

Healthy Churches Transforming Communities Mission/Vision Action Plan

United Benefice of St Aidan Bamber Bridge with St Leonard Walton Le Dale	Deanery: Leyland	Date: 30/01/2024
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The Church of England in Lancashire desires to make the Good News about Jesus Christ more widely known, because we believe:

- He is the One who brings 'life in all its fullness'
- Healthy church communities have a positive and transformative impact on our society

We will work together to achieve this by:

- Making disciples of Jesus Christ
- Being witnesses to Jesus Christ
- Growing leaders for Jesus Christ

We will prioritise work: among children, young people and schools to raise up a new generation for Christ

Stage 0: Desire

Our (prayerful) Inspiration "Why are we doing this?"	So we can deliver on our Vision of Making Disciples and Transforming lives by creating growth in our church community.
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Stage1: Review (perhaps use a healthy church audit as an assessment tool?)

Our Strengths "Isn't it good that..."	<p>Our assessment tool shows us that our benefice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has inspiring worship and dynamic prayer that connects and engages • has positive leadership who encourages collaborative ministry • encourages active generous discipleship • has a strong sense of warm, open community <p>We know this as we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make room (or time / welcome) for others and try to do a few things well. • increasingly work together as a United Benefice • have Ecumenical connections with other local churches
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have Coffee mornings supporting the Community Larder by volunteers from the benefice • Open the Book and Puppet Praise in Schools with Lay team leadership • Church buildings open for daily prayer • Messy Church has created a new way for Young Families to worship • We have 2 bible study groups that meet weekly • Choir school initiative at St Aidan's school supported by volunteers
<p>Our Weaknesses "Isn't it a pity that..."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to improve at seeking God's will for us and addressing the changes needed for growth. • Numbers attending Sunday and Wednesday Worship falling. • More help is needed for the existing church community to deepen faith. • Local and online communication needs to improve. • Delegation of administration to lay volunteers can be improved.
<p>Our Opportunities "Wouldn't it be good if ..."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We could help to develop the faith and commitment of the Benefice community. • We could improve the way we communicate internally and to the outside world • We could spread the administration burden.
<p>Our Mission Values What influences and motivates us ...</p>	<p>Our desire to make Disciples and so Transform lives.</p>
<p>Last MAP actions completed Any lessons learnt?</p>	<p>We have completed the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are now a United Benefice • Online daily prayer • Introduction of sick list at intercessions • Relaunch of Messy Church • Identified a small administration team to look into admin tasks including internal and external communications and website

<p>Last MAP Actions not completed Any lessons learnt?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onsite prayer retreat and parish pilgrimage
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Stage 2: Discern

<p>Our Purpose Statement Our purpose/reason to be here.</p>	<p>To deepen personal commitment within the congregations, grow new disciples and transform lives inside and out of the Benefice.</p>	
<p>Our Vision Statement How we would like to be described 5 years from now.</p>	<p>As a vibrant, confident Benefice family caring for each other and the parish communities generally through Ministerial and lay leadership.</p> <p>Providing a safe and understanding environment for those in need of spiritual nurture and support.</p>	
<p>Our Priority Goals A maximum of 3 for this next year. Are they helping with: Making disciples Being witnesses Growing leaders, work among children, young people and schools, or an 'enabler' e.g. changes to buildings?</p>	<p><u>Goal</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve internal and external communications 2. Increase awareness difficulties with Stewardship for example by Introducing contactless giving 	<p><u>Vision theme/enabler</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More people needed on the administration team 2. Through leadership, guidance and direction
<p>Our longer term Goals A maximum of 3 for years 2-5</p>	<p><u>Goal</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Grow spiritual awareness 4. Build up a lay administration team 5. Build up existing congregation 	<p><u>Vision theme/enabler</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Make Disciples 4. Make Disciples 5. Be Witnesses

Stage 3: Plan

Deploy

For each of the priority goals:

What – define the precise action

Who – who is responsible

When – target completion date

Help – what external help is needed (eg from the diocese, ecumenical partners?)

Stage 3: Plan

Priority and Longer Term Goals with Actions				
What (Actions)?		Who?	When?	Help?
Priority Goals and Actions				
1. Improve internal and external communications				
1	Redesign Benefice website and incorporate contactless giving	Comms	2024	Diocese / Congregation expertise
1	Refresh new website on a regular basis	Comms	2024 weekly and onwards	
1	Review all external notice boards	Church wardens	2024	
1	Review Benefice presence on social media	Alison	2024 and onwards	
1	Review use of service sheets and hymn books	Revd Nick	Ongoing 2024	
1	Review Benefice advertising and awareness in the wider community	PCC & Comms	Q3 2024 and onwards	
1	Create and deliver a Benefice information sheet to all local housing areas	All	Q3 2024 and onwards	

2. Increase awareness difficulties with Stewardship for example by Introducing contactless giving					
2		Implement a Stewardship campaign across both parishes	Incumbent	2024	Diocesan Stewardship team
2		Obtain and deploy contactless giving machines across both parishes	Treasurers	February 2024	Diocesan Stewardship team
Longer term goals and actions					
3. Grow spiritual awareness					
3		Consider a Benefice pilgrimage or away weekend or quiet day	Belinda	8 th March 2024	
3		Provide courses (Alpha?) for new Christians	Incumbent	2025 and onwards	
3		Increase awareness of any study / nurture groups meeting across the Benefice	Comms	2024 and onwards	
4. Build up lay administration team					
4		Identify willing volunteers to form a core admin team	Church wardens	2024 and onwards	
4		Create a permanent space for the admin team to operate	Church wardens	2024 and onwards	
5. Build up existing congregation					
5		Review delivery of worship opportunities (times and days)	Incumbent	2025 and onwards	
5		Review welcoming procedure for potential new church members	PCC	2024 and onwards	

How we are supporting our MAP in prayer	MAP is included in our public and private prayers Benefice prayer is included in our daily prayers
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Date MAP published: 31/01/2024

How are we sharing our MAP with others?	MAP presentation given to PCC and approved at the 30 January 2024 PCC meeting. Leaflets explaining MAP available to be taken away include for new people. Sunday morning talk on MAP over a full week of services.
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This MAP will be reviewed in July and annually from 2025