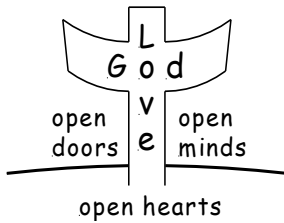


St Michael and All Angels, Hawkshead
MISSION ACTION PLAN
Summary

1. It is our wish to further develop non-Eucharistic services (Morning Worship, Celtic Evening Prayer, Taizé), encouraging lay leadership and planning of these services. (These services have been implemented, and are well received.)
2. We will explore the possibility of a café style church (with cake!).
3. We will continue to support our Deanery Network Youth Church Minister, Chris Mason, in running residential youth weekends at Brathay. These weekends should now be understood as being primarily for the Mission Community, rather than just the benefice.
4. In liaison with our Mission Community we aim to run, or support, regular courses suitable for people who want to explore faith in an informal and helpful way.
5. We will make the building more welcoming. Possibilities include:
 - Improve the lighting for visitors especially on dull days
 - Brighten up the porch and renew notice boards – display photos of the Vicar, PCC and congregation
 - Display a sign saying that the church is open, and visitors are welcome (possibly in different languages).
 - Make a children's corner
6. We will work with others in developing the Windermere Deanery North Mission Community.
7. The community transport scheme is now well established. We need to recruit some more drivers.
8. We will continue to engage with and explore our Digital Prayer project, involving other places of worship.
9. We will support the Wednesday Club
10. We aim to invite people to be generous, with time, money and talents, both towards the church and elsewhere. We are currently fund-raising to repair our church bell tower, and as part of this activity, we will be organizing another Stewardship Campaign in 2017. It is our aim to be able to increase our Parish Offering annually, and be solvent enough that we can pay by Standing Order.
11. We are working towards achieving our Eco-Church Award.
12. We actively encourage vocations to lay and ordained ministry. Our Vicar is a diocesan Vocations Adviser.
13. We will start a Christian / Faith Book Club



St Michael and All Angels, Hawkshead

MISSION ACTION PLAN

In detail

OPEN DOORS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS

Open Doors

Hawkshead Parish Church is open to visitors during daylight hours. It is well used by tourists and locals alike, who are attracted by its beauty and its history (it has been a place of prayer and Christian worship for centuries), or who come to pray, or be quiet, or simply soak up the special atmosphere. We also like to think that there are other ways in which we have 'open doors', that you will feel welcome here, whoever you are, and whatever your background. We aim to be a place of spiritual, emotional and intellectual refreshment.

Expectant in Prayer and Worship

The worship of God is at the heart of what we do. Our worship should be attractive, reverent and vibrant, and openly reflect God's love for the world. It is focused around the celebration of the Eucharist (Holy Communion), and so we become a people marked by thanksgiving to God. We aim to broaden and deepen the life of the worshipping community. The bell ringers are very much appreciated.

We try to make the best of special occasions, whether they are Occasional Offices (Baptism, Marriage, Funeral) or established seasonal worship (e.g. Harvest, Christingle). We are also keen to look for new opportunities to create special occasions (e.g. the Lambing Service, Bowkerstead Songs of Praise etc.)

Action points

1. It is our wish to further develop non-Eucharistic services (Morning Worship, Celtic Evening Prayer, Taizé), encouraging lay leadership and planning of these services. (These services have been implemented, and are well received.)
2. We will explore the possibility of a café style church (with cake!).

Evangelism

We would like to be people who live out the Gospel so fully and attractively that others are drawn into our midst, while our regular congregation should be equipped to help others to explore faith and to invite them to church.

Action points

1. To continue to support our Deanery Network Youth Church Minister, Chris Mason, in running residential youth weekends at Brathay. These weekends should now be understood as being primarily for the Mission Community, rather than just the benefice.
2. In liaison with our Mission Community we aim to run, or support, regular courses suitable for people who want to explore faith in an informal and helpful way.
3. We will make the building more welcoming. Possibilities include:

- Improve the lighting for visitors especially on dull days
- Brighten up the porch and renew notice boards – display photos of the Vicar, PCC and congregation
- Display a sign saying that the church is open, and visitors are welcome (possibly in different languages).
- Make a children's corner.

Open Hearts

The parish church in Hawkshead is a central part of community life. This can only be maintained and developed, if we have an open-hearted outlook. Many of our congregation are active within the community in a variety of ways.

Quality of Relationships

Having fun together is a valued part of church life. Regular social activities are important for us. Every member of the congregation needs to take an active role in welcoming visitors and non-regular worshippers to our services. We value the part we play in our Benefice, which also includes Sawrey, Rusland and Satterthwaite, and we aim to maintain and develop relationships with the different congregations, being energised by shared worship and social events. We also value our relationship with local churches of other denominations.

Action point

1. To work with others in developing the Windermere Deanery North Mission Community.

Community Service and Engagement

As well as with the local community, the church needs to engage with the substantial number of visitors to the village and surrounding area. The attraction of the area to tourists does create problems (most notably the number of second, and holiday homes resulting in a shrinking resident population), but there are great opportunities here as well, with a significant ministry to owners of such homes and other visitors. *Music for a Summer Evening* is one of the most prominent ways in which the church is involved with tourists, and we are committed to continuing that work.

For our resident community we produce a monthly magazine, *The Link*, which goes to every house in Hawkshead and Sawrey parishes and contains community news. It is a valued local resource. It is also available for all online.

We support a number of charities, notably Christian Aid (through house to house collections, Lenten soup lunches, and Music for a Summer Evening) and the work of Garry Ion for CMS. It is our hope that we can always offer pastoral care, where it is needed and wanted, to both the local community and the tourist community.

We have good links with the local Primary School, leading assemblies and running a weekly after-school club.

Action points

1. The community transport scheme is now well established. We need to recruit some more drivers.
2. To continue to engage with and explore our Digital Prayer project, involving other places of worship.
3. We will support the Wednesday Club

Open Minds

Many people would see themselves as being on a spiritual journey and none of us is in full possession of the truth. While we wish to encourage each other to grow in our relationship with God, through regular worship, prayer and study, we also want to be open to the views and opinions of others while retaining our Christian integrity.

Maturity in Faith

To help people on their journeys, we have regular courses. Our aim is that there should be enough variety for there to be a wide appeal. There are always courses at Lent and Advent and occasional ones throughout the year, shared with the Benefice and beyond. We strive to encourage each other to discern, offer and use our gifts for God, for the community and for each other.

Action points

1. We aim to invite people to be generous, with time, money and talents, both towards the church and elsewhere. We are currently fund-raising to repair our church bell tower, and as part of this activity, we will be organizing another Stewardship Campaign in 2017. It is our aim to be able to increase our Parish Offering annually, and be solvent enough that we can pay by Standing Order.
2. We are working towards achieving our Eco-Church Award.
3. We actively encourage vocations to lay and ordained ministry. Our Vicar is a diocesan Vocations Adviser.
4. We will start a Christian / Faith Book Club.

Jesus said, 'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.' John 13.34-35

This Mission Action Plan will be reviewed regularly.