

Glasgow and Galloway Mission Action Plan



Name of Charge/s St Andrew's Ardrossan

Name of Facilitator Elizabeth Matheson

MAP Completed

Strategic intent is growth

Stage 1: Why are we going for Growth?

<p>Review <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 are a welcoming Congregation and have a willingness to work for God. However, we have an ageing congregation and can sometimes be old-fashioned. We do tend to suffer from poor communications. We are a caring community, not only for ourselves but also for people outside the church. We need to retain our welcoming spirit and care for others. We need to let go of the past, which we tend to hold as comfort and security, and step out in faith to move forward.</p>
<p>Check: <i>understanding of each strand</i></p>	<p>We are comfortable with our understanding of each strand of the vine.</p>
<p>Appraise, affirm and celebrate: <i>with regard to each strand of the strategy, we exhibit the following strengths ...</i></p>	<p>Faith; Welcoming; Good Clergy team; Lovely building; Good musical tradition; Willingness to work for God; Enthusiastic Sunday School; Many people raise money for charities within the local community.</p>
<p>Assess: <i>with regard to each strand of the strategy, we suffer from the following weaknesses...</i></p>	<p>Lack of money and young people; upkeep of the building; far-flung congregation; few in numbers; not sure what skills we have; Poor communication; Too much time spent on material things.</p>
<p>Investigate: <i>with regard to each strand of the strategy, we detect the following opportunities...</i></p>	<p>We can share the building which is in great location; Tap into our enthusiasm and find our skills; enlarge range of groups; adopt better communications; can fundraise</p>
<p>Communicate: <i>How has everything so far been communicated?</i></p>	<p>Powerpoint Presentation, discussion at Vestry, discussion with congregation at Sunday Service, through Prayer and articles in Church Magazine.</p>



Stage 2: What will our Growth Strategy involve?

<p>God's call to growth.</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 feel that we are being called to make use of the resources and skills we already have in order to increase our own Spirituality, to make our presence in the area more visible, and to share what we have with others.</p> <p>We feel we need to work on our own prayer and spirituality but also to include some kind of outreach which possibly includes children and young people.</p> <p>We need a willingness to be involved, confidence that we can achieve our goals, trust that we are working for God, and the courage to step out in faith.</p>
<p>Our prioritised response</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>Prayer and Spirituality</p> <p>Imaginative Outreach; Children and Young People;</p> <p>We feel that if we are at ease with our own spirituality then we are better equipped to share that with others. We also feel that our own, and communal prayer, is enormously important to the whole growth process. We believe that by following the Imaginative Outreach strand we will involve the wider community which will get the church noticed and which will hopefully lead to numerical growth too. Our children and young people are our future and so we feel it important to attract, help and guide them by creating an atmosphere of fun and faith in safety.</p>
<p>Goals</p> <p><i>We will address the following by means of...</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revisiting our prayer lists and teams. 2. Providing opportunities for quiet times with prayer 3. Enhancing our worship with new styles of music 4. Getting the Church noticed by providing opportunities for families 5. Use prayer to underpin all we do



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.*

Actions: <i>small achievable steps which gradually build into something bigger</i>			Who	When
		Taize Service of Prayer	Martin	Already Growing
		Quiet time during Sunday worship	Martin	Advent Lent
		Formation of singing group / choir	Colleen	Ongoing
		Working to maintain building so we have somewhere to worship which is visible to the community	Restoration Steering Group	Ongoing
		Craft Day for children open to all	Lilian	Monthly
		Investigate “Messy Church”	Lilian ; Martin; Congregation	2013



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 upkeep of our building, our poor communications, and the fact that we don't seem to know what skills we have.

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Date of MAP Review with Bishop/Dean

MAP signed by

Rector/clergypersonDate.....

Secretary of the VestryDate.....

(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

FacilitatorDate.....

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*

