

Mission Action Plan Update 2022

Church Mission Questionnaire

There were many positive comments in the questionnaire feedback. The themes below emerged during the process of summarising. The samples of comments are all verbatim. 50 people responded to the questionnaire.



Part 1. What do you think we do particularly well as a church?

Preaching We are blessed with strong preachers. Inspiring talks. High quality. Solid teaching. Good at explaining deep truths in an accessible way. Reflection time after preaching.

Home Groups Lot of people involved in home groups. Opportunity to encourage many members in faith and discipleship and encourage outreach initiatives

Communications Done very well to keep everyone connected during covid. Good online presence. Visitors impressed with the way Zoom community is integrated with the congregation.

Welcome Very strong. Church members are generally good at talking to newcomers and visitors. Welcoming friend and stranger alike. Most would agree we're a friendly bunch.

Pastoral Care There is a culture of care for the church family. As a church family, St Peter's is very responsive to each other's needs, particularly in times of stress. We are a family of God demonstrating warm hearted fellowship along with prayer and prophecy.

Worship Group Committed group of singers and musicians. Wonderful.

Church Services Very good, especially the 'Teach' mark. Intercessions by members of the congregation.

Further comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please see a member of the MAP team – Alicia, Rachael, Anne Burton, Phil Eley, Emma Russell, Bernie Burton, Julie Scott, Peter Maybury, John Bird.

Part 2. Which areas of church life do we need to address?

Young People Definitely needs a children's worker to focus on youth activities, school-age children and teenagers.

Families We need to reach out to more people especially younger families to add vibrancy and life and a future for the church family.

Prayer Regular prayer for our mission as a church, in line with Tearfund's statement that 'prayer is at the heart of all we do....'

Becoming more outward – facing
We need to go where the people are and be Christ in the community – no other motive other than to share God's love with our physical neighbours.

Ourselves Not to be afraid to do things differently. Not feel that we have to go back. A more yes-we-can attitude adopted.

Children It would help to have a young, charismatic children's/youth leader. You have to speculate to accumulate.

Volunteers Too few volunteers for all jobs. Encourage more people to share the workload.

Communications Review our communications – social media and the website – not really outward facing and not stimulating. Advertise what we do more widely.

Our buildings Ensure that we make the best use of all our buildings and finance to implement our missionary purpose.

Church services Share examples of mission activity – our own and others during services. Use the church for community festivals, displays.

Part 3. What do you think are the major needs of the people who live in this community?

KEY ISSUE! Opportunities for people to meet with others.

Through meeting to enjoy the companionship and also get help with a wide range of problems, needs and interests.

'Getting together to share experiences.'
'Existence of information groups where important information is conveyed.'

Loneliness and Isolation

'New people have difficulty making new friends'. 'Places where those living alone can meet and chat with strangers, both same age and cross age groups'. 'People who are trapped in their homes.'. 'I think loneliness has affected a lot of people due to the pandemic.'

Young People 'Better facilities for young people'. Help youngsters to develop their skills, gain confidence and prepare for their future.' 'Lack of facilities for children up to the ages of 10-15.' 'Something to do to keep them off the streets.'

Community Spirit. 'No sense of community anymore.' 'Most people still don't know who their neighbours are.' 'Heatherton and Highfields are just vast housing estates developed without any community infrastructure.'

Safety 'People need to feel safe and feel that the area is being looked after', 'To live a happy, peaceful, safe and secure life'

Giving Voice. Speaking out on behalf of people in the community when appropriate to express their anxieties where there is a perceived injustice or need. 'To be heard – single voices don't get heard in recent times, decisions are currently based on the loudest voices.'

Environmental Awareness

'Encourage more environmental initiatives, plant more trees.'