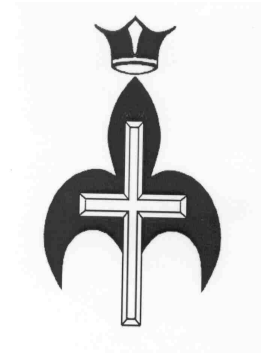


St Mary the Virgin West Moors



www.stmaryswestmoors.org.uk

Draft Mission Action Plan

2008

Vicar's Foreword

I am pleased to introduce this 2008 Draft and Interim Mission Action Plan for the Parish of St Mary The Virgin, West Moors

A Mission Action Plan is a living document, constantly evolving. It will be formally reviewed every year by the incoming PCC, which has the responsibility of keeping this plan up to date. Input is invited and welcome.

This Mission Action Plan seeks to express our vision as a growing parish at this stage of our life, and for the next few years. It is visionary and realistic in equal measure

I warmly commend it to the Parish, in the hope that it contributes to our shared journey into God's righteous future for us, his church.

'First seek his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well' (Matthew 6:33)

Andrew Rowland

January 2008

St Mary the Virgin, West Moors

Draft Mission Action Plan

Drawing on biblical and early church material, and on earlier St Mary's statements and documents, we wish to identify ourselves as being on a journey and part of God's pilgrim people. Specifically, we identify pilgrimage with three elements:

- Companionship with God
- Companionship with each other
- Companionship with those we meet along the way

This moving and changing imagery of journeying and pilgrimage is important to us. God's people and the building of the church are not static. This is the framework in which we identify three areas of our work in *worship and prayer*, *the fabric of our buildings and grounds*, and *outreach* at St Mary's, West Moors

Daily Services at St Mary's

Sunday

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am Sung Eucharist
(First Sunday, All Age Service)

Evening worship/study during Lent and Advent

Tuesday

10.00 am Young Family Worship & Fun

Wednesday

10.00 am Holy Communion

Additional services according to the season.

Companionship with God – Worship and Prayer

We value:

Worship which is daily, inclusive, varied, and well prepared, using all the resources of the Christian tradition, with a strong focus on the Eucharist

A church which is open to all and welcoming. In the pastoral offices (baptism, marriage, and funerals), a policy of welcome is especially important

The full inclusion of children in the Parish Eucharist, with a monthly all age service, and admission of children to Communion before Confirmation, from the age of 7, following appropriate preparation

The engagement of the intellect in sermons, courses, house groups, biblical study and reading

The Anglican balance of Scripture, Tradition, and Reason

Involvement with the churches in our neighbourhood - Churches Together West Moors

Music which is carefully and imaginatively prepared and delivered

Space for silence, retreats and contemplation

The parish as a place of training for ministry lay and ordained

We wish to develop:

Work with our young families and people. COSMIC's Sunday school, Midweek Church, Confirmation and Alpha Courses.

A wider range of liturgical music and a greater variety of services involving more people especially children, with new leaders.

A rebuilding of our present Annex to allow more varied functions.

Our Lay Pastoral Visiting team, so that the whole congregation is aware of its availability

The regular use of visiting preachers and speakers

A higher profile for the parish church in the life of the local community

An equipped and trained people of God that regards training, study, and development as the norm

An efficient and comprehensive database of contacts, including e-mail addresses

Awareness of the opportunities for public prayer in order to increase numbers at small services, as well as at the important weekday festivals.

An awareness of the opportunity for creation and environmental concerns to be included in the liturgical calendar and prayer life of St Mary's

Companionship with each other – Fabric and Grounds

We value:

A welcoming, well-maintained building for worship to form the hub of parish life

A flexible space which can be used for music and other events

A building which can be used by a wide range of groups from within the church community and the local area

We wish to develop:

Outside

Clear messages inviting people to worship and pray through:

- ◆ Imaginative and Challenging Signage on the main road
- ◆ Wildlife conservation in the church yard

Clearer signage for the church

Glass doors at the entrance?

Inside

Consideration of reordering of the interior, preserving the past but, welcoming in the future, providing meeting facilities for parish use and income generation

A space for silence and prayer

Defined well-designed welcoming area including:

- Display boards
- Literature

Improved Lighting and sound systems with a priority on the Chancel

An improved Heating System for the church

Projection screen and facility

An upgraded kitchen in the Annex

Better disabled access throughout the building

More storage

We aim to:

To measure and reduce the environmental footprint of St Mary's through an audit of the present activities including energy consumption and the development of an environmental policy and action plan. The environmental impact of all future proposals for restoration and alteration of the building and grounds will be considered.

In order for all this to be achieved, the PCC should delegate and give responsibility to individuals and working groups to take projects forward

Companionship with those we meet along the way - Outreach

We value:

The role of St Mary's as the Parish Church of the neighbourhood

A physically open, welcoming, and supportive church

The ministry of prayer and personal contact

Knowledge of our faith, and promoting that knowledge and understanding with others

Working with children

The working relationship within the Wimborne Deanery

Being part of the universal church both in giving and receiving, through the Deanery, Diocese and Anglican Communion

Giving of time and resources as an expression of our Christian faith, especially through Christian stewardship.

Mission giving of 5% of unrestricted giving to local, national, and worldwide organisations

We value the use and promotion of the monthly Fair Trade goods

An attractive, well-produced magazine which engages with the neighbourhood

Participation in our School, its life and activities and the combined church and school fete.

Participation and promotion of village events. The Community Carol Service, Remembrance Day Parade, the School/Church Fete

We wish to develop:

A more consistent welcome to worshippers, both before and after the services

Improved ongoing support through prayer ministry, social functions, and involvement of newcomers in the life of the church

Better congregational communication through a variety of methods- informal talks, email, website, and so on

A greater understanding of the Christian faith for seekers, young people, and ourselves - through Alpha Courses and similar courses, seekers' events, house groups, and retreats

Better identification of areas and groups of need and response to those needs through:

Greater involvement with the local community through successful events such as the Carol services, All Souls service.

Greater opportunities for open debate and discussion on areas of topical or common concern perhaps incorporating this into Sunday evensong once a month

A greater use of the church by local organisations

Involvement in the life of the Deanery and Diocese

Greater co-operation with local churches and inter-faith dialogue through visits, exchanges and social contact

Greater personal involvement and closer links with the charitable projects we support

Closer links with our partner churches and organisations overseas, in particular Yambio Diocese in The Sudan, missionary work such as Rachel Munn and Mercy Ships, links to Julia's House, children's Hospice and links with Zimbabwe

An annual, realistic and challenging stewardship campaign per Diocesan Guidelines

Visiting of the parish and outreach in general

To consider the mission aspects of an environmental policy and the opportunities that it may give to establish links with other groups and individuals with environmental concerns in the local and wider community

Staff

Vicar: The Revd Andrew Rowland, 012020 893197
email: vicar@stmaryswestmoors.org.uk

Lay Licensed Minister: Mr Anthony Cooke, 01202 876235, email:

Parish Office

The Vicarage 57 Glenwood Road, West Moors,
Ferndown, Dorset, BH22 0EN
01202 893197

Officers

Churchwardens

Sue Oldrey, 01202 877458,
email:

Mike Bowler, 01202 872064
email:

PCC Secretary

LeahSmith, 01202 896311,
email:

PCC Treasurer

Janet Turner, 01202 870217,
email:

Magazine Editor

Mrs Gill Clarke, 01202 894913
Email: magazine@stmaryswestmoors.org.uk