

# *St. Chad's Church*

*Who we are and where  
we're going*

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*Christ,  
Inside  
and Out*

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## *Christ, inside and out*

It's a powerful statement of what we are about in St. Chad's Church. To follow Jesus Christ, centre our lives on him and live as he would live. It covers our commitment to God's word, to prayer and discipleship, as well as mission and outreach, but as a statement on its own it is vague and without focus.

What does it mean to be *Christ, inside and out*? What would an individual living that way look like? What would a church seeking to live that way look like? What does it mean for St. Chad's Church in how we prioritise ourselves, our resources and our buildings?

What might a church seeking to be *Christ, inside and out* do? How might it offer itself to the local community in Christian love, and draw that community into the love of God? Most importantly, what is the vision God would give to that church?

## *Christ, inside and out*

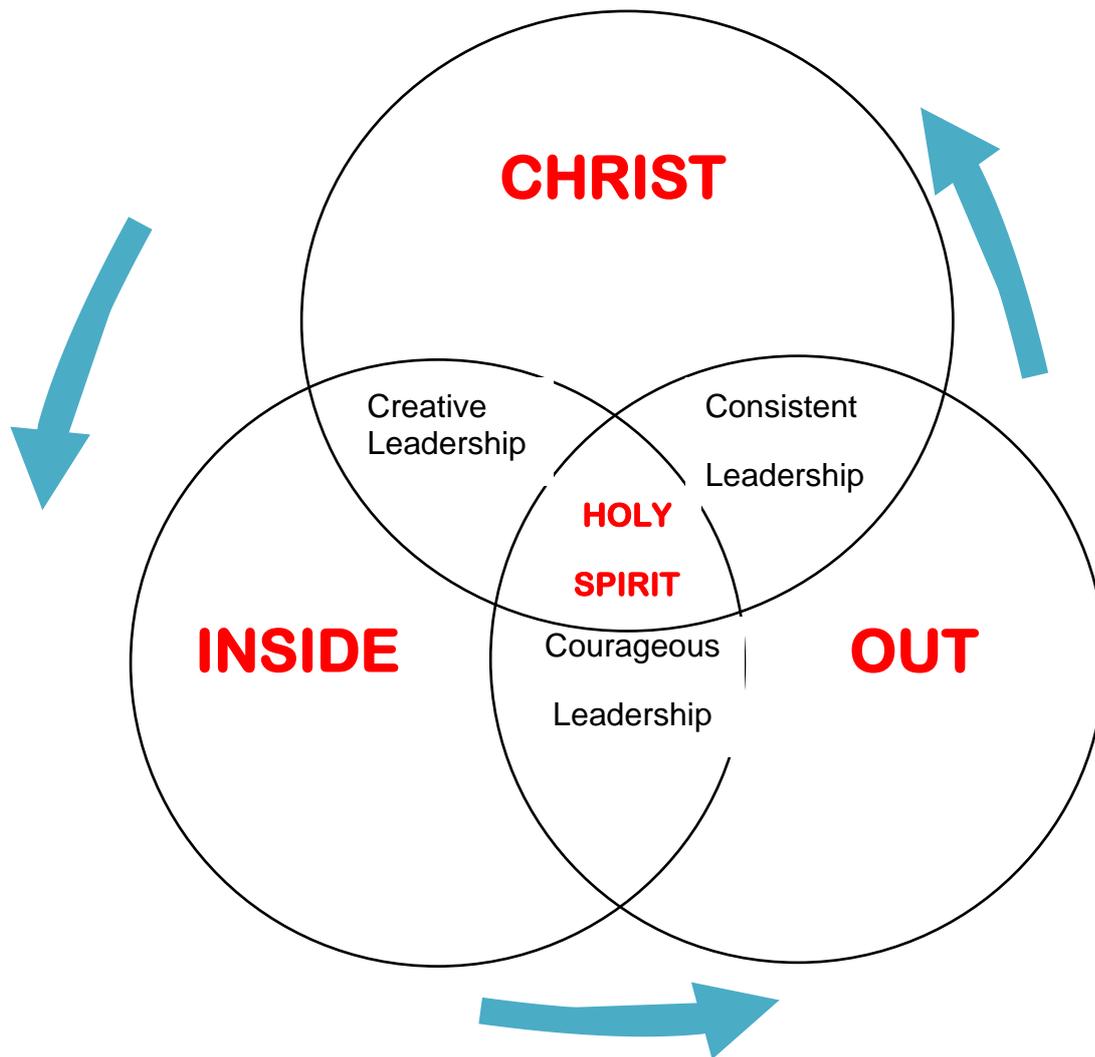
Over the last five years the leadership of St. Chad's Church has prayerfully been asking those very questions. What would God have us do? And who would he have us reach out to?

To answer that question we have looked at the skills, gifts, resources and visions that God has gathered in St. Chad's Church and placed them alongside the needs of our local community. We've thought about our ministries; services (across the week), Home Groups, Prayer and Pastoral work, Children and Young people's work, Mid-Week activities across our age ranges, and of course, Evangelism and Mission work.

We thought specifically about our **Identity, Mission, Values and Vision**. These four areas of our church's life flow into each other. Without knowing who we are (**Identity**), what the needs are in Chadwell Heath that we can respond to (**Mission**) and those things that, whether in church or when we reach out to our local community we will not let go of (**Values**) we would never arrive at a realistic yet stretching **vision**.

Our vision, to be *Christ, inside and out* is expressed in the Venn Diagram on page 3, and is a quick guide to all that follows. Overall, this paper is designed to paint a clear and compelling picture of who we are and where we're going as a church. It unpacks *Christ, inside and out* as a meaning across all of our ministries, beginning with the values that we hold dear throughout our church; the golden thread that will act as an anchor for us as we constantly remember that our church is God's church. It then goes on to imagine the future of our ministries as we seek to be envisioned by God for his work in and through St. Chad's Church.

No timescales have been set as we acknowledge life is an ever changing thing, and so flexibility will be needed as we seek to make the gospel relevant to today's society. Strong leadership will be needed across our ministries as we strengthen successful ministries and embrace new opportunities and challenges. We will need to step out in faith if our visions are not to remain simply dreams, but we believe fully in a God of amazing power who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.



- **Creative Leadership** across our church activities from our Sunday services through our Home Groups, Prayer Groups, Children’s work etc. provides the catalyst for our church family to go deeper with Christ. It’s the journey of discipleship. We will never really reach out in Christ’s name until we have his heart.
- **Courageous Leadership** will then enable us to step outside of our church building in mission and evangelism. God’s church isn’t called to serve itself, and our church leaders will need to be courageous as they enable St. Chad’s Church to connect with our wider society.
- **Consistent Leadership** will need to be seen by all who come in to St. Chads’ Church. Integrity in being Christ centred is essential if we are to journey with those we reach out to, enfolding them into the body of Christ and in turn discipling them.

All of this will be made possible as we embrace the Spirit of God working amongst and through us. It is the Holy Spirit that unites us with Christ, refines us to become Christlike, resources us and sends us out in power to bring the Kingdom of God to everyday life.

# *St. Chad's Church*

## *Our Identity:*

Who are we at St. Chad's Church? How would we describe ourselves to an outsider, or what might an outsider see when they come and visit us? The Leadership Team thought of lots of things, but condensed it down to 4 golden threads that run throughout our church family.

They were:

**Welcoming;** Many of the things we discussed in the groups revolved around us being a welcoming church right across the week. People feel comfortable coming into our premises and into our Sunday services. We are friendly and relaxed and naming us 'Welcoming' was easy.

**Worshipping;** We spoke about the nature of worship, being more than just musical. People were found in acts of worship when they gave to the church, when they used creativity in our church activities etc. It speaks of God being in the centre of us and of all that we do, in church and outside of it.

**Visionary;** The core of St. Chad's have a real heart for looking to the future, whether that be in their own area of church life or for the church as a whole. That's shown in the previous Refurb project, the starting up of new Youth activities, the heart for furthering work in the Pre-School and MCC etc. It permeates through St. Chad's in many ways, not least our current Refurb project and Leadership Days Away to plot our future.

**Giving;** Giving came from the combination of 'Generous' and 'Servant' hearts. It encompasses both material and human resources being freely given. We discussed the difference between philanthropy (giving just because you are a kind person but with no touch of God on it) and giving as a response to what Jesus did for us on the cross. St. Chad's generosity comes from its understanding of salvation and the love of God being poured out for us.

# *St. Chad's Church*

## *Our Values:*

What are the things that we hold dear, no matter what we're doing or where we are? These are the values St. Chad's Church believes are important for us as we seek to be Christ, inside and out;

**We value God;** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, above all things. The Trinitarian Godhead is a pattern of love and relationship – from which stems all things, and we will have no other gods above the one true God as revealed to us in creation and scripture.

**We value the authority of scripture;** We believe all scripture is God breathed, true and given to us for our sakes. As such we seek to engage with God's holy word in all that we do.

**We value worship;** We believe that, in response to God's grace and love for us, we respond by offering our whole lives to God as an act of worship.

**We value Prayer;** We believe that prayer must underpin all that we do in St. Chad's as we seek God's will for our lives, our church and our local community.

**We value Growing in faith;** We believe in our need to continue to deepen our own understanding of God and scripture, and how it relates to our lives and the world around us.

**We value our spiritual integrity;** We believe that we should live out the faith we profess.

**We value Trusting relationships;** We believe in developing deep and wholesome relationships across our church that rely on confidentiality and the ability to share deeply with each other.

**We value being Inclusive;** We believe in building a church that is founded on love, acceptance, forgiveness and an appreciation of the immense value every person, no matter what their age, gender, race or ability, brings to our church.

**We value being a loving community;** We believe that we should live out the core call of the bible to love God and love our neighbours.

# *Where we are & Where we're going:*

Our values will guide all that we are and all that we do in St. Chad's Church, acting as an anchor to our thinking across the full spectrum of activities we undertake in God's name here. With that in mind the Leadership Team thought through our various ministries, identifying the aims and vision for each of them.

When considering 'Vision' we were bold, guided by the Church of England's statement that church vision should be Stretching, clear and compelling. It is here that many of our values will be seen at work as all of our church family contribute their passion, experiences and God given gifts to God's work as we each answer our own specific call. We will need to step out in faith, relying on the God of creation to 'create' amongst us and with us as we grow in every aspect of our being.

Into this we have the excitement of being resourced with new and refreshed buildings, but we will need other resources, and training too in some cases.

Inevitably there will be challenges. As we seek to make real the Lord's Prayer; '.....Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven....', we will need strength and persistence, but as God is driving us to be a vibrant body of Christ that is a beacon of hope and healing to the world around us, so he will resource us for that work. Paul was right:

*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship, or persecution of famine or nakedness or danger or sword? .....No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.*

We looked at the whole of our church ministry under four headings; **Children / Young people's work, Evangelism, Pastoral support, and Worship.** In alphabetical order:

# Children's and Youth Ministry;

At St. Chad's Church we have a varied and vibrant mixture of activities through which we engage with children and young people, encouraging them to engage with each other, the world around them and our Lord Jesus Christ. The number of children we are able to engage with is growing, and the activities they attend include;

## Sunday Opportunities;

- On most Sundays (see All Age below) we run a range of age targeted sessions for children aged 0 to 18 alongside our 1045 service.
- On the first Sunday in the month we encourage the children (and young families) to join our 1045 service in an 'All Age' format.
- Throughout the year there are other All Age services that coincide with Christian festivals.

## Mid-Week Opportunities;

- **Pre-School;** Our Pre-School runs daily during the week, offering 20 or so places to children aged 2½ to 5. The staff are Christian, and there are some overtly Christian aspects the children join in with throughout the year, but the school is aimed at children and families from our local community who don't otherwise have any connection to our church.
- **Pram Service;** We hold pram services for those with babies / toddlers in an informal setting in the church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. This caters for young families who are in the main not otherwise part of our church family.
- **Huddle;** This group is held on a Tuesday morning and is aimed at mums with babies for support and a bible study.
- **Bounce Club;** This group is held on a Tuesday afternoon and is aimed at young families where parents can build relationships whilst their toddlers play and grow in a safe environment. It is not specifically aimed at our church family and attracts many families who otherwise do not come to St. Chad's. It has no overtly Christian content.
- **Ignite;** This group is held on a Wednesday after WWC catering for young people aged 10 to 13. Again, it is a bible based youth group, exploring Christian themes through a mixture of bible study and games.
- **The Johns;** This is a bible study youth group for ages 16+. It is held a couple of times a month.
- **Alpha etc;** On an ad hoc basis we run discipleship courses for children and young people in the age ranges of WWC and Ignite.
- **Craft Mornings;** These are held on the last Saturday of every month and are for children up to the age of 11. The parents are asked to come with any children aged from School Year Reception and below.
- **Parenting Classes;** This is held in conjunction with the Local Authority as and when needed.

## **Aims of that work; (Overarching goals)**

Highlighting the need for our Children's and young people's leaders and workers to be Christ centred, passionate and committed to that work, well trained and resourced, encouraged by the church family, we set the aims of that work across the church as being:

- To bring our children and young people into a meaningful and relevant relationship with Jesus Christ.
- To value our children and young people.
- To enable all children to have the opportunity to grow in a safe and equal setting.
- To ensure the sessions we provide are fun, exciting and vibrant learning environments.
- To reach out to children who do not yet know Jesus Christ in their lives.
- To support families in times of need, e.g. financially, long term sickness, emotionally, parenting skills etc.
- To work with our local schools in a deeper way.
- To develop future Christian leaders.

## **Vision; (Our hopes for the future of that work)**

- To grow our staff team with vibrant, Christ centred staff who, through their passion, make knowing Christ fun.
- To train and resource our staff to enable them to grow in their leadership role.
- To train our staff in their awareness of special needs in childhood.
- To foster greater inclusiveness of our children and young people within our church family.
- To increase the opportunity for our children and young people to develop and grow spiritually and socially.
- To see our children and young people express themselves and use their gifts within the context of our church family more.
- To embrace diversity in families.
- To support and develop each child's needs.
- To expand or begin a greater variety of 'occasional' activities across the age groups such as 'Holiday Clubs', 'Craft Days', 'Messy Church', 'Youth services' etc.
- To develop the relationships we make through our outreach program with parents as well as children.
- To provide better opportunities for our under 3's – especially on a Sunday.
- To provide activities away from of our church premises that enable children / young people to experience and grow in other contexts. (See 'Mini-bus' in conclusion)

## Long term aims;

- To employ a full time Children's /Youth worker to head our volunteer Team.
- To provide a Family Support Worker.
- To provide a contact centre.
- To develop our multi-media resources such as Twitch and Periscope.
- To provide mid-week breakfast clubs.
- To provide mid-week afterschool clubs.
- To facilitate family / youth counselling.
- To provide a family advice 'Drop-in' centre.
- To provide family support such as 'Parenting Classes'.
- To resource families materialistically i.e Loan Service for clothes and toys.
- To provide 'Life Coaching' for our young people e.g. Romance Academy.

## Evangelism;

Evangelism in St. Chad's is done in a huge variety of ways and to different depths. Evangelism really covers all the ways in which we seek to draw people closer to God, both within and from outside of our church. Our Evangelistic activities include:

### Church service pattern;

Sunday; We have a current pattern of Sunday services that seek to reach a broad spectrum of people by being strikingly different in their liturgical form. They are the 0900 BCP service and the 1045 Family Service. Other occasional services happen at other times on Sundays e.g. All Souls, Festivals etc.

### Mid-week Services;

We hold services both inside and outside of our church premises during the week. Each Wednesday we have a quiet reflective said service which alternates between Common Worship and BCP. Fortnightly this is a communion service.

Monthly we take services to Meadow Court and Chadwell House, two local retirement homes.

School services take place within our church at least three times a year consisting of both Primary and Secondary School participation.

As required we provide home communion services.

### Overt Evangelistic activities;

**Discipleship Course;** We run infrequent discipleship courses for any who wish to attend, both child and adult in form.

**Home Groups;** We have 4 Home Groups who meet regularly for bible study and discussion.

**Weekend Away;** Yearly we hold a Church weekend away, either to a facilitated discipleship event where we mix with other churches, or this year we will go away as a church in our own right to include biblical teaching and prayer for those who wish to participate in that.

**Leadership Teaching;** The Church Leaders are encouraged to attend a variety of leadership training held outside of St. Chad's, all of which have a disciplined section to them.

**Men's Sailing break;** Annually men (and women) are invited to sail 'professionally' on the south coast with an instructor in a large yacht which includes disciplined time.

**Men's Golf Breaks;** Annually men (And women) are invited to attend a golfing break with professional coaching which also includes a disciplined section.

**W.O.W.;** (Women of Worth) A varied program of activities runs throughout the year for women (not necessarily from the St. Chad's Church family) some of which are evangelistically aimed.

**Website;** Receiving 400 hits a (month) – a touch point for many.

### **Light Evangelistic opportunities;**

**High Road Days;** Our Evangelism Team organise various days throughout the year, usually around festivals, where our congregation is invited to go out onto the High Road and interact with our community at a face to face level. Often those who go give out some literature and / or a small free gift (Chocolate eggs at Easter) to bless those we meet.

**Events;** We have a variety of 'Events' which we open up to church and society alike, but each of which act as a bridge for deeper relationships with those who attend. Such events include; Firework evening, Social events – Quizzes, Church Picnic, St. Chad's got talent, etc.

**MCC;** A meal and relational time set around games for our older folk.

**M.U. and Knit and natter;** Offering relationship around both overt and less overt activities.

**Men's drop-in;** A light social time of games and friendship.

**Coffee Morning;** Open to all, offering people time to sit and chat over coffee and cakes.

**Table Tennis;** For the more energetic, a social time around the game.

### **Aims of that work; (Overarching goals)**

Believing that all who call themselves 'Christians' are conduits of the gospel message of hope from God to the outside world, we see 'Evangelism' in its many forms as being a natural part of our disciplined living for God. We set the aims of that work across our church as being:

- To always be led by the Holy Spirit, and to seek his will as we reach out.
- To reach people with the Gospel of good news in as many different ways as we can.
- To spread the love of Jesus effectively through those same creative ways.
- To be good disciples and witnesses for Christ in our own living.
- To make Jesus Christ relevant to today's society.
- To intentionally serve our local community as they have need.

- To bring God into everyday situations for ourselves and others.
- To have the courage to be salt and light to Chadwell Heath,
- To develop the relationships we make through our outreach programs across all ages.
- To intentionally nurture non-Christians in their belief in and faith in Jesus Christ.
- To make ourselves available to reveal God and not just live Christ for ourselves.
- To build bridges between God and people so that Jesus can walk over
- To envision and encourage people throughout our church to live in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- To be different and live distinctive lives for Christ.

**Vision;  
(Our hopes for the future  
of that work)**

- To grow St. Chad's numerically and Spiritually.
- To grow in our ability to share our faith with others across our church family.
- To see a majority of St. Chad's Church family involved in direct outreach with the gospel, e.g giving out tracts etc. on the High Road, regular Prayer Walking, inviting non-church people to our various events etc. (That we would be a church who understand the urgency of the gospel)
- To encourage all of our church family to engage with and build relationships with non-Christians outside of the church family.
- To grow our Welcome Team – and make them available across all services.
- To grow the opportunities we have for building relationships e.g. Outings for the retired, social events, social classes such as 'Keep Fit' etc.
- To provide a Baby-sitting service so young adults can participate in activities and events.
- To be creative in presenting the gospel – and not just on Sundays.
- To see God active in people's lives producing the fruit of His Spirit as they grow in relationship with Him.
- To see the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit amongst us as we minister to each other and to our wider community.

**Long term aims;**

- To reach all of Chadwell Heath with the message of Jesus and the love of God.
- To grow better partnerships with other local Christians.
- To plant new churches as directed by God
- To have disciplined people available across the week to speak to non-Christians who attend our church premises about their faith.
- To develop a formal 'Coffee Shop'.

## Pastoral Support;

As with our Evangelism, Pastoral Support happens through St. Chad's Church in many ways, not least in the natural way that our church family members care for each other and those known to them as they live Christ's love. We actively encourage such support, both prayerful and practical and see it as an expression of our discipleship. Other areas of Pastoral Support seen in St. Chad's include:

**Prayer Ministry Team;** St. Chad's Church has a small team of trained people who provide prayer ministry to anyone wishing to be prayed for. That ministry includes the ministry of oils and is designed as a short term ministry carried out in public spaces within the church or is itself a place of referral where deeper ministry is required.

**Pastoral Team;** St. Chad's Church has a small team of trained Pastoral Support workers. These people engage in longer term prayer and ministering of those in need. They include hospital chaplains and visit people in hospitals or in the person's home. Other less obvious support is also offered e.g. shopping for an incapacitated person, giving lifts where needed etc.

**Home Groups;** Home Groups are led by trained leaders who have a responsibility for the pastoral care of those in their group. They would be the first port of call in many instances where pastoral support is needed.

**Tuesday Night Prayer Group;** This group is a 'Behind the scenes' support group of great importance. It acts as an intercessory group for all aspects of our church and will hold those needing God's ministering touch in prayer. All are invited to be a part of this group.

**Prayer Chain;** Again, enabling those in need of God's ministry to be held in prayer. This chain includes various strategic intercessors and also informs the wider church family of prayer needs where that is appropriate.

### **Life Events;**

St Chad's Ministry Team, being at present the incumbent and Associate Minister, also take on a wider role outside of the church. This work includes:

**Bereavement Support;** Recently begun, St. Chad's has trained some team members to assist the Ministry Team in the support of the bereaved.

**School Chaplaincy;** At St. Edward's Secondary School

**School Governor Service;** At Grove Primary School

**Referral Ministries;** Where families need professional help such as Marriage Guidance counselling etc.

**C.A.P. (Christians Against Poverty);** A national organisation that works locally to assist those families in financial difficulties. St. Chad's has recently joined that team with a volunteer from our congregation working alongside the full time staff.

**Weddings and Baptisms;** St. Chad's Church sees these life touch points (together with funerals mentioned above) as wonderful pastoral and evangelical opportunities and embraces both.

## **Aims of that work; (Overarching goals)**

The depth to which we can help others, be it through prayer or something more tangible, is limited by the depth of our relationships with them. The depth to which we give of ourselves for others is limited by the depth of our relationship with Jesus Christ and our understanding of his love. Our aims for Pastoral work encompasses both of these;

### **AIMS:** Overarching goals

- To be inclusive in the family of St. Chad's ensuring that everyone is important, valued, loved and listened to.
- To provide space and time to build relationships.
- To help all of the church family in their own disciplined walk with God.
- To grow a Godly concern for others
- To partner with the Holy Spirit as we reach out to others.
- To grow trusting and lasting relationships across our family and beyond.
- To involve the whole church family in our opportunities to serve others.
- To meet the needs of our church family and those outside of St. Chad's Church, supporting them throughout their needs with appropriate follow up where needed.
- To grow and equip a good strong Christ-centred team of pastoral visitors and carers
- To enhance our communication structures
- To see healing amongst our community

## **Vision; (Our hopes for the future of that work)**

- To deepen relationship right across our church family, bridging division and fostering wholesome and deep relationships.
- To invite God to minister to us in deeper and supernatural ways.
- To grow an openness to God's ministering through the Holy Spirit across our church family.
- To have committed Prayer and Pastoral teams able to care for the needs of every church member and their families
- To develop our healing ministry.
- To continue regular training with that team to enable people to recognise and trust in those teams individually and corporately.
- To be a church of deep friendships.
- To enable all to participate in our activities e.g. provide lifts for the elderly.
- To be a place of healing and fulfilment.
- To increase our Home Group structure with trained leaders able to support their wider groups.

## **Long term aims;**

- To develop a structure of pastoral care in conjunction with outside agencies.
- To develop our bereavement support into trained counselling.
- To source and train people who are committed to providing Christian family and youth counselling in our own right.
- To provide an educational setting e.g. for 'English' classes etc.
- To provide a Family Support worker / life coaching.
- To provide a drop-in centre where people can seek advice for a variety of issues.

## Worship;

Worship is key to St. Chad's Church, named as one of our identifying features, and we fully believe that worship should permeate everything we are and all that we do as individuals and corporately. Our Church family are encouraged to worship in all places and at all times, but where, specifically, does worship happen within St. Chad's Church? It will obviously involve our Sunday pattern of services, but is also found in far more diverse places in the life of our church: (Here defined as times when we gather around our Lord in prayer or other recognised worship forms)

### **Services:**

Obviously our services are a great part of the worship that happens within our church family. They include;

### **Sunday services:**

- Mid- Week Service
- Special occasion services.
- Care Home services.
- Home Communion.
- Shared Services with our local church partners.

### **Other areas of worship in St. Chad's Church;**

- Children's and Young People's work e.g. Praise and Drama, Pre-School, Youth Worship Band etc.
- Corporate Prayer, such as our Tuesday Night Prayer meeting, but also within other meetings e.g. PCC etc.
- Home Groups.
- Men's and Women's ministries.
- Conferences we attend.
- Through our Website.
- Through our Pastoral care of others.

**Aims of that work;  
(Overarching goals)**

## **AIMS:** Overarching goals

- To enable people to meet with God and to be challenged by him.
- To provide the tools to help people worship in different ways
- To ensure continuity across our whole church family i.e. different services.
- To become a worshipping community in the Holy Spirit
- To nurture people's discovery of God through worship
- To worship and glorify God in everything we do

### **Vision; (Our hopes for the future of that work)**

- To bring the whole church into worship of the Trinitarian God.
- To constantly seek to improve areas of our services e.g. preaching, musical worship etc.
- To provide wider opportunities for worship
- To involve more people in our formal worship.
- To grow worship in other areas e.g. to see greater worship in Home Groups etc.
- To enable all people to become aware of the vastness of God and to live in awe and reverence of him.
- To grow our church to be expectant of God's presence in our lives and our church's life.
- To provide opportunity to experience God through His Holy Spirit with confidence, acceptance and openness.
- To make newcomers a priority so that they can participate in worship, maybe for the first time.

### **Long term aims;**

- To grow our worship capabilities so that we are a resource to others.
- To grow an evening service.
- To ensure our buildings and technology are more than adequate for today's needs.
- To enable more diverse worship in our church and ancillary buildings.

# What it all means;

As can be seen, St. Chad's Church is in good shape. We're doing some really great things together, directed and resourced by God, through a varied program of worship and activity that help us towards being *Christ, inside and out*. But there's a real feeling amongst the leadership, and church family itself, that we're only at the beginning, hence identifying ourselves as being a 'Visionary' church.

What will it take to realise the stretching visions, short and long term, that we have described across each of the sections of our church? How will we become the beacon so many sense God is calling us to be in Chadwell Heath and beyond? And how will we know we are journeying towards those goals?

There will clearly be a need for strong, Christ centred leadership. Psalm 127 reminds us,

**'Unless the Lord builds the house,  
the labourers labour in vain.'**

We believe fully that God has so far directed our thoughts, but we mustn't move off from here in our own strength. And that is true of the whole church family. Together we need to be a disciples, learning community, reliant on God and faithful to him.

We will need to remain flexible in our approach to the visions God has given us. Timescales are in His hands, and we will need to review both our progress and understanding of each

vision as time passes to ensure we remain relevant to our generation and on the path to which God has called us.

## **Some specific understandings of the future;**

### **Needs in us;**

- **A desire to be disciples of Christ;** To yield our whole lives to Christ. To be committed to our own spiritual journeys and the spiritual journey of St. Chad's Church.
- **A desire to be a learning community;** To be the very best we can for God. To Grow in our understanding of: God, ourselves, God's gifts and resources, leadership, and Servanthood.
- **A desire to live in God's strength;** to take risks and face challenges. To persevere and overcome adversity.
- **A desire to change with the times;** To remain current and objective in an ever changing world.
- **A desire to fulfil God's plans for us;** To give of ourselves and our resources to fulfil God's mission in Chadwell Heath and beyond.

### **Needs of our church;**

- ❖ **Buildings;** To ensure our buildings are well equipped, well-staffed, and suitable for that which we seek to achieve.
- ❖ **Technology;** To ensure our technology does not fall behind the norms of our society so that we can deliver multi-media requirements to a high standard.
- ❖ **Finances;** To ensure that we are prudent and specific with our limited resources, spending wisely for the greatest benefit. Some of our visions will see the need for paid staff. We must ensure value for money in all areas of our spending.
- ❖ **Training;** To provide on-going training for all roles where that would be a benefit. To ensure that training is current and envisioning.
- ❖ **Communication;** To ensure all that we do and are doing is communicated effectively across our generation. To advertise ourselves well, make linking with us easy for those outside of our church family, and be comprehensive in all we do.
- ❖ **Resources;** To resource our activities well; whether that be providing a mini-bus for across the ages activities or simply making sure the office is well stocked – we all need the right tools to do the job well.
- ❖ **Effective Partnerships;** We need to partner well with others. The diocese of course, but with training agencies, other churches, social agencies. As a church we're part of the body of Christ, not the whole thing.

## **To Finish;**

I believe that we have begun to picture what it really means to be '*Christ, inside and out*'. To commit ourselves to personal and corporate growth in Jesus Christ, and to seek to think, live and act as he would do. Our visions are stretching, but they are kingdom honouring and give us a focus for the whole church to work towards. Together with Christ and with each other we really can make a difference and be the church God is calling us to be.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your  
heart, as if working for the Lord  
Col;3.22