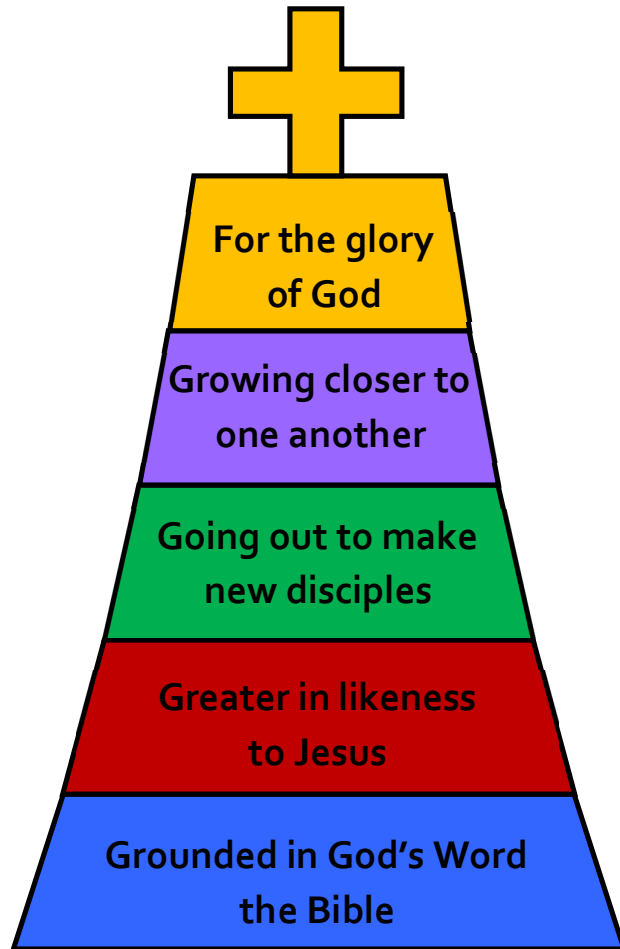


St Nicholas Stevenage Mission Action Plan 2022- 2024

Following a renewal of our previous MAP over the first half of 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic had a huge impact on the life and work of the Church. In the spring of 2022, the PCC prayerfully reconsidered our previous targets and have now drawn up this new Mission Action Plan for 2022-2024.



Our 2012 mission statement has been slightly adjusted, and our 5 aims opposite now sit under a new description that St Nicholas Stevenage is

a Bible-believing, Jesus-proclaiming, people loving community.

As such we remain **grounded in the Bible**, which we believe to be God's inspired, infallible Word. We want to be **greater in likeness to Jesus**, and are committed to deepening our discipleship. We commit ourselves to **going out in to make new disciples**, taking the good news of Jesus to our Parish, town and further beyond in word and deed to make new disciples. As God's gathered people, we want to **grow closer to one another**, building deep, loving friendships. And we want to do all, as well as we can, this **for the glory of God**.

In that context, the items on this MAP have been arranged under 3 main headings:

- (1) The church as a place of worship, discipleship and learning.
- (2) The church as a base camp for mission out in the parish and world.
- (3) The church as a place of welcome for all in the community.

This Mission Action Plan was formally adopted by the PCC at their meeting in May 2022.

It will be reviewed annually and monitored at every PCC meeting.

| 1: The church as a place of worship, discipleship and learning | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| What it is? | When? | £cost? | Who resp? | Success criteria? | Progress |
| GATHERED SUNDAY WORSHIP | | | | | |
| Maintain and our pattern and style of Sunday worship whilst seeking to offer opportunities for other styles of gathering on occasional Sunday evenings and midweek. | On going | £100 for new books | Rector and CW + volunteers | Contentment, growth effectiveness of wp | <i>Wed EP restarted April 2022</i> |
| Trial a monthly all-age service and review after 6 months with a view to making this a permanent and regular part of our gathered worship. | From May to July 22 | Nil | DB | All ages come. Favourable response | <i>Started May 22</i> |
| Provide training for musicians, singers, readers, intercessors and service leaders to maintain and improve standards | tbc | Tbc | CW with Rector | Quality + confidence improves | |
| CHILDREN AND YOUTH WORK | | | | | |
| Find, train and support teachers and helpers to offer children's work on 3 Sundays per month | On going | Nil | | | |
| Begin and continue to resource a youth group for children in Y5-8 | April 22 | Say £200 | DB/JB then PS + team | Group established; kids encouraged | <i>Reg mtgs held. Small grp coming</i> |
| Begin and continue to resource a youth group for children in Y9-13 | 2024 | Tbc | Rector + youth leaders | Group established; kids encouraged | |
| Appoint a youth and children's worker to oversee all our Y+C work, to grow our work in schools and to help encourage and equip parents to teach their children about Jesus | When possible | Unknown | PCC | Person appointed. Ch/YW built up | |
| DISCIPLESHIP AND LEARNING | | | | | |
| Run discipleship courses, study modules and training events for men, women, old and young. | May 2022 | £250pa | Rector + others | Saints equipped + serving | <i>Part 2 will end in July 22</i> |
| Use the church to host half-day conferences to strengthen God's people. Include other churches, deanery, GAFCON, ReNew, Christian Institute, guest speakers etc. | May 2022 | Self-funding | Various | Evidence of growth | <i>DEF conf May 22</i> |
| Organise at least annual teaching and fellowship events such as study days, church weekends at home and a tri-annual church weekend away. | TBC | TBC | Clergy, wardens + planning team | Events held. Good response. | |
| | | | | | |

| 2: The church as a base camp for mission out in the parish and world | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| <i>What it is?</i> | <i>When?</i> | <i>£cost?</i> | <i>Who resp?</i> | <i>Success criteria?</i> | <i>Progress</i> |
| EVENTS/ACTIVITY IN THE CHURCH | | | | | |
| Running evangelistic courses – Christianity Explored, Identity, Hope Explored etc perhaps <u>with meals</u> to attract more attendees. | Spring 2022 and onwards | £300pa | Rector + others | We notice more people coming | <i>Hope Expl + CExpl started June 22</i> |
| Organise, promote and run a children’s holiday club aimed at primary school aged children | Summer 2023 | £500 | Large team! | Events held. Some lasting fruit. | |
| Plan to take part in A Passion for Life Mission 2022 in partnership with other local churches | March/April 2022 | £1000 | DB + KW + team | Events held. People hear gospel. | <i>PfL events held. Good attendance</i> |
| Coffee and cake mornings/afternoons for elderly/lonely - with singing of popular songs/hymns, or games, or films, or quizzes. | Spring 2023 | £200 | Tbc | Happens- contacts made- | |
| Organise and run a Holiday club for the elderly with activities, music and talks appropriate | Summer 2023 | Est £500 | Rector and team | Events held. People hear gospel. | |
| Apply for a Cornhill mission team event every 3 years or so (last one 2021 – hope for 2024) | Summer 2024 | Est £500 | Rector and team | CH team come-events held- fruit | |
| | | | | | |
| EVENTS/ACTIVITY OUT IN THE COMMUNITY | | | | | |
| Plan and carry out a campaign of door-to-door work to make connections with people, tell them the good news of Jesus and as a way to hear about the real needs in our community. | Spring 2022 + ongoing | £200pa | K + S + volunteers | Houses visited-gospel shared | <i>Areas chosen, Visits made, gospel shared</i> |
| Organise events around the parish such as car washing, coffee mornings, carol singing, pub quizzes etc | Summer 2022 | £100pa | ME Team + volunteers | Events happen connections made | |
| Consider extending Carol-singing at sheltered accommodation and nursing homes to other times of year, with popular songs/hymns and short talks- | 2023 | NIL | Lots of volunteers | Events happen connections made | |
| | | | | | |
| EVENTS/ACTIVITIES IN THE WIDER WORLD | | | | | |
| Establish a small team to oversee our online/social media presence | Summer 22 | £300 inc ads/hosting | Media team | Regular monitoring req | |
| Continue to actively support our mission partners with finance, prayer and where possible – practical support | On going | 10% of income | PCC- mission partner team | We support financially + in prayer | <i>Reg letter rec. prayer + practical support given</i> |

| What it is? | When? | £cost? | Who resp? | Success criteria? | Progress |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| 3: The church as a place of welcome for all in the community- to deepen fellowship and build new links | | | | | |
| Primarily for those within the church family | | | | | |
| Regular flower arranging sessions e.g., every 3rd week of the month, for regulars and passers-by/drop-ins to offer an activity to join that includes Christians. | On going | NIL | Chris Chambers | Happens- contacts made | <i>Up and running</i> |
| Run men's and women's breakfast gatherings to build fellowship, deepen friendships and as an easy place to bring interested friends. | Restarted spring 22 | Tbc | Men's team – women's team | Events happen. Faith + relationships grow | <i>Up and running</i> |
| Restart snack and chat... as a place for meals and friendship and an opportunity to reach out to the lonely with the love and good news of Jesus | Easter 2023 | NIL | Team | It happens and grows | |
| Primarily for those outside the church | | | | | |
| Offering a drop-in time for casual passers-by with tea and coffee - including hot chocolate stops for passing teenagers in the winter. | Spring 2022 | £200pa | KW + team | a/a | <i>Hot choc stop Thursday pm</i> |
| Using the historic value of the church to draw in visitors- reg reprint/update guidebook. | On going | NIL | Wardens/Rector | a/a | |
| Organise regular fun days throughout the year such as at Advent or Easter | Regularly | £200pa + income | Rector PLUS teams | People come. Contacts made- fruit? | <i>Easter fun day Plat Jubilee</i> |
| Continue to open the church regularly to offer a place of private prayer and quiet. | On going | NIL | KW plus volunteers | Happens- visitors | <i>Now open 3x a week</i> |
| Bi-annual flower festival | Summer 2022 Summer 2024 | £1000 | Chris C plus Big team | Lots come- contacts made- gospel shared | |
| A man cave! A place for men of a certain age to meet together for friendship, fun, food and to hear the gospel. | Spring 2023 | £300pa | Tbc | Guys come-make friends, meet Jesus | |
| ACTING AS GOOD NEIGHBOURS | | | | | |
| Rebuild links with schools for concerts, special assemblies and educational visits. | On going | NIL | Rector | They occur- links made | <i>Easter services held. Visits/talks given</i> |
| Encourage previous groups to come back – happy hedgehogs, baby bugs, brownies and our own little lambs – and perhaps 1 or 2 others | On going | Net income | CWs | Church is being used | <i>BB restarted May 22</i> |
| Offer our rooms for support groups for those struggling with mental health issues, debt problems, addictions, violence in the home, pregnancy advice, etc | 2022 When opps arise | NIL | Wardens/PCC permission | Rooms used well-connections made | <i>AA group mtg</i> |
| Allow use of the church for outside groups for concerts and gatherings at minimal charge | On going | Net income | MW | Events held, | <i>Weston MS, Stev choral etc</i> |

| 4: Extras: Things that don't fit in anywhere else... | | | | | |
|---|--|--------|---|--|---|
| What it is? | When? | £cost? | Who is resp? | Success criteria? | Progress |
| Consider how to make the PCC more efficient. Do we set up sub groups for finance/giving, buildings/maintenance, for example? | On going | Tbc | PCC | Work of PCC more efficient | <i>Maintenance team est. June 22</i> |
| Run a course to reflect on <i>Living in Love and Faith</i> . Discuss our red lines as a PCC should the CofE vote to change practise or doctrine. | Course held spring 22 | Nil | DB, MB and PCC | Course held. PCC Position clarified | <i>Course held. Response submitted</i> |
| Consider how we engage further with ReNew and Anglicans outside the C of E. Are we able to provide any financial support for a jointly-financed project within the diocese? | Late spring 2023 | Tbc | Rector + PCC | Discussions held. Actions taken | |
| Consider what our response should be if (or when) the houses on Forster country start being built. How should we reach out? What resources would be needed? | | | | | |
| Consider our Parish profile and what kind of minister we would want should the rector fall under a bus. Re-draft our parish profile and keep it regularly updated. Does our mission statement fit? Can we find a better or tighter strap line? | On-going from May 22 to appoint a new Rector | Tbc | Both PCCs, co-opted members and parish reps | A parish profile written and a new rector in place | <i>Review and appointment process currently underway</i> |
| | | | | | |
| THE BUILDING AND ITS ENVIRONS: The building project is almost complete- but we need to... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy new stackable chairs to replace old ones • Do some work in the creche so it has some sound proofing • Build shelves into new storage cupboards • Consider whether we should/can make a gift to SBC with regard to the costs of maintenance/repair of walls and paths which were our responsibility • With our architect's help, set out a plan for the regular maintenance of the church building • Can we make better use of the church yard? For example- might we set up a wildlife project to encourage people to use the church yard and so visit the church? | | | | | <i>New chairs in place</i> <i>Reg maintenance plans on going</i> <i>Maintenance team now set up to manage these items</i> |
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