

Mission Action Plan

St. Jude's Church, Plymouth

Aim

Our aim is to grow in the 'Great Commandments' and the 'Great Commission' – to reach all and to enable all to become growing disciples of Jesus who love God and his world. This is summed up in our mission statement to be a church that is about:

CHRIST
AND OUR
COMMITMENT
TO GROW IN HIM AND HIS
COMMANDMENTS
AND
COMMISSION

C
CHURCH

We consider **outreach and discipleship** to be inextricably linked. We are aware that it is the Holy Spirit who works in peoples' lives.

All we can do is provide suitable '**environments**' for people as they walk towards, or with, Jesus.

If we didn't do both **outreach and discipleship** - why would the Holy Spirit bring anyone to us? This is why we need a plan to move towards our aim.

Strategy to reach our Aim

As a church we recognise a growing faith in Jesus Christ is a journey of multiple phases. To help us plan outreach and discipleship we illustrate that movement with three basic stages of interaction for each part of our community. We want to encourage everyone to move through these stages, at their own pace, to grow and become fully devoted followers of Jesus.



Garden

Key word:

Guest

e.g. a Quiz
Night



Dining Room

Key word:

Friend

e.g. an Alpha
Course



Kitchen

Key word – **Family**

e.g. a Small Group



ST JUDES
PLYMOUTH

No event in the **Garden, Dining Room or Kitchen** should stand on its own. It needs to have within it a **'signpost'** towards a next step where growth can continue. e.g. our monthly "Midweeker" group days out - essentially garden environments for friends, that promote the 'Midweeker' weekly fellowship gathering – which is, in effect, a resourced Small Group.

Kitchen – or **Family** situations are well illustrated by our church Small Groups. In these we aim to encourage lives that **worship God**, maintain close **fellowship** and growing **discipleship**. Developing the **Kitchen** theme further, we are also helped to discover and begin a personal **ministry** to the church – local, regional or global (at *the Sink*) and finally find our individual responsibility in **mission** – reaching people for Christ outside the church (at *the Oven*).

We are interested in enabling all to have a growing heart of **compassion** that should evolve as we become disciples – as we become more like Jesus. Therefore, St. Jude's is involved in a range of **caring** activities throughout the community, often in partnership with other churches and community groups. As a church we also provide support to a range of

international missions– most of which are because members of our own church have gone on mission with them overseas.

'The Next Era' – St. Jude's is currently involved in redeveloping the buildings and site on which it stands in order to provide the varied and best spaces possible for our strategy to flourish. The congregation have raised over £800K of the £1.6m we need to complete it. We're now looking for partners to create lots of **'Garden' environments**.

Staff

The church full time staff comprises a Priest in Charge and a Curate. We employ a part time Church Administrator and Pre-School staff. Volunteers also work hard across the breadth of the church.

Giving

St. Jude's is not a wealthy church. We encourage giving as part of being a disciple that hopefully will grow towards tithing as we mature in our faith in Jesus. God seems to give us just about as much as we need at present. Growth will happen more as we trust Jesus further in this area.

*The entire theology and framework strategy behind this Mission Action Plan is fully outlined in: "Garden's, Dining Rooms and Kitchens" by the Vicar of St Jude's, Revd Tim Smith
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