

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 recognise our responsibility to be an Episcopalian church presence in Irvine, but are also aware of our Church of Scotland partners who have the same mission and outreach ideals to achieve.</p> <p>Working together on any outreach plan or invitation would certainly make sense but we are some way off in reassuring ourselves that this would be actively promoted.</p> <p>More trust and interaction is needed between our congregations to allow closer working although we now have a Forum to bring each of our concerns and hopes it will take a little while for this to reach fruition</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>As a congregation we still believe God is calling us to look for growth as people in the Christian community, both as individuals and corporately and our response to this would be:</p> <p>IMAGINATIVE OUTREACH PRAYER AND SPRITUALITY</p>
<p>Goals</p> <p><i>We will address the following by means of...</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Animal Blessing Service for the community 2. Taize Prayer Service for Advent and at other suitable times 3. 4. 5.



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
		Animal Blessing Service	Linda	October
		Taize Prayer Service	Martin	Advent



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 fact that we are few in numbers and are an ageing congregation

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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*

