

Yarm Methodist Church

Mission Policy

Adopted Unanimously by the Church Council on 22nd February 2022

Introduction:

At Yarm Methodist Church we seek to live out the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ. We do this by serving one another and our neighbours with love and by sharing our message about the God of love who regards each person to be precious, who takes delight in creation and offers life in all its fullness to everyone. This sense of purpose is summed up for us in the following phrase:

***'Yarm Methodist Church:
Serving with love and sharing God's grace'***

This strap line sums up what we stand for and how we conduct ourselves. This is how we would like to be viewed by the people of Yarm and the wider community. We use this strap line on all of our communications including our noticeboards, website, online communications, social media, notice sheets and correspondence.

Our sense of purpose:

We embrace the following statement as our 'Why Statement'. It expresses our identity and our sense of purpose. It is what we feel called to be and explains the difference that we seek to make in Yarm and the wider community:

At Yarm Methodist Church we celebrate the love of God, love others and share the good news of God's grace so that everyone can enjoy spiritual growth and guidance and know that they are loved to the uttermost.

Our way of being:

We are committed to working in the following ways:

- a) We enjoy God's presence as we worship together by being still, singing our praise and thanksgiving, praying with warmth and empathy, responding to Scripture and words of spiritual wisdom and celebrating Holy Communion.
- b) We support one another, honouring one another, encouraging one another, praying for one another and caring for one another.
- c) We invite others and warmly welcome everyone to share with us in friendliness, food and refreshments, Christian fellowship, genuine care and support and a sense of belonging.
- d) We grow closer to God as we pray together, laugh, cry and grieve together, share companionship with one another, yearn for discovery and engagement with God through Scripture together so that we may grow in humility, wisdom, understanding and the knowledge of God's will.
- e) We are a people of gratitude who recognise that every day is a gift.
- f) We seek to give something back to God and to our community so we reach out with love, generosity and kindness offering ongoing care, support, encouragement and hope.
- g) We bear witness to the love of God that has given us reassurance, made us feel uplifted, saved our sanity and faith, enhanced our lives, helped us to feel restful and enabled us to appreciate each moment.
- h) We use new technologies wherever possible and appropriate to enable our worship, our fellowship and our sharing of the good news of God's grace.
- i) We are particularly mindful of the importance of including children and young people within our life of worship, fellowship and outreach.
- j) We provide opportunities for people to socialise, to be entertained, to learn, to talk, to celebrate, to laugh, to cry, to share, to mourn, to pray, to live, to work, to sing and to heal.
- k) Whenever possible we work in partnership with others who share our aims.
- l) We invest our resources in the service of our sense of purpose and way of being seeking always to provide and maintain a warm, safe, welcoming, flexible, relevant, efficient and environmentally responsible premises available to all.

Conclusion

This document expresses our sense of mission as we have come to understand it. We recognise that our sense of mission will evolve as our experience and understanding of God's work amongst us grows and develops. This is a living policy. We keep it under review and we amend it from time to time as seems right to us, is appropriate and necessary.