



MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Two Congregational Consultations

Tuesday 21 September 19.30-21.30
Saturday 9 October 10.00-12.00

The PCC are holding two congregational consultation sessions to consider mission opportunities within our community.

This will be the first stage in the process of developing our next Mission Action Plan (MAP) from 2011 onwards.

Being an outward looking church is very important because it keeps us connected with our community and our world and makes us more aware of opportunities to demonstrate God's love through our actions, and to share our faith in Christ. Our aim in reaching out is to help those we come into contact with to become and remain connected with God through faith in Christ. This big task needs to be broken down into a series of mission objectives.

The chart on the next pages itemizes objectives in the current MAP and gives a brief review of progress. We thank God for all that has been achieved. Comments in **bold italics** indicate the objectives we will be carrying forward to the next MAP.

What next?

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April, I shared a vision for mission that emphasized the '**reaching out**' part of our strap-line. In preparing a new MAP for 2011 onwards, the PCC wish to consult with you about how we do that.

What do you think?

We would love to hear your thoughts on opportunities for mission in Ickenham.

To structure our exploration, we are going to firstly consider the needs of people in different categories (see below). In particular, we are concerned about those who live in Ickenham who don't currently connect with St Giles' in any way. What are the physical, financial, social, emotional and spiritual needs of people in each group?

Stage two will be to consider how we might shape our current church activities and/or develop new activities that reach out to meet these needs.

Stage three will be a more general discussion about the best aspects of St Giles', and those that could be improved. It's important that we feel positive about our experience of church in order to invite our friends and neighbours to church activities and services.

The consultation will follow the format outlined above, with different groups of people being considered at each meeting, so you are welcome to come along to both consultations. If you are unable to be at either, please feel free to put your comments in writing to a member of the PCC who will then present them at one of the meetings.

Categories of people being considered on Tuesday 21 September:

- Families with school age children;
- Recently retired;
- Those living in sheltered accommodation;
- 18-30 year olds.

Categories of people being considered on Saturday 9 October:

- Young couples/couples without children;
- Those established in retirement;
- Those working in Ickenham;
- Young people 11-18 years old.

A proportion of each consultation will be spent working in a small group, so it would be good to think in advance which of these categories of people you are concerned about. If your concern is for people outside one of these categories, please still come along because we want to hear your thoughts too.

Supporting the consultations in prayer

We are consulting together in order to discern God's leading together. Please support this process by praying that we will know the guidance of the Holy Spirit through these consultations.

Covenant Review

This autumn we're taking part in an external review of our partnership with Ickenham Untied Reformed Church. This will identify the strengths, of which there are many, plus the scope for new areas of joint mission. The outcomes of this review will also give us some very useful input into the development of our next MAP.

Proposed timescale for producing the MAP

- Consultation in September and October 2010;
- Draft MAP to PCC in November 2010;
- Receive Covenant Review feedback in December 2010;
- Final version to PCC in January 2011;
- MAP launched in February 2011.

*Yours in Christ,
Adrian*

Chart showing progress towards the 2008-2010 MAP Objectives

	2008-2010 MAP Objectives	Progress towards achieving these Objectives
Worship	1.1 Appoint a Musical Director to oversee the choir and other music used in worship, and appoint an organist.	Our choir has grown stronger under Andrew's leadership supported by Paul's playing, and we have introduced some new hymns and worship songs at 9.45.
	1.2 Complete the trial of Live@Five and make recommendations for future non-eucharistic service provision	Live@Five provided a good experience of an experimental and relaxed style of worship, developing expertise for similar worship in the future.
	1.3 Carry out a review of leading and preaching to ensure relevant and applicable worship for our different congregations	We have made greater use of sermon series and leading and preaching are reviewed regularly by the staff team.
	1.4 Review the pattern of services to establish aims, ethos and target group for each service	Further work on developing our service pattern to be carried forward to the next MAP.
Witness	2.1 Link our regular joint church activities to the aims of HOPE 08. Beginning with Lent groups, consider our 2008 activities as opportunities for reaching out to the community in word and action.	Our contribution to Ickenham Festival 2008 helped fulfill the aims of the HOPE 08 national initiative.
	2.2 Review Christmas services, providing for current unmet demand if possible. Consider opportunities for evangelistic outreach.	Christmas outreach opportunities have been developed with community groups and invitations cards for 9 Lessons and Carols have been produced.
	2.3 CLICK Rukiga – fulfil the action plan developed by the project steering group.	The CLICK Rukiga committee are working towards phase two of the project, having successfully completed phase one.
Nurture and Service	3.1 Organise a youth work prayer event and explore ways of working jointly with the URC and establish a youth work steering group with representatives from both churches	A full-time youth worker has been appointed for the Ickenham and Harefield Youth Project and a steering group has been set up, and a prayer diary for all children's and young people's groups established.
	3.2 Establish a weekly youth ministry in Ickenham	
	3.3 Develop further activities for men that promote Christian discipleship	Further work on developing activities for men to be carried forward to the next MAP.
	3.4 Create a practical help bureau to match pastoral care needs with offers of help in church and parish	The Pastoral Care Team has been trained, launched and is active in service.
	3.5 Run a 'Growing Leaders' leadership training course for existing and potential leaders	The training programme, 'Growing Leaders' is scheduled for 2011.
Communication	4.1 Update website photographs and information and explore ways of using it more fully in church life	Planning and design phases for a new website are nearing completion.
	4.2 Maximise the potential of the external notice board	The notice boards have been repaired and the content rationalized for clearer communication.
	4.3 Re-design the news sheet to be more visitor-friendly and communicate more effectively	The news sheet has been redesigned.
Buildings	5.1 Replace light fittings to enable the use of 'green' light bulbs.	A new lighting system has been installed in the church.
	5.2 Make repairs to roof of 1959 extensions when required	The church roof repairs have been completed.
	5.3 Install digital projection equipment enabling all sections of the church to view a screen. Make changes to location of sound desk as required.	A digital projection system and improvements to the PA are awaiting diocesan approval prior to installation commencing.
	5.4 Consider more flexible seating arrangements in the whole of the north aisle – carry out a feasibility study of the options.	The scope for more flexible seating arrangements in an area of the church is being considered by the PCC this Autumn prior to a congregational consultation.
Finance	6.1 Achieve an increase in our planned giving that will give a balanced budget in 2008 with additional growth to meet anticipated expenditure in 2009	Increases in planned giving were achieved in 2008 and in 2010, helping us to meet increased common fund obligations and create funds for the Youth Project.
	6.2 Explore integrating church hall and church finances to enable greater flexibility when using the profits from church hall activities, amending the trust deed if necessary	Further work on exploring how church funds and hall funds can be integrated to be considered in the next MAP.