

# Glasgow and Galloway Mission Action Plan



**Name of Charge/s** St Andrew`s Irvine

**Name of Facilitator** Elizabeth Matheson

**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>We have worshipped at our church in Irvine for almost 40 years where we share the building with the Church of Scotland congregation. There have been difficulties over the years but generally both congregations work well together. We are a gathered community but are located within a high populated area which is a mission field for us. The community use the halls regularly, although this responsibility lies with the Church of Scotland there are still possibilities for outreach. We need to let go of the idea that because we are small we cannot offer much to the area and its people. We need to retain our togetherness and support for each other.</p>
<p><b>Check:</b>  <i>understanding of each strand</i></p>	<p>Yes we have reflected on them</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>Togetherness, Friendship          Support for one another          Good worship Leaders          Strong Ministry Team          Love          Ecumenical Relations</p>
<p><b>Assess:</b>  <i>with regard to each strand of the strategy, we suffer from the following weaknesses....</i></p>	<p>Don't encourage growth          Lack of young people          Few in Numbers          Lack of outreach</p>
<p><b>Investigate:</b>  <i>with regard to each strand of the strategy, we detect the following opportunities...</i></p>	<p>More care in the community          More pastoral visits          More social events          Spread our love further</p>
<p><b>Communicate:</b>  <i>How has everything so far been communicated?</i></p>	<p>By powerpoint presentation, discussion at Vestry, discussion with the congregation at a Sunday service as their support is essential in the growth strategy, through prayer, and articles in the Church Magazine.</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>We recognise our responsibility to be an Episcopalian church presence in Irvine, but are also aware of our Church of Scotland partners who have the same mission and outreach ideals to achieve.</p> <p>Working together on any outreach plan or invitation would certainly make sense but we are some way off in reassuring ourselves that this would be actively promoted.</p> <p>More trust and interaction is needed between our congregations to allow closer working although we now have a Forum to bring each of our concerns and hopes it will take a little while for this to reach fruition</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>As a congregation we still believe God is calling us to look for growth as people in the Christian community, both as individuals and corporately and our response to this would be:</p> <p>IMAGINATIVE OUTREACH PRAYER AND SPRITUALITY</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. Animal Blessing Service for the community</li> <li>2. Taize Prayer Service for Advent and at other suitable times</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</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:</b> <i>small achievable steps which gradually build into something bigger</i>			<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>
		Animal Blessing Service	Linda	October
		Taize Prayer Service	Martin	Advent



## 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:*

*The fact that we are few in numbers and are an ageing congregation*

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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.)

*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*

