

Mission Action Plan

Parish: Altham, St James	Deanery: Accrington	Date: Jan 2014
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Stage1: Review

<p>Our Strengths “Isn’t it good that...”</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have a beautiful and ancient building which provides a deeply spiritual base for our work and worship 2. We have good links with the church school, but they could be better 3. We have contact with the wider community through baptisms and guided tours 4. We have a broad spread of ages in the congregation 5. We have a small team of enthusiastic and committed lay leaders 6. We have made some tentative links with the workers on the Industrial Estate
<p>Our Weaknesses “Isn’t it a pity that...”</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The small congregation places an onerous and too large onus on those committed lay leaders 2. We are a village church with hardly any village 3. We fail to keep children after confirmation (and after admission to St Christopher’s High School) 4. Increasing costs present a challenge for stewardship 5. We haven’t developed our links with the day-school to their full potential 6. We are finding it such hard work to develop better links with the workers on the industrial estate
<p>Our Opportunities “Wouldn’t it be good if ...”</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The congregation increased its commitment to mission and ministry 2. We improved our communications to reach the wider community 3. We did more to encourage families to worship 4. We didn’t have to worry about raising funds to supplement giving 5. We made further inroads into developing links with the Industrial Estate 6. We further developed our links with the day-school 7. We started to look at ways of engaging with the residents of the Altham West housing estate (situated some 2 miles from the church)
<p>Our Mission Values What influences and motivates us ...</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our rich heritage for the faith and traditions of the church 2. A good leadership team 3. The “Wow” factor of Altham St James 4. To see new members grow and play a part in church life

Last MAP actions competed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have improved work and worship in the day-school 2. We have had success in attracting new families through weddings and baptisms (not necessarily in that order!) 3. We have made tentative links with the Industrial Estate 4. We have developed guided tours of the church as a means of publicising the church in the wider community, and as a means of raising funds 5. We have made very tentative links with the residents of the Sefton Farm housing estate
Last MAP Actions not completed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce a "Welcome Pack" for new families 2. Invite business representatives to an "Industrial harvest" service

Stage 2: Choose

Our Mission Statement Our purpose/reason to be here.	We are a small church family striving to grow towards God, and to encourage others to do likewise.
Our Vision Statement How we want to be described 5 years from now.	To grow in Altham a vibrant, inclusive, Christian presence, providing a spirituality accessible to all and participating in God's mission to the world.
Our Priority Goals A maximum of 5 for this next year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not only to survive the Interregnum, but to grow during it 2. To find the right person to lead us through the next stage of the journey 3. To continue to develop links with the day-school and local community 4. To adapt our church programme and pattern of worship to better reflect the needs of today

Stage 3: Plan

Actions			Who	When
1	a	Develop dedicated parish website	Sue Tinker, Les Moore and Joanne Barnes	May 2014
	b	Appoint a pastoral visitor	PCC	Feb 2014
	c	Appoint someone to continue to take one day school assembly each week and the explore ways of developing other links with the school and the parents of pupils	PCC	March 2014
	d	Invite employees of firms on the Industrial Estate to come for a guided tour of the church	Les Moore & Sue Tinker	June 2014

	e	Invite the day-school pupils and their parents to come for a guided tour of the church	Les Moore & Sue Tinker	June 2014
	f	Develop better communications by the use of IT	Les Moore & Sue Tinker	Sept 2014
	g	To open the church two lunchtimes each week during the summer for visitors and publicise the fact on the Industrial estate	Les Moore	May 2014
	h	Prepare a "Welcome" pack for visitors and new members of the congregation	Les Moore & Sue Tinker	Sept 2014
	i	Appoint a person to collate information from church and school for publication in the Parish magazine.	PCC	May 2014
	j	To encourage the Sunday School to become more involved in Sunday worship.	PCC	May 2014

How are you supporting your MAP with prayer? During Sunday services and at prayers at PCC meetings

How did you draw up your MAP? We had a PCC "away day" to devote time exclusively to the MAP, away from normal PCC business

Date published: Feb 2014 When will your MAP be reviewed? Bi-monthly