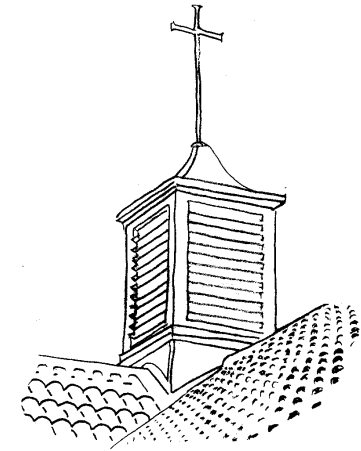
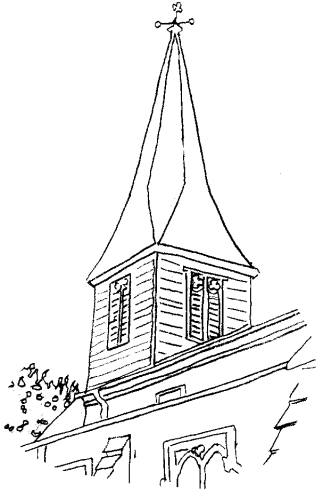


St. Stephen with St. Julian, St. Albans Growth Action Plan



This plan has been formulated following consultation with the church congregations through the use of a questionnaire and following a PCC / DCC Away -Day.

The objectives outlined are organised under the three headings set out by the St. Albans Diocesan “Living God’s Love” campaign -

Going Deeper into God, Transforming Communities, Making New Disciples -

and follow three strands which highlight the broad aims of this plan -

Looking Out - considering Ministry of Welcome

Looking In - Encouraging more confident disciples

Looking Up - Improving our worship

The majority of the objectives apply equally to both St. Stephen’s and St. Julian’s communities and these are printed in black. Some however are specific to one or other of the churches. Those which apply exclusively to St. Stephen’s are printed in red and those which apply exclusively to St. Julian’s in green. It is the intention that the various objectives will be implemented by the existing **Events and Fundraising Committee** and that three further working groups comprised of PCC/DCC members and others from the church community will be convened to cover **Buildings Development, Communication and Pastoral Care**. The Ministry Team will also play a part in implementing a number of the objectives. These working groups will report to the PCC and the progress with this plan will be reviewed annually at the APCM.

	Going Deeper into God	Transforming Communities	Making New Disciples
<p>Looking Out - Ministry of Welcome Building related People related</p>	<p>(i) Explore ways to keep our Church buildings open for private prayer and meditation during the week Timescale before the end of 2014 To be implemented by Buildings Development Group / PCC</p> <p>(ii) Develop ways to exploit our unique status as a pilgrimage church by exploring links with the Abbey, our sister churches and the local authority tourist information network. Timescale before the end of 2014 To be implemented by the incumbent working with colleagues at the other churches.</p> <p>(iii) Work to develop ways in which St. Julian's can become a more tangible Christian presence on the Cottonmill estate. Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by St. Julian's DCC</p>	<p>(i) Revise Welcome Pack and ensure that packs are regularly updates and used on a more regular basis - Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Communications Group</p> <p>(ii) Set up a system of Street Wardens to distribute Welcome Packs to newcomers and also inform the Ministry Team/ pastoral care team or any illness or pastoral need. This will need to include new developments such as the King Harry Lane site. Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Pastoral Care Group</p> <p>(iii) Carry out a review of our Hall facilities and draw up a budgeted plan for refurbishment/ improvement. Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Buildings Group / PCC</p> <p>(iv) Consider the possibility of establishing greater links with the Schools, Children's Centre and the uniformed organisations of the parish Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Ministry Team</p> <p>(V) Ensure that the churchyard and grounds at both St. Stephen's and St. Julian's continue to convey a welcoming and positive message to those who visit. Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Buildings Group</p> <p>(vi) Develop the ways in which we use our own noticeboards and also community noticeboards to showcase the church community Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Communications Group</p>	<p>(i) Improvement of St. Stephen's Main Entrance - Explore ways to improve the entrance through possible glazing the porch / creating entrance vestibule etc. Involve DAC and architect in drawing up plans and finding out costings. Timescale before the end of 2014 To be implemented by Buildings / Communications Group</p> <p>(ii) Explore ways to make our church buildings more visible through improved signage and other strategies Timescale - Before the end of 2015 To be implemented by Buldings / Communications Group</p> <p>(iii) Develop a strategy for keeping in touch with those we encounter through Baptisms, Wedding and Funerals by making use of the resources provided by The Weddings Project and by sending anniversary cards, organising celebratory events etc etc Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Ministry Team / Pastoral / Communication Group</p> <p>(iv) Consider ways in which we can improve the design of publicity and the ways in which we publicise what we do Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Communications Group</p> <p>(v) Consider the possibility of delivering free copies of the Parish Magazine to targeted streets in the parish. Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Communications Group</p>

	Going Deeper into God	Transforming Communities	Making New Disciples
<p>Looking In - Encouraging more confident disciples</p>	<p>(i) Examine the available resources to help people feel more excited by their faith. Consider using suitable study materials/ resources as seem appropriate. Consider organising a series of “outreach talks” / sermons to help strengthen faith and build confidence. Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Ministry Team.</p> <p>(ii) Examine the available resources which may help people to acknowledge/discover their gifts and feel more confident in using them in God’s service. Consider using suitable study materials/ resources as seem appropriate. Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Ministry Team.</p> <p>(iii) Explore ways to help people feel that what they contribute to church life is valued. Commissioning of leaders, PCC / DCC members etc etc. Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Ministry Team.</p> <p>(iv) Develop strategies to enable the different congregations at St. Stephen’s and St. Julian’s to continue growing together Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Events & Fundraising Committee</p>	<p>(i) Examine ways in which more of our church members can become involved in the pastoral care of the people of our parish. Consider using suitable study materials/ resources as seem appropriate. Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Pastoral Care Group</p> <p>(ii) Carry out a review of the activities offered for young people from babies to teenagers with a view to considering the feasibility of appointing a paid youth / children’s worker possibly in partnership with other churches. Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by PCC</p> <p>(iii) Consider the feasibility of running a summer play scheme for children. Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Pastoral Care Group / Ministry Team</p>	<p>(i) Carry out a review of the role played by the Parish Magazine, noticeboards, pew sheets, website in communicating our mission. Explore the use of other communication methods such as e-mail etc Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Communications Group</p>

	Going Deeper into God	Transforming Communities	Making New Disciples
Looking Up - Improving our worship	<p>(i) Encourage more people to be involved in reading and leading intercessions by running training / confidence building workshops Timescale - Before the end of 2012 To be implemented by Ministry Team</p> <p>(ii) Review the design of service orders to see if they can be improved. Be mindful of the need for large print copies for the visually impaired. Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Ministry Team</p> <p>(iii) Consider setting up alternative Sunday evening worship at St. Julian's on an occasional basis. Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by St. Julian's DCC</p>	<p>(i) Review Pattern of Services to consider the scope for more varied worship pattern, possibly including different evening services on an occasional basis. Establish a system of reviewing the worship offered in the parish at the November PCC meeting each year. Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by PCC / DCC</p>	<p>(i) Seek advice on Improving Sound Systems at both churches and implement changes as time and finances allow Timescale - Before the end of 2013 To be implemented by Buildings Group.</p>