

## **Church Family Vision & Targets 2017-18**

In conjunction with the Guildford Diocesan Vision of *Transforming Church Transforming Lives* goals, our church's focus areas are:

### **Focus 1 Hospitality: to God, to each other, to our community**

- Welcoming and creating space for God in our lives
- Sharing life with our church family
- Creating spaces of welcoming and connection with all those living in our community

### **Focus 2 Families**

- Recognise that families come in many forms
- Provide opportunities for families to connect with church
- Continue to offer excellent children's work

### **Focus 3 Reviewing our pattern of services**

- Making our services accessible to the widest possible number of people

### **Focus 4 Extending our facilities**

- Stewarding our buildings so that they are fit for purpose, glorify God and can be used for the benefit of the community

## **Vision Statement**

To be a community that creates opportunities for people to encounter Jesus and grow as his followers. We do this by honouring God, following the example of Jesus and sharing his love in our community.

*"God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - is in the business of transforming individuals and communities, and we have the joyful privilege of joining in."*

Diocese of Guildford, *Transforming Church, Transforming Lives*

## **Targets**

### **Focus 1 - Hospitality: to God, to each other, to OUR community**

*Transformational Goals - Increasing Believers, Making Disciples, Communicate Effectively*

#### **Pastoral Care**

- Prioritise strengthening the pastoral care team
- Create a welcoming and open environment for all including those who are broken, hurting or those with specific needs

#### **Regular Evangelism Courses**

- Rolling programme of accessible groups for those exploring faith and new to faith launching in the New Year (2017)
- Fix annual calendar for courses for ease of inviting and scheduling

#### **Connect**

- >100 people in a small group by December 2018
- Recruit another home group coordinator by June 2017
- Launch common interest Connect Groups by September 2017
- Develop the Connect Team to oversee the welcome for newcomers and to facilitate their growth in our church life
- Plan quarterly social activities

#### **Intentional Outreach & Partnership**

- Run events to attract the un-churched leading to Start/Alpha, especially targeting Woolmer Hill Estate and physical parish.
- Strategically resource activities that are aimed at those in their 20s, such as the 4pm service.
- Support and nurture Prime Time events for the over 60s - increase the number of people attending and serving at these events as this represents a large demographic of our area and congregation.

#### **Communications**

- Produce a monthly e-newsletter and maintain online communications
- Identify a person to develop the church's social media presence in Haslemere by mid 2017

## **Focus 2 - Families**

*Transformational Goal - Growing Youth and Children's Ministry, Reaching Beyond our Borders, Making Disciples*

### **Children & Youth**

- Intentionally create, maintain existing contact with, and link up touch points with families in order to encourage greater engagement with the church leading to fruitfulness in faith
- Increase the number of infant baptisms to 12 a year
- Run an extra 2 Messy Events a year (4 in total)
- Run children/family friendly services and be purposeful in asking existing congregation members to invite others
- Review Youth and Children's Director Role by June 2017

## **Focus 3 - Reviewing our pattern of services**

*Transformational Goals - Increasing Believers. Making Disciples*

### **Preaching, Feeding & Teaching**

- Adjusting 10.45am to be shorter service focused on families
- Introduce a range of short courses
- Increase volunteer involvement by 10% (from 120 to 140 people)
- Consistently encourage deepening discipleship. Create opportunities for people to spend time with God whether it is ad-hoc prayer weeks, home-groups, prayer triplets, Saturday courses, away days.

## **Focus 4 - Extending our facilities**

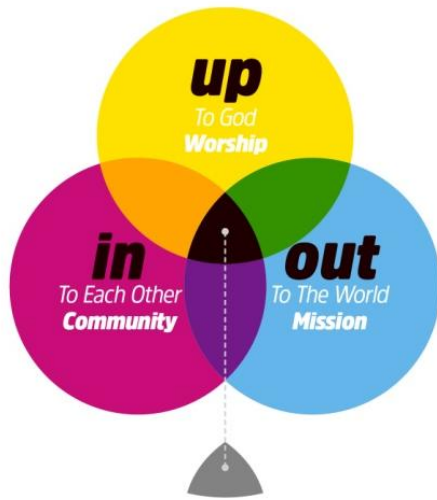
*Transformational Goals - Encourage Generous Giving, Improve Church Buildings*

### **Buildings & Estate**

- Develop a building that is 'fit for purpose' after receiving report from architect (Jan 2017) and consulting congregation
- Launch fundraising campaign by end of 2017

### **Finance & Stewardship**

- Increase number of giving units by 10% from 95 to 105
- Increase general giving by 10% from £200K to £220K in 2017



3-Dimensional Christians =  
Being Disciples + Making Disciples

### Key Questions to ask ourselves

- Are we healthy as a church?
- Are we reaching **up** and growing in our discipleship?
- Are we strengthening within by loving and serving each other?
- Are we stretching **out** and showing love to the world outside?
- Are we true to our values?

### St Stephen's Values

- Centred around Jesus
- Building Right and Healthy Relationships
- Welcoming and Open to All
- Encouraging All to be Included and Involved
- Empowered and Equipped by the Holy Spirit
- Generous
- Compassionate

We are always open to hear from you so if you have comments or ideas then please do get in touch!

***Rev Danny Wignall and the Parochial Church Council***

February 2017