

St Paul's, Ansdell and Fairhaven

Mission Action Plan 2013

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Introduction:

It is recognised that a great deal of good work already exists within the Church Community, involvement of parishioners and clergy in many areas such as Church services, home visits, out reach from the Charity Shop ... long may this be continued. How can it grow and developed?

Our Aims:

To raise awareness and profile of St Pauls and its relevance to the community, to increase the number of people who attend all the Church services, making everyone feel welcome and in the long term develop the vision of St Pauls, which is:

"To work in unity to share the Good News of Christ"

Phases:

We have looked at our aims and believe that they can be actioned in three phases:

- Short term goals/achievements - implemented immediately or within 6 months.
- Medium term goals/achievements - implemented within 6 - 18 months.
- Long term achievements - implemented within 18 months or longer.

Key: (1) Short term
(2) Medium term
(3) Long term

▪ ***DEVELOPING AND GROWING A WARM AND WELCOMING CARING FELLOWSHIP***

Name Tag Sunday!

All Sunday service attendees to wear name tags one Sunday (possibly more time allowed during the Peace). (1)

Social Events

Build on existing and new social events such as Lent lunch, Easter/Summer/Christmas fairs, table tops, Quiz, Beetle drive and possibly introduce regular luncheons and afternoon teas. (1)

Prayer tree (in the charity shop)

On the same principle as the prayer board in the Lady Chapel or possibly move the prayer board in the Lady Chapel towards the back of church. **(1)**

Poorly Members, Housebound and Non Attendees

Mothers Union and parishioners regularly visit poorly members thus enabling them to feel part of the Church community. We could build upon the good work already undertaken as some great work is done here; possibly we just need to bring the various strands together. **(1)**

Advertise / Press Officer - we need to advertise all events to encourage participation i.e. use local media (radio/press) perhaps more in the Pews News, posters in St Pauls charity shop window, more use of the external display board, more on the "Who's who" board in Church, mail drops, hand deliveries, etc to promote forthcoming events. Press Officer no-one currently in position we need someone to be active in this area to develop contacts with local radio and press to co-ordinate all publicity activities - possibly assist with maintaining the website/facebook/weekly notices/diary to enable Fr D to minister to parishioners **(1-3)**

▪ ***DEVELOP AND ENRICH OUR RANGE OF SERVICES TO ENCOURAGE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP***

Greater participation of families

Invites - to all families that have had a baptism or confirmation within the last 12 – 24 months to suitable services such as Mothering Sunday service, Harvest, Nativity etc. Send out anniversary baptism cards etc. **(1)**

5th Sunday of the month (or a nominated Sunday each season) - thoughts to this Sunday service possibly becoming a family service with family style hymns – possibly we could undertake one or two as a trial. **(1)**

Thursday Service - Invite to all other parishioners as a trial, this would have to be on the Thursday Services terms as we do not want to discourage people from attending. We also need to encourage children to stay at the Thursday service after they leave Primary School (possibly by splitting into 3 separate age groups to target specific ages), encourage new families and encourage new leaders. **(1)**

Church Parade- encourage Rainbows and Guides to come along once a month or school half term, the Christingle, Carol and Harvest services has been a positive start. **(1)**

▪ **TO FIND WAYS OF ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO EXPLORE AND EMBRACE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH**

Face to Face contact - for example the charity shop could informally encourage customers to attend our services or events, we could encourage parishioners to proactively talk to friends and colleagues to publicise events and special event/services. (1)

Bible Study – Designate a Sunday as an interaction Sunday – this Sunday could either take the form of a Bible study discussion or a discussion on the morning’s sermon, in the Church Hall after Service. (2)

Courses - Introduction of an Alpha course or similar course - this would need to be advertised. We could invite those interested to the confirmation classes as an alternative, if there are no confirmation candidates we could run something similar. (3)

Summary

The MAP group has worked to formulate this action plan and has provided “suggestions” as to how these initial ideas may be achieved.

These ideas however need to be presented to the PCC for consideration. They require the PCC’s support, ratification and assistance on resource allocation before any action or adoption (if appropriate) is undertaken or presented to the rest of the parish.

Footnote: *This Report was accepted unanimously by the PCC at its meeting on 17th June, 2013.*