

# The Benefice of Tilehurst St. George and St. Mary Magdalen

## Mission Action Plan

*Revision 1, 14th October 2013*

“We exist to serve and present Christ to all people within the Benefice and make new disciples in his name.”

### **Rationale for this Mission Action Plan**

Following PCC work about what we have been doing and what has been happening over the last seven years, we have identified a significant increase over time in the people asking for baptism. In the light of this fact we are asking ourselves three questions which we are applying to each area of our ministry.

### Three Questions

1. What are we already doing in order to make new disciples for Jesus among the people asking for baptism and other pastoral ministry, who are not currently members of the worshipping community?
2. What do we need to stop doing in order to make new disciples for Jesus among the people asking for baptism and other pastoral ministry, who are not currently members of the worshipping community?
3. What can we do that is new or different in order to make new disciples for Jesus among the people asking for baptism and other pastoral ministry, who are not currently members of the worshipping community?

### Mission Action Plan

Each area of our churches' life is affected by these questions and it is the purpose of this Mission Action Plan to put in place a system in which each aspect of that life can be tested against them. The four tables below roughly describe relevant areas and suggests which bodies should consider each question. The Joint PCC, individual PCCs and relevant subcommittees initially should ask themselves how they would answer each of the three questions for each area of ministry and then set a timetable for action.

Table 1 addresses benefice wide issues.

Table 2 addresses issues to do with worship, discipleship and outreach.

Table 3 addresses issues to do with our buildings.

Table 4 addresses finance.

Table 1						
Benefice	Ordained Ministry	Lay Ministry	Administration	Safeguarding	Inclusiveness (age – children, young people, ability, demographics)	Internet
Question 1	Taking services, Administration, working with baptism families, Facebook	Increasing	Handle administration of booking Baptism Service		In the consciences of both PCC. Sub-committees consider this	Internet Group
Question 2	No	No	No	No	No	No
Question 3	Improve communication with the rest of the Church body	More active participation before baptism service from lay people and follow-up. Develop these skills further	Develop system that allows better communication with the congregation (voluntary assistance)		Should we be proactive in seeking out the needs of visiting families for services of Baptism	Let them develop it
Action	Adam to work out a system	Adam to work out a system	Adam to work out a system	Review safeguarding procedures at St. M's and publish. Standard Item on PCC Agenda	Standard Item on PCC Agenda's	Develop it
Resource	Adam	Lay Team	Adam + Lay Volunteers	Child Protection Policy		Internet Group

Person Responsible	Adam	Adam	Adam	Safeguarding Officer		
Review Date	May 2014			PCC Meetings		APCM 2014

Table 2									
St Mary Magdalen Worship and Outreach	Sunday Worship	Weekday Worship	Occasional Offices (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals)	New Services (eg. All Souls, Service of the Word)	Personal Discipleship	Home Liturgy (eg. Residential and Nursing Homes)	Small Groups (eg. House Groups, Lent Groups)	New Members	Communication (eg. Magazine, News, Signage)
Question 1	Offering baptism at 2 different times and 2 different styles on 2 Sundays per month. Provide children's area with toys, books etc.	Mums and Toddlers. Christingle service.					Fellowship group members involved in toddlers	Adam offers informal discussion for seekers and confirmation candidates.	Baptism anniversary cards sent to all families. Occasional invites to coffee mornings.
Question 2									

Question 3	Enhance children's area. Provide for more flexibility by replacing pews with chairs. (N.B there are also safety issues with pews without full backs) Purchase new hymn books so we have a wider variety of hymns in one book.	Regular Clergy presence at toddlers. Say once a month. Staff training and safeguarding training Use the church more often. (building implications for this, safety of outside path and some areas of church) Make sure baptism families get Christmas cards.	Identify occasions for regular prayers for toddler families, baptism families and staff/ volunteers engaging with them.	Celebration baptism service aka all souls annual event maybe June Sunday at 4pm (? whole benefice or individual parishes)	Engage congregation in prayer for baptism families	Possible small prayer available at lay visit or follow up visit. (see table 1)		Nurture group for new people arising from needs of adult baptisms and/or parents of infant baptisms.	
Action									
Resource									
Person Responsible									

Timescale									
Review Date									

Table 3						
St Mary Magdalen / St George: Buildings	Church			Hall		
	Fabric	Furnishing	Requisites	Fabric	Furnishing	Requisites
Question 1						
Question 2						
Question 3	Paths to church			Door to kitchen from hall		
Action						
Resource						
Person Responsible						
Review Date						

Table 4				
St Mary Magdalen / St George: Finance	Stewardship	Fund Raising	Hall Income	Investments
Question 1				
Question 2				
Question 3				
Action				
Resource				
Person Responsible				

Review Date				
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