

The Four Evangelists Mission Community
Mission Action Plan
April 2018



The Four Evangelistic Mission Community is made up of the suburban parishes of St. Matthew and St. Luke and the rural benefice of St. Mark and St. John. This MAP has been written following a vision day with members of all four churches, at which the three priorities for action were identified. The MAP suggests how each of our three priorities can be taken forward as we seek to implement the diocesan vision of Growing in Prayer, Making New Disciples and Serving the People of Devon with Joy. It also recognises some of our current strengths and how these can be built upon.

Our three priorities for immediate action are:

1. We want to see meaningful engagement with the children and young people who live and learn in our parishes.
2. We need to move towards sustainable pattern of services across the whole Mission Community.
3. We want our finances, buildings and governance structures to serve our mission and ministry instead of driving it.

Developing our Current Strengths

Pray: We currently have lay-led intercessions in our Sunday services in all four churches and St. Luke's has a team who are available after the service for 'prayer-at-the-rail' an informal opportunity to pray with anyone who comes forward. The monthly Mission Community newsletter, contains prayer requests sent in by members. *The next step to build on our strengths in prayer is to train volunteers from each church to offer 'prayer ministry' after Sunday services.* **Resources: St. Luke's Team, Resources Church.**

Grow: For the last 12 months a 'Pints of view' group has been running in the Lamb and Flag pub next to St. John's Church. This attracts a group of around 10 people every month. On Friday nights St. Luke's run a youth club which attracts around 25 young people from the local area. *The next step to build on our strengths in making disciples is to offer a short weekly seeker course (such as Alpha or Start) as part of 'Pints of view'.* **Resources: ME, Courses such as Alpha, Start or Pilgrim.**

Serve: St. Matthew's run a monthly 'silver service' lunch which regularly caters for 40 people, most of whom live alone and in local care homes. St. Matthew's and St. Luke's both have church halls which are used regularly by local community groups. *The next step to build on these strengths is to invite 'after dinner' speakers to silver service lunches who can speak about their work or ministry and share soothing if the Christian hope as they do so.* **Resources: Local Clergy and Lay Ministers, Ordinands, Bishops.**

Priority 1: Meaningful engagement with children and young people.

Pray: Investigate how we can make Sunday services more family-friendly and whether we could start a new service which would specifically appeal to families.

Resources: CWA, Messy Church, Godly Play Training

Grow: Support clergy as they take assemblies in local schools St. Matthew's CofE Primary School. **Resources: CWA, Open the Book Training**

Serve: Provide refreshments from St. Mark's after the Saturday morning 'parkrun'.

Resources: ME, Mustard Seed Finding

Priority 2: Sustainable pattern of services across the Mission Community.

Pray: Identify services which could be lay-led Morning Prayer rather than Eucharistic.

Resources: AD, DPM, VA, CLW, LTD

Grow: Focus resources on services which are usually well attended, such as festivals.

Resources: ME, GtRC

Serve: Run a joint marriage preparation/enrichment course for couples marrying in the Mission Community. Dovetail with local hospitality business. **Resources: Exeter**

Community Family Trust, Lee Abbey, Care for the Family, Marriage Course.

Priority 3: Finances, buildings and governance structures that serve our mission and ministry.

Pray: Reduce the number of business meetings so that volunteers and clergy can focus on 'prayer and the ministry of the word' (Acts 6). **Resources: MPS, AD**

Grow: Teaching about giving in sermons and investigate joining the 'Parish Giving Scheme'. **Resources: MRA**

Serve: Explore how our less well-used buildings (St. Luke and St. John) could be used as community assets. **Resources: GtRC**

Resources, Timescale and Review

1-2 Months *Communication* of MAP to congregations and extending an invitation to join working groups and ministry teams to develop these ideas.

1-2 Years Accessing training and working with expert practitioners and diocesan advisers to *plan, trial and improve* these ideas. The first-port-of-call for each idea is listed in the text above, with contact information below.

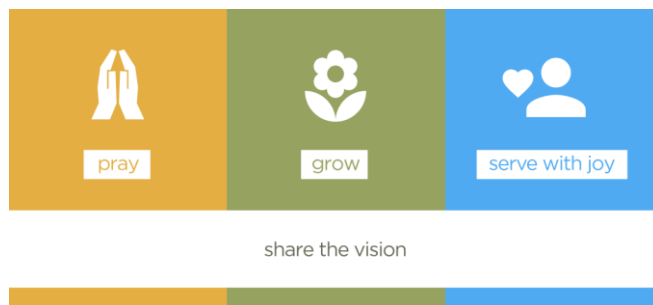
1+ Years *Record and Review*. Produce a brief summary of how each idea has developed, what has worked and what can be improved. Use these to help review this MAP and the mission and ministry of the Mission Community.

The following diocesan staff are listed above as resources who are available to help working groups develop different aspects of the MAP. The Archdeaconry Development Adviser will be available through the process to help access resources and review plans.

MMDA	Development Adviser	Jon Marlow	01392 294942
AD	Archdeacon		
GtRC	Growing the Rural Church Team	Marian Carson	01392 294912
ME	Mission Enabler	Barry Dugmore	01392 294920
VA	Vocations Adviser	Hannah Alderson	01392 724804
LTD	Lay Training and Discipleship		
ED	Education for Discipleship (SWMTC)	David Carrington	
MRA	Mission Resources Adviser	Katie Stevenson	01392 294960
CWA	Children's Work Adviser	Katherine Lyddon	01392 294937
YWA	Youth Work Adviser	Paul Reisbach	01392 294932
MPS	Mission and Pastoral Secretary	Adrian Hough	01392 2949
CU	Communications Unit	Rebecca Paveley	01392 294905
CLW	Consultant for Liturgy and Worship	Andrew Marries	01844 343889

This is a sample *Mission Action Plan* which is structured around the Diocesan Vision. For more information about writing or reviewing your own MAP please contact:

The Revd Jon Marlow
Mission and Ministry Development Team Leader
Diocese of Exeter
 01392 294942
Jon.Marlow@exeter.anglican.org



Church Images are © Michael Day, Alison Day, Robert Cutts & John Clift