

# Glasgow and Galloway Mission Action Plan



**Name of Charge/s** St Paul & St John Monklands

**Name of Facilitator** Ian Wilkins

**MAP Completed** .....

**Strategic intent is growth**

## Stage 1: Why are we going for Growth?

<p><b>Review</b>          - <i>your Church as God would see it</i>          - <i>where God has been, and is, at work in the community and in church</i>          - <i>what needs to be retained or relinquished</i></p>	<p><b>Church as God would see it:</b> We are a faithful, consistent congregation who are very proud of our heritage within the SEC. We are active in our setting, and individual members of the congregation are involved in a variety of activities and organisations.</p> <p><b>Where God has been, and is at work:</b> God works through the Sunday Services, including our musical tradition and our Pastoral Team. The Rector, choir and Vestry are all busy as part of representing God in today's world. One area where we have felt God at work is in Churches Together in Airdrie, where we are starting to be known within the town. We participate in the Lanarkshire "Open Doors" day. There has been growth in the work with children through "Messy Church". The Vestry's work and creativity has grown since the 2010 "Away Day". We are exploring the use of new media as a way of increasing knowledge of our presence. We also have social activities, including a walking group.</p> <p><b>What needs to be retained:</b> We need to retain our distinctiveness, and our practice of acceptance and diversity within the Congregation. We wish to retain our "open to all" identity. We need to retain the support of the existing congregation as we look at doing new things.</p>
<p><b>Check:</b>  <i>understanding of each strand</i></p>	
<p><b>Appraise, affirm and celebrate:</b>  <i>with regard to each strand of the strategy, we exhibit the following strengths ...</i></p>	<p>We are welcoming, consistent and distinct in our ways of worship. The Congregation is confident and realistic about what can be achieved through the growth strategy. There is great commitment in giving by the Congregation, in time, money and in other ways.</p>



<p><b>Assess:</b> <i>with regard to each strand of the strategy, we suffer from the following weaknesses...</i></p>	<p>We need to build on our confidence in what can be achieved. We would like to increase our prayer and spirituality. There are geographic disadvantages in regard to the site of the building, and its position in a residential area. We desire to strengthen the outward looking vision of the congregation. We need to balance change with the desires of the existing congregation. We need to encourage everyone in the congregation to be involved in the plans, and to be realistic about what can be achieved.</p>
<p><b>Investigate:</b> <i>with regard to each strand of the strategy, we detect the following opportunities...</i></p>	<p>There is a desire to build on the heritage of the SEC in Monklands. We note the quest of people for quietness and regularity in their busy lives. New links have been made with other Congregations, which will grow. Promotion of wider events within the SEC will help to strengthen the regular worshippers. We have a good building which could support a variety of groups.</p>
<p><b>Communicate:</b> <i>How has everything so far been communicated?</i></p>	<p>The vision was discussed at the Church away day 2010. Regular communication is made via the Vestry and at Sunday Services. As part of the Mission Action Plan, a Mapping Exercise was undertaken, which was well supported. The Church has web links and Facebook and Twitter feeds.</p>

## Stage 2: What will our Growth Strategy involve?

<p><b>God's call to growth.</b></p> <p><i>Having thought about the challenges for each strand, discern your overall strategic response.</i></p> <p><i>(i) what is your vision of the way of life God is calling you to?</i></p> <p><i>(ii) what values do you need to have for this growth to happen?</i></p>	<p>Vision: To utilise the distinctive and accepting way in which worship is carried out. To encourage the strength and commitment of those who regularly worship with the congregation. To build on the musical tradition to show our distinctiveness. Moving from a partially inherited congregation, to be a more outreaching congregation.</p> <p>Values for growth: Confidence in God and in ourselves. Togetherness. Belief in the vision that God has for the community.</p>
---	--

<p><b>Our prioritised response</b></p> <p><i>To work towards responding to that call, and expressing our values, we will focus upon the following strand (or strands) of the strategy because...</i></p>	<p>Prayer &amp; Spirituality.</p> <p>Imaginative Outreach into Communities.</p> <p>Children &amp; Young People</p> <p>Prayer &amp; Spirituality is the basis of all Christian belief &amp; activity. We have something different to offer the community, and we have a firm belief in the importance of Young People.</p>
<p><b>Goals</b></p> <p><i>We will address the following by means of...</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prayer &amp; Bible Study.</li> <li>2. Continuing to be unified and inviting others to participate.</li> <li>3. Targeted promotion and outreach activities.</li> <li>4. Become more widely known within the broader Church community in Monklands. Create more links with further chances to show the distinctiveness.</li> <li>5. Showing those with no Church background why the Christian approach is more valid today than ever it was.</li> </ol>

### **Stage 3: How will we encourage Growth?**

#### **Plans, processes, people and resources**

*Remember: SMART – plans must be **S**pecific and documented, You must be able to **M**easure the difference you are making; so change or re-visit the Goals if necessary.*

*Your proposals must be **A**chievable; do not try to meet impossible goals.*

*Actions must be able to be **R**esourced, by people, buildings, and funding.*

*To enable proper review, your actions must be **T**ime bounded.*



<b>Actions: <i>small achievable steps which gradually build into something bigger</i></b>		<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>
	Use existing networks & contacts to widen knowledge of St Paul & St John's, Monklands and the SEC. Increase co-operation with other Churches in the area.	All	Review at Lent 2013
	Support and encourage the Messy Church initiative jointly undertaken with St Columba's C of S.	Rector & volunteers	Christmas 2012
	Promote the distinctive and accepting way of worship within the SEC by holding occasional "event" services.	Vestry, Rector, Choir & Congregation	Trinity 2013
	Promote a regular Bible reading/Discussion/Intercession based on the Lectionary via the weekly news sheet. To use social networking sites to increase the reach of the discussion.	Volunteer (s)	Review at Lent 2013
	Seek to invite outside groups to use the good facilities available at the Church Building. Explore links with a "Discovery Award" Group.	All	AGM 2013
	Events tied into Christian Feasts & Holy Days.	All	AGM 2013
	Consider what links could be built with local schools.	Rector/Dean/Vestry	Christmas 2012



## Stage 4 Outputs: keeping the MAP alive

We will endeavour to **address these plans in action, ongoing consultation and prayer**, and will regularly **affirm and celebrate God's gifts and blessings and our responses**, culminating in our annual MAP review. We will communicate widely what we have attempted, so that others may learn from our experience.

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

- *Impending Changes in the wider Church Structure in Monklands.*
- *Need to encourage changes and new actions.*
- *Existing commitments of the members of the congregation.*

Date of MAP Review with Bishop/Dean .....

MAP signed by

Rector/clergyperson .....Date.....

Secretary of the Vestry .....Date.....

(5 copies are signed, being for the cleric, the Vestry, Bishop Gregor, the Convenor of the Regional Council and the Facilitator. One is posted on the Growth Strategy web site for public viewing.)

*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      Quarterly

*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*

