

St John the Baptist Westbourne

Mission Action Plan

A. Church in the local community

Over the last few years, St John's has promoted Pastoral Visiting within the Church community and developed a Healing Ministry within the village churches including a prayer scheme. We hope to develop both these groups with prayerful support and encourage them to seek opportunities to work together, support each other and share events; listening to God and being open to change.

Pastoral Visitors

- July 2008 – re-define roles of the group.
- Consider roles that may be shared with other groups.
- Autumn 2008 - create map showing areas of community and identify visitors allocated to each section
- Autumn 2008- agree information for the church congregation.
- Spring 2009 build confidence in visiting approaches by discussion with group members and identifying areas where training may be needed.
- Combine training with other groups for special topics such as developing listening skills (with Healing Ministry Group).
- Review and plan for 2010 - 2011

Healing Ministry Group

- June 2008 - Service in marquee on school playing field as part of village weekend event to include Healing Prayer Ministry.
- September/October 2008 – New training course for church members to learn about Christian Healing Ministry and strengthen ministry team by:
 1. Praying – for ministry/at times of meetings and other events/people who have asked for prayer
 2. Working towards being commissioned as member of healing ministry team who pray with people
 3. Supporting village prayer request scheme.
- September 2009 – Listening skills course
- Review and plan for 2010 - 2011

B. Building Christian Community.

St John's has a small but active 'Youth Ministry' catering for ages new-born to around 16yrs, which includes an active choir membership. The groups are run by a few heavily committed parents and it has been recognised that some work needs to be done in order to support these adults and ensure that the young are fully integrated within the Church life.

During 2008 – 2009 we hope to:

- Develop the older youth's involvement in the Church services, continuing to encourage the Q-West (10 – 14yrs) participation in the Family Service and to look at ways of involving the Youth group (14 – 16yrs) in the Family Eucharist services.

- Have a dedicated PCC sub-committee for the youth work of all ages within the Parish. This should have at least one representative from within the Youth group.(Target for establishment is the new PCC year in 2009)
- Encourage outreach from the Q-West and Youth groups to the community by inviting friends to activity events.
- Contact Church House and organise training for the leaders and for the older children who want to become involved in helping in the Sunday school, Crèche and summer child minding sessions. Also ask their advice about a Youth Worker, as well as investigating other sources.
- Introduce new leaders to the congregation as they are recruited.

In the longer term we would:

- Encourage youth participation with the introduction of a log book or scheme of work which can be recognised through certificates presented in Church.
- Look at having an area within the Church for the young to sit together during services if they would wish to do so.
- Introduce a coffee/drinks/chat session for young adults following an evening service.

C: Community Outreach:

In 2008-9 we want to implement our plan to provide an improved "Parish Hall" for the Church and the wider community in Westbourne. The village has no "village" hall as such and relies on the Church Hall as a usable space for a wide range of activities both Church and non-church based. Our current focus continuing into next year is to plan and raise funds for a much improved building to be available to all.

The timing for this we expect to be:

February 2008 - Finalise plans. Start fund raising by recruiting volunteer visitors. Print brochure and other fundraising material. Initial fund raising with the congregation.

March 2008 - Progress planning application. Publicize project and fund raising appeal within the village.

Easter 2008 – Report to congregation on progress.

April/May 2008 – Determine results of initial fundraising and viability of project. Assuming positive progress applications for grants and plan other fund raising.

Summer 2008 – Fund raising events.

September/October 2008 – Further assessment of funding to date. Assuming minimum required has been raised initiate planning for carrying out of works. Liaise with user groups. Formulate procurement strategy.

Pre-Christmas – PCC determination of whether project has "green light".

New Year – Detailed progress to expect build start date in Spring 2009.