

Glasgow and Galloway Mission Action Plan



Name of Charge/s: All Saints', Gretna

Name of Facilitator: Edith Thorp

MAP Completed

Strategic intent is growth

Stage 1: Why are we going for Growth?

<p>Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - your Church as God would see it - where God has been, and is, at work in the community and in church - what needs to be retained or relinquished 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - God would see All Saints' as a motivated, scriptural congregation, is patient with us, sometimes angry and sad that we do not communicate with or listen to each other. He is shocked and disappointed when we have a materialistic outlook, or can be hypocritical, but understands who we are. He sees a congregation who are trying to use the gifts that have been given. Gifts of hospitality, mission, ecumenical involvement, leadership, and are good at socialising, willing to carry on, move forward, change. God wants to be our shepherd - is sad when we turn away from Him as He loves us and values who we are. - We are a congregation which is part of the Annandale group of five churches, and our main focus is to raise money for our part in the Rector's stipend. This is a heavy burden, but also an opportunity to work within the community. All Saints' has a very good standing within the local community and as the church building is used for money raising events, the community is familiar with who we are. There is involvement weekly, with the town primary school (senior pupils attend the school in Annan), and on occasion have services in church. Have recently started a 'family' service led by the laity. In the morning, once a week there is a 'Chat' group which meets in the 'hall' (part of the church itself) which is very popular and growing. Occasional events e.g. providing bacon butties for sale when the Olympic torch went through, give service and raise our awareness to the local community and income for All Saints'. - We want to retain the already ongoing involvement in the community - We want to relinquish anxiety to make money for the ongoing upkeep of the church and our part of the stipend of the Rector.



<p>Appraise, affirm and celebrate: with regard to each strand of the strategy, we exhibit the following strengths ...</p>	<p>Motivated, ecumenically aware, given to hospitality, a sociable congregation, willing to carry on, use the gifts that we have been given, although too many people think that they have the gift of leadership, which can lead to tension and difficulty! A missionary church</p>
<p>Assess: with regard to each strand of the strategy, we suffer from the following weaknesses....</p>	<p>At times, too many leaders at one time. We do not communicate well with each other, can be hypocritical, we loose sight of God sometimes.</p>
<p>Investigate: with regard to each strand of the strategy, we detect the following opportunities...</p>	<p>A deepening of commitment to God, each other, and the local community through prayer, and dialogue. The crowning of the gala queen and graduation from school ceremonies taking place in church, a request for a healing service been asked for, along with the recent introduction of a monthly family service were given as immediate opportunities</p>
<p>Communicate: How has everything so far been communicated?</p>	<p>Sermon slot, introducing the invitation by God, through the Scriptures, to respond to His love for us and the community. The Rector preaching and making the Strategy a priority to the congregation. Updating a designated noticeboard. A 'day' on the strands (strengths/weaknesses) with feedback circulated to the whole congregation. A letter to the congregation asking for further reflection on the strengths/weaknesses before a session to decide the strands to be chosen followed by feedback.</p>



Stage 2: What will our Growth Strategy involve?

<p>God's call to growth.</p> <p>Having thought about the challenges for each strand, discern your overall strategic response.</p> <p>(i) what is your vision of the way of life God is calling you to?</p> <p>(ii) what values do you need to have for this growth to happen?</p>	<p>(1) Vision: Outreach to the local community, people, and being both faithful and faith full, were the words offered</p> <p>(2) Values: Welcoming, openness, listening and welfare were given.</p>
<p>Our prioritised response</p> <p>To work towards responding to that call, and expressing our values, we will focus upon the following strand (or strands) of the strategy because...</p>	<p>Worship, Prayer and Spirituality</p> <p>Imaginative Outreach into the Local Community</p> <p>That is what God wants; by teaching and knowing the Gospel message for all through activities, e.g. Hymns of Praise, we are showing and advertising God's love; we believe we can help others because Jesus has helped us; people do not see the relevance of God, nor the relevance of the church in their daily life.</p>



<p>Goals</p> <p>We will address the following by means of...</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Deepening our own discernment of God's calling to us and our development as disciples through growth in individual and corporate prayer2. Developing our sense of being the Body of Christ in this place, various yet united; loving one another3. Making sure that what folk who are not yet members know about All Saints is good and true4. Reaching out to those very people through hospitality and worship5. Getting to know our context and making good connections with the community
--	--



Stage 3: How will we encourage Growth?

Plans, processes, people and resources

Remember: SMART – plans must be Specific and documented,

You must be able to Measure the difference you are making; so change or re-visit the Goals if necessary.

Your proposals must be Achievable; do not try to meet impossible goals.

Actions must be able to be Resourced, by people, buildings, and funding.

To enable proper review, your actions must be Time bounded.

Actions: small achievable steps which gradually build into something bigger		Who	When
	Overall convenor - the person with Edith as MAP Facilitator communicates as she keeps her watching brief	Vestry Secretary	4 x per year
	Insert MAP news/updates/prayer needs into pew sheet weekly	Vestry Secretary to Martin	Weekly
	Worship, Prayer and Spirituality		
1	(i) The continued development of experiencing shared silence in the Service of the Word, already greatly appreciated by the congregation	Peter Carey	Ongoing
1	(ii) Liaison with the Development Team for Prayer and Spirituality to put on a Quiet Day	Peter/Susan Carey (with link made through Edith)	Advent 2014?
2	<i>Unity through healing achieved through</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>naming the divisions that exist</i> • <i>recognising the diversity in the mix</i> • <i>affirming the variety of gifts and the range of activities that exist</i> 	Everyone	Ongoing
2	(i) Harvest Service when the different groups and/or individuals 'show their wares' and their contributions are blessed Prayer support of those involved in the Goals	Rector, Pat, Freda and Julie	



2	(ii)	<p>Development of Sunday Intercessions to include the naming of the needs and the achievements of the various groups within the life of All Saints, and the work that people do in the week</p> <p>New and existing Intercessors to be encouraged to attend the day Gill Young is leading</p> <p>Rota to include new intercessors</p>	<p>John to convene Intercessions development group</p> <p>John Macleod</p> <p>Freda</p>	<p>From signing onward</p> <p>Date of workshop</p>
3		Prayer Competition	Sarah	Completed
4		Listening to see if God is calling us to hold a Healing Service ; and discussion of this if that is the way we feel we are being led	Clergy	Throughout the year
		Imaginative Outreach into the Local Community		
1		Community Audit Convene group to get started on this work, with possible help/encouragement from the Diocesan group	Reay, Derek and Wednesday group	Throughout the year
2		<p>Develop Website – shop window of the congregation. Liaise with Andrew Walker, diocesan IT Officer to get this going</p> <p>Investigate Church Facebook page</p>	<p>Rector, John Macleod, Phyllis?, Reay</p> <p>Angelina? Phyllis?</p>	<p>Now</p> <p>2015</p>
3		Wednesday Group/A Touching Place ; continue to enable this outreach opportunity to develop	Reay, Pat, Julie, Karen, Mike	From signing
4		Keep in contact with 2015 Village Centenary preparation through reps on Committee	Pat, Julie	Ongoing
5		Start thinking about 2017 Church Centenary celebrations	Freda, Julie, Derek	Ongoing
		Planning of Centenary Flower Festival	Pat, Freda Julie	Ongoing
6		Setting up of a Trained Welcomers' Team .	Martin	Training Day





Stage 4 Outputs: keeping the MAP alive

We will endeavour to address these Goals **through leadership, prayer support, noticeboard updates, monthly updating leaflet.**

We have already identified the “resilience” required to keep the MAP alive. The following factors will not discourage us in our task:

Other priorities impinging on our time; allowing the tasks to slip; non-participation; and criticism.

Date of MAP Review with Bishop/Dean

.....

MAP signed by

Rector/clergyperson

.....Date.....

Associate Priest

.....Date.....

Secretary of the Vestry

.....Date.....

(6 copies are signed, being for the Rector, Associate Priest, the Vestry, Bishop Gregor, the Convenor of the Regional Council and the Facilitator.)

I will keep in contact with the charge throughout this coming year as they work for growth

Facilitator

.....Date.....

Agreed frequency of ongoing Facilitator contact

.....

Spirit of our Loving God,
in your mercy and compassion



inspire, encourage and empower us
to live and work together
as a Diocese,
to allow your mission for us
to take flesh
through Jesus Christ
our Living and Eternal Lord.Amen

