareness of St James, and way of using social media for mission
- > Encourage use of the St James logo on all publicity

Increase and encourage use of the Newslink (Caroline) (to go bimonthly)
- >

Sound & Technical

David Mulford

- > Identify new members for the sound desk and PC team, particularly thinking about young people; train them up properly (including testing readers, preachers, leaders etc on a Sunday)
- > Take good sound etc seriously - it. is part of the welcome and mission, so people don't have to struggle to engage

Teaching, Discipleship & Vocation

Simon Vincent and Laura Hewitt

- > Raise up new leaders specifically in service leading/preaching. Identify anyone who has a calling to authorised ministry and enable their exploration
- > Support **Rosemary with the Edge, to find a co-leader, and have a plan for ongoing seeker courses**
- > Investigate different ways we can engage with scripture and prayer on a regular basis
- > Consider the individual teaching and pastoral needs of those who lead and support opportunities for further training
- >

Welcome Team

Chris and Caroline Jones

- > Increase the team and encourage them to notice newcomers and people who are on their own, to enable conversations and connections at the beginning and the end of services
- > To encourage all members of the congregation to be involved in the welcome, so DNA of church is one of welcome; encourage team to introduce newcomers to other members of church family.

Women's Ministry

Angela Plumb and Tracy Corker, Sue Walsh

- > Hold 2 Women's Brunches per year
- > Regular get together times for the women of the congregation
- > Yearly woman's day

Worship Team

David Mulford and Simon Perera

- > Attract more people to church on Sundays (a sign that more want to worship and are growing in faith)
- > Meet regularly and provide training and times of reflection/development of worship styles
- > Develop 'Encounter' – evening worship service
- > **To all be engaged in worship and going in the same direction, into the presence of God**
- > **Develop a twice a year night of worship soaking**