



# MISSION ACTION PLAN

## UPDATE JUNE 2018



We formulated a **Mission Action Plan** for St John's in 2014 as a response to an initiative by the Diocese of Southwark, and the mission and vision statements (below) were written to undergird the plan. The DCC has reviewed the goals regularly, and the outcomes for the first four goals are explored overleaf. For 2018, we have reviewed, chosen to continue some goals and start new ones, planned the aims and goals in detail, and look forward to some more action!

### MISSION

St John's members are growing together as Christians and serving the community by practically sharing the love of Jesus. We aim to connect people of all ages and backgrounds to Jesus Christ and one another.

### VISION (5 years' horizon)

To be a church family with all ages represented, who feel able to commit some time, energy and money to allow us to fulfil our mission

for growth, making the best use of our building for both church and community.

## **REVIEW AND CELEBRATE PAST GOALS**

This has been an ongoing process, at DCC meetings and 'Away Days' and in general discussions. Each goal has had a group of people working on the aims and checking progress regularly. There is a lot to celebrate!

### **Goal 1 2014: To have secure teams of leaders for the children and young people's groups, Sunday and midweek.**

From 2014 to 2018, we have had a great team of leaders and, just as important, helpers from the congregation to allow us to comply with safeguarding requirements. Once this was secure, the goals were rewritten in **November 2016**, (see opposite) and we've made progress with lots of items—notably linking All-Age services to school holidays and key festivals, involving our children and young people more in those services, and also welcoming them to join the adults for Holy Communion.

### **Goal 2 To increase the number of people coming through our doors, through a welcoming environment and increased lettings.**

In 2017, we achieved the goal of improving the 'welcoming environment' by refurbishing the lounge. Now we have black sofas which can be set against the walls or in groups around coffee tables, dark orange upholstery on the chairs and matching cushions, a counter with bar stools for sitting or using laptops, and professionally finished paintwork in modern grey tones. We also renewed the toilet facilities and added a shower. We offer the hall for children's parties and have continued to increase lettings wherever possible, as well as welcoming the local community for Fun Day and Christmas events. We have also installed new exterior noticeboards and seasonal banners on the front of church, and the banner group have worked on a number of wall-hangings for the church and lounge. The website look has been updated, and a Facebook page initiated, both kept up to date.

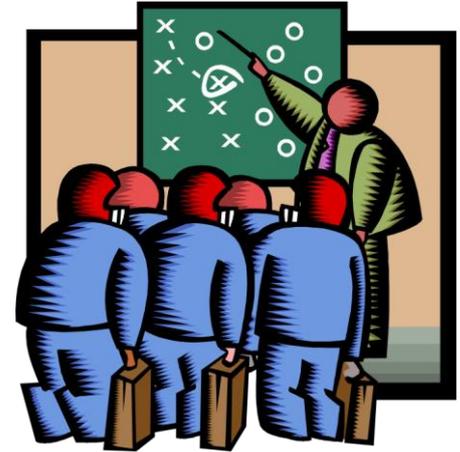
### **Goal 3 To address issues of money management in our local community.**

In 2015, we achieved our aim of opening a CAP Debt Centre, with a manager and support team. There were great opportunities for reaching out to people in debt. Sadly, the Centre has been temporarily closed since July 2017, which has severely curtailed our activities on this goal, but we continue to offer the CAP Money course and opportunities to save or borrow with credit union banks.

### **Goal 4 To develop relationships with the Over 60's in our community, with the love of Jesus at the centre.**

Our Young at Heart group was inaugurated in autumn 2014, and has certainly been a success, with a popular lunch and activity afternoon once a month which draws regulars from our local community, and a separate but overlapping 'Exploring Faith'

session also once a month. We are still trying to reach lonely people, but as the work is established, it's no longer a MAP goal. Result!



## **PLAN & ACT IN 2018**

### **Goal 1**

**The goal was rewritten with a number of strands in November 2016**

- **To provide an environment of love, support and encouragement** to the children and young people within our church, enabling them to explore and grow in their faith.
- **To build up the number of young families** within the church to create a balanced age range across the church as a whole and to provide a stronger network of people of similar ages who can support and encourage each other.
- **To reach out to young people and families** within our local area to share the good news of salvation.

### **Goal 2**

**To increase the number of people coming through our doors, through a welcoming environment and increased lettings.**

Although we have achieved the aims as revised in March 2017, this goal is ongoing and will be the subject of detailed review later in the year.

### **Goal 3**

**To address issues of money management in our local community.**

The aims for this goal are centred around the need for a new CAP Debt Centre Manager, so that we have the organisational infrastructure to run the service. This will allow the whole church fellowship to be involved through prayer, befriending and financial help. CAP Money courses continue to be offered, and we are working on our links with credit unions and other agencies in the local community.

### **[Goal 4**

**To develop relationships with the Over 60's in our community, with the love of Jesus at the centre.**

We continue to reach out through the Young At Heart group. This is no longer specifically a MAP goal, but we are still actively engaged with it.]

### **Goal 5**

**To offer a welcome and support to students in our local community through specific events, following the erection of student accommodation in Kingston Road, in cooperation with NMBC.**



If you have any questions or suggestions, please do talk to a member of the DCC. Their pictures and names are on the board in the lounge. Seek them out!