

Review of the Mission Action Plan (MAP) by the PCC in May 2020.

- 1 At the time of the PCC meeting being held on 14 May 2020, we are still in modified lockdown. We do not know when the churches may reopen, and what the situation will be when they do. This is therefore not the time to carry out a full annual review of the Mission Action Plan (MAP), as we might normally have done at this stage in the year.
- 2 However the Annual Report and Accounts 2019 reflect the way in which the MAP has been central to discussions about new initiatives and possible changes to existing practices over the last year. These are then summarised in the 'Conclusion from the Vicar' at the end of the Report. That Conclusion represents an appropriate way in which to express our Review of the MAP as at May 2020. It is set out in full in paragraph 3 below.
- 3 CONCLUSION FROM THE VICAR (*taken from the St Michael's Annual Report and Accounts 2019*)

"The Mission Action Plan continues to be central to our planning and has once more been of great benefit over the year, helping us to focus on the priorities set. (See www.stmichaelsamersham.org.uk Mission Action Plan for details)

One of the difficult things in the MAP is about recognising when it is the right time to let go, and sadly we let go of our 'Not One for Lunch'. It was a very difficult decision for all those that have helped run it over the years, and all our thanks go to them for their efforts. We are however continuing to reach out to and serve our local community in tried and trusted ways, and this year has seen a real growth in confidence in new ventures. Messy Church and the Christmas Tree Festival are now well established and feeling more familiar and exciting as mission tools. Many families now return regularly to Messy Church and are introducing their family and friends to it. Community groups are now also contacting us ahead of schedule for the 'Christmas Tree Festival'; so much so that the team had to make room for extras therefore it is clearly making contacts with new people in our community. Gathered Round has involved and reengaged with the families in a new fun way and is evolving as we go.

I am delighted to say we have a youth group! The two groups of young people confirmed over the last two years have formed together to form +INSPIRE+; by the way they chose the name themselves! The youth group meets monthly, they decide what they would like to do, and they are very outward looking. Many of you will have learnt that they are excellent bakers, and are socially aware regarding the homeless and the hungry, and conscious of the wider community.

The choir initiative of a new format to the Nine Lessons and Carols using both inside the church and outside on the forecourt with Amersham Band and refreshments was a great leap of faith and has again proved popular, rewarded with positive feedback on both the service and engagement with local community group involvement. And the Shrove Tuesday social continues to be popular too.

Many plans and ideas were made for the coming centenary year many of which will unfortunately be curtailed due to the looming events in 2020 of a global pandemic and governmental restrictions in place to deal with the spread of disease. No doubt what happens will deeply shape our next report.

Keep safe!

Thanks be to God who walks with us and loves us through His Son Jesus Christ. May we continue to trust in his guidance, mercy and grace. Amen.

Revd Debbie Oades.“

- 4 This completes the May 2020 Review of the MAP.

(RCGG 230520)