

PARISH OF CENTRAL CARDIFF

Mission Action Plan agreed and adopted by the PCC, 12th November 2003.

Our purpose as people and ministers of this parish is to sustain a pattern of worship and teaching that meets the pastoral needs of our situation, making the best use we can of our buildings, opening them for activities that serve the purpose of community-building, and the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our aim is to increase the number of regular active participants in the church's worship and ministry.

In the light of changing circumstances we identify the following **key areas** requiring concerted action from church members a) before the AGM of 2004; b) during 2004.

At the PCC meeting of 7th September 2004, the first review of the Parish mission action plan began with the following brief report on proposed key areas of activity. Three of the four churches of the parish have also begun to develop their own mission action plans, complementary to the Parish one.

Key area of activity	Achieved?
To recruit and appoint a new parish treasurer, who is willing to work at computerising accounts and implementing the new legally required audit procedures by the 2004 AGM.	Yes
To ensure that the parish quota is paid, and an overall balanced budget is maintained.	Yes
To create and bring into operation a parish office, staffed by volunteers, by the 2004 AGM.	No
To increase the number of actively contributing worshippers in each congregation by at least five people by the end of 2004.	No – we are still declining in numbers overall.
To recruit new volunteer teams to run the Parish Tea-Room and keep it open Tuesday to Saturday each week, by the end of 2004.	Some success
To ensure that all church officers, PCC and Church Committee members undertake at least one new learning activity in 2004 which will help refresh and strengthen their prayer life and understanding of the bible.	Not achieved, apart from one Parish afternoon of Bible Study attended by some, but not all.
To ensure that every organisation within our churches, before the AGM 2004 reports are written, reviews its life and purpose, and formulates exactly what its contribution to the work of mission and ministry in the parish consists of.	No

ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1) The PCC agreed to seek alternatives to making St James' redundant, and we now have support for our proposal for a community development programme, from the Bishop and his staff team.
- 2) Work is in progress on creating and equipping an office space in St John's, and this will soon be complete and in action.
- 3) St Teilo's Arts Trust development programme, in the face of huge difficulties is more or less finished, two years late, and is succeeding in generating income. It has a wide range of users of the building and new events, showing what can be done to make a small congregation self supporting.

HOWEVER :

- 1) Apart from the Tea Room, there are few **new** volunteers engaging in many aspects of parish life, including the creation, production and distribution of the parish magazine, caretaking and maintenance of our buildings. This means more 'loose ends' are having to be picked up by the clergy and wardens. We still don't have a core of a team of welcomers at St John's.

- 2) Responsibility for organising parish wide events falls far too heavily on the clergy.
- 3) All churches except St Michael's have declined in attendances, and in St Michael's the number of newcomers has simply replaced those who have moved on or passed on.
- 4) Maintenance of parish affairs, and crisis management by the clergy remain an obstacle to doing pastoral work.
- 5) Various church construction projects are absorbing a considerable amount of energies on the part of a few people with responsibilities.

IDENTIFIED NEEDS TO BE BUILT INTO A REVISED PLAN AT NEXT PCC MEETING

- 1) Recruitment
 - a) Volunteers to take home communions, and extra chalice administrators.
 - b) Support for baptism and confirmation preparation – mentors etc.
 - c) Recruiting, organising and resourcing parish office 'call centre', administration and publicity volunteers.
 - d) Developing a guide/welcomer team for St John's, recruiting from people interested all over the city if needs be
 - a) Help to arrange duty cover for clergy holidays and absences, and support for locum clergy.
- 2) Church council members to take a lead in committing time to some form of bible study or other Christian formation/training during the year, and encouraging others to do likewise, starting with the United Parish Sunday worship and fellowship day together on 31st October at St Michael's.
- 3) Investigate reasons for lapsing among former church goers, and reasons for lack of support for existing activities among regular churchgoers, in order to identify whether or not we can do anything about it.
- 4) Review and improve use of Parish magazine as promotional tool.
- 5) Review ministry to young people on a parish-wide basis.
- 6) Consider how the Parish can carry the St James' congregation, which can no longer pay its way, for the two years given in which to demonstrate the viability of a youth oriented community development plan.