

Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans

MISSION STATEMENT – June 2023

We believe in inclusive Church - church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

It does this through:

WORSHIP

- increasing awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love

LEARNING & CARING

- helping people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care

SERVICE

- being a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice

EVANGELISM

- making more followers of Jesus Christ

Marlborough Road Methodist Church is an open and diverse congregation of Christians set near the centre of St. Albans. Our mission is to live out our calling, and our plans and targets are:

To be a good neighbour to people in need, to challenge injustice and to be friends with people of other cultures and faiths

- *supporting the Anna Chaplaincy and children & families work and activities;*
- *supporting mission at Cornerstone House in Salisbury Village;*
- *supporting local groups such as Centre 33, the Living Room, Open Door and the Winter Beds Project, FEED, interfaith networks;*
- *supporting Christian Aid, Action for Children, All We Can and the Fund for Human Need*
- *organising Holiday at Home seniors' holiday club;*
- *engaging in the Methodist Church 'Walking with Micah' and supporting our Justice & Peace group activities*

To show and tell the good news of Jesus Christ to make more followers for Him

- *support work with children & families*
- *support the work of the Anna Chaplain*
- *continue and extend our Chatterbox coffee morning and Toddlers outreach;*
- *take advantage of opportunities to demonstrate and share our faith with premises users and visitors;*
- *increase our engagement with our local community.*

To help people grow and learn as Christians through teaching, spiritual development, mutual support and care

- *continue our current pastoral care system; to train and nurture and encourage pastoral visitors in their work;*
- *continue informal gatherings and fellowship groups to help people to get to know one another better;*
- *support our young people and the Junior Church;*
- *encourage existing and plan to create more small groups e.g. bible study groups;*
- *support Lent groups and Circuit Study and Quiet days;*
- *look at new ways in which we can enhance the spiritual development of the congregation and the community, e.g. Thursday Thinking Lunches programme includes spiritual topics as well as justice and peace topics.*

To build partnerships with other churches and groups who share some of our mission aims

- *extend working jointly with Hatfield Road Methodist Church as 'St Albans Methodists', building on the foundations of the lay worker project partnership;*
- *maintain and strengthen our relationship with St Peter's;*
- *develop our relationship with the Church of God of Prophecy, who share our building;*
- *support the ecumenical work of our Anna Chaplain;*
- *maintain links with city centre churches and Churches Together;*
- *support our Circuit and its churches.*

To increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love in worship.

- *hold regular Sunday morning worship at 10.30am;*
- *hold seasonal invitational services such as All Souls and Carol Service, Brownie Parades and Holiday Club Celebration;*
- *support the Anna Chaplaincy weekday afternoon services;*
- *take opportunities to share in worship at the Cathedral, St Peter's and Hatfield Road and to be joined by their congregations for worship at MRMC;*
- *develop our online profile and outreach.*

We are demonstrating our commitments:

- ✦ *We are a Fair Trade Church*
- ✦ *We are an Inclusive Church*
- ✦ *We are an Eco-Church Bronze Award Church*



The stated actions in this document will be regularly reviewed and updated as we implement them.

We will also regularly look ahead endeavouring to see where God is further calling us over a five year cycle.