

Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway
Welcome, Integration, and Numerical Growth Development Team (WINGS)
Aims & Objectives

THE TEAM

Rev Drew Sheridan (Convenor) – Rector of St John's, Greenock and St Bartholomew's Gourock

Rev Liz O'Ryan – Curate at St John's, Greenock and St Bartholomew's Gourock

Mrs Edith Leven – retired Primary Depute, St John's, Dumfries

Rev Dr Tom Wilson – Rector of Holy Trinity and St Barnabas, Paisley

The Welcome and Integration in every church needs to be organised, structured and carried out with authenticity. It can no longer be left to chance.

We, as a team, will help you identify your **strengths and weaknesses** in the welcome and integration strategies you already have in place and give you **toolboxes** with ideas to get you started on thinking about how to improve your Welcome and Integration.

Our work with you will help you to focus on and evaluate one or all of the following:

BASIC WELCOME

- **Buildings:** e.g., noticeboards, streetscape, gardens, signage, disabled access, sanctuary, seating, facilities, loop system, tidiness, numinous space, Hall space, kitchen, heating, lighting, health and safety issues
- **Communication and Publicity:** e.g., welcome pack, noticeboards, notice sheets, magazine, relationship with local media, Facebook, Twitter, Website, Community profile advertising
- **Services:** e.g., variety of services offered, hymns and music, timing of services, accessibility for the un-churched, style of worship, language of liturgy, posture instructions, amount of paper work given out, thematic clarity, lay involvement
- **People:** e.g., welcome teams, congregational responsibilities, welcome at the door, welcome during services, welcome at coffee time, welcome cards, visits, invitations, contact with occasional visitors, continued contact with baptised, and newly married, authenticity of relationship offered, confidence in talking about their faith, pastoral care teams

INTEGRATION

- **Keeping People:** e.g., how successful is your church at encouraging people to return and belong to your church?
- **Making friends:** e.g., how effective is your congregation at responding to the call of today's people who are looking, not for a friendly church, but for a church where they can make friends?
- **Providing groups:** e.g., interest groups for young, old, middle-aged, gender specific, groups offering spiritual food and guidance, study groups, groups where those on the fringes can relate, house groups
- **Providing roles:** e.g., how good is your congregation at giving roles to newcomers; how are the gifts and talents of newcomers identified and utilised in services and life of the community?
- **Holding social events:** e.g., is there a vibrant cycle of changing social events which outsiders and newcomers can be invited to, days away, pilgrimages, weekends away, communal meals?

NUMERICAL GROWTH

- How to become an **invitational church**
- How passionate is your congregation about the Gospel, sharing their faith and the possibility of growth?

CONTACT

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