

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Response to the circuit's request to review our mission statement and consequential actions.

Church Council requested the Action Group to undertake this task and to submit a proposal to them for ratification/amendment/comment. This document sets out that proposal.

Following our church away day in January 2023, our Mission Statement was revisited and is:

OUR MISSION

To proclaim the love of God in Jesus to all people.

We do this by: **Being a place of welcome, worship & nurture. Belonging, learning & growing together.**

Serving the community in whatever way we can.

Our initial thoughts homed in on 5 specific headings – Worship, Outreach, ECO, EDI and Growing Membership.

Growing Membership, Worship and Outreach

- We want to be a growing church.
- We will improve the 'welcome process'.
- We will recruit 30 new members by April 2025.
- We will establish a church presence in one or more of the local blocks of flats over the next three years.
- We will set up a rolling electronic information screen which will be obvious to passers-by within 1 year.
- Utilise the Link/kitchen to provide service to the community within 1 year.
- We will advertise our existence, activities, and facilities within 3 months.
- We will seek closer contact with all of our building hirers within 1 year.
- Within 1 year, we will worship in a creative and interactive way which will appeal to congregations
- Our current style of all-age-worship to be expanded.

EDI (Equality, Diversity & Inclusion)

We are a church that is committed to be part of this work of God. The following are headline tasks to be started immediately where SMART objectives will be set out. Outcomes will be monitored and assessed at least on an annual basis – probably by the Action Group.

An EDI champion will be appointed to contribute to and mastermind the following actions:

- Celebrate the rich diversity of people within the church.
- Eradicate all discrimination to treat all people justly and with dignity.
- Introduce a profound change in the culture, practices and attitudes resulting in all becoming full participants in the church's life.
- Advertise that we are a venue that's registered to carry out same-sex marriages.

ECO (ecological or environmental)

We are committed to being a carbon neutral church by 2029 (Methodist target is 2030).

We currently hold a bronze award, and we will achieve silver by 2029. Gold award will take longer.

We will appoint an ECO champion who will contribute to and mastermind actions to address the following:

- Community and Global engagement through new and existing projects.
- Ensure that our worship takes account of and recognises the need for services to keep ECO issues high on our agenda. Prayer for such issues will also be encouraged.
- We will, where finances allow, improve the insulation, energy usage and other methods of reducing our carbon footprint.
- We will encourage members of the congregation to consider personal lifestyle changes such as reduction in eating red meat, walking or cycling instead of cars and increasing their recycling arrangements.

These proposals, once accepted, can be implemented quite rapidly. The monitoring of progress will be crucial and the regularity of such will allow and encourage change along the way.

Approved by Trinity Church Council on 1 May 2024.