

Welcome

Welcome to the annual report of the Church of the Good Shepherd. As ever I would like to thank the huge team of people who help keep this parish running. This report is just the tip of the iceberg, a lot goes on quietly and often is unseen by the rest of us. To all those who contribute in whatever way to the life of the church work a big thank you. I am grateful for your support and commitment.

I do hope you enjoy reading the report, and together we can give thanks to God for all that he is doing in this parish. As you read it why not ask Him if there is anything he would like you to do in the church? If there is anything you would like to be involved in just let us know, the names of the co-ordinators of the tasks are in the front of the newsletter, or speak to one of the ministry team.



Children's Groups

Our young people met, as in previous reports, on most Sundays during term time in the Church Hall. We have not changed in number since the last report and we have 13 young people attending our sessions who are aged between 7 and 12. We continue to use the *Roots for Children & Young People* booklet as the basis for our worship. *Roots* has been revamped and refined since past year and we remain happy with the format and the content.

Earlier in the year the young people had an opportunity to take part in the consultation process along side the other members of the congregation. This was accompanied by a splendid breakfast provided by Hazel (Thank you!).

We participated in the evening service on Advent Sunday by performing a short drama. Also during Advent David and Hazel hosted a party for us at their house we had wonderful food (again!) and some exciting games, we were sorry to have to go home.

A big thank you to David and Hazel for their help and support over the past year and to the whole congregation for their participation in our end of service slot and their kind feedback.

Alison and John Phillips

Christian Aid

Here's a breakdown of how as a church we raised money for Christian Aid, in Christian Aid week May 2008:

Street collection and donations in church:	£1321.80
Bread and soup lunch:	£ 105.00
Quiz Night:	£ 85.60
Car wash:	£ 65.12
Total:	£1577.52

This is an amazing total and thanks once again to everyone who participated and supported the fund-raising in many different ways. Please take part again this year.

Clare and Simon Redfern



Church Hall

In the last year, some things have changed a great deal in the hall. We have upgraded the toilets with the help of the Apollo Group, to a greatly improved standard. Additionally, with a generous gift from their Community Fund, the main kitchen was given a much needed facelift and is now something of a showpiece!

The vestibule area has been repainted and even the lighting has been refurbished in recent weeks. We still need to upgrade the suspended ceiling, which has been in place since the hall was built, but this is currently being assessed.

As part of regular maintenance, the heating system has been overhauled, so that even on the coldest days, we can be sure that users are snug and warm (usually!)

All of this improvement to the building fabric, however, is just background to the real role of the hall. The hall continues to serve the community, much as it's ever done. We seem to be the preferred local venue for children's parties and bookings are steadily increasing. A good thing, as we are no longer accepting bookings for 16+ parties! Our regular hall users have continued to book with us and seem very satisfied with the new, upgraded facilities.

All in all, it's been a good year for the church hall. The next year will see it again playing a significant role in the lives of our Church community and without it we would be hard pushed to deliver all aspects of our Outreach message.

Ruby Leyshon



Flowers

The flower arrangers at the Good Shepherd consist of a very small group of people who would be delighted for anyone to join them at any time during the 42 weeks when there are flowers in church – it can be quite therapeutic!

We do not have any church funds for flowers but rely on donations, for example money is quite often given at Easter and Christmas in memory of a loved one which enables us to make the church beautiful on these occasions. If you feel you could help in any way, please speak to Jeanne or me.

Iris Brown



Fund Raising

The Church fund raising events were somewhat curtailed this year, as David asked the Congregation to devote their energies towards reflection rather than more material considerations between July and November. The objective of our fund raising events is two-fold. Obviously, we are primarily concerned with raising the monies necessary to aid the Church in its ministry and the achievement of its aims in our local area, but we also want to include as many people in the congregation and parish as possible in this objective.

To this end, the events themselves are designed to achieve this. We have a series of Jumble Sales, which enable good second-hand garments to be recycled in the community; a Plant and Book Sale, which enables the

gardeners amongst us to donate their surplus plants to the Church; and a stall on the Arbury Carnival, to ensure that our presence is visible to a wider audience. The main event, however, is the Christmas Market, which involves most of the active members of the congregation in its planning and preparation and well over 300 customers from the Parish when the doors are opened.

So successful were we this year, due to the support of so many of you, that we achieved our financial target, despite the 4 month "moratorium" in the Summer.

Let's hope we can do as well in the coming 12 months.

Ruby Leyshon, Evelyn Walker & Eva Hutson



House Group

The House Group meets on Monday evenings in the home of John and Alison Phillips for Bible Study and discussion and the occasional shared meal. We have welcomed several new members. Topics have included: the previous Sunday's readings and sermon, some short and lesser-known books of the Bible, the Sermon on the Mount and the "Seven marks of a healthy church" and most recently, the gospels of Mark and John. We were particularly challenged by the "seven marks" material to engage more thoughtfully with Scripture and its application and in the course of a year we have wrestled with all the big theological questions (and a few red herrings!). We've enjoyed some good food, fun and friendship too.

Terry Barringer



Lunch Club

The Lunch Club meets on the first Sunday of each month and its smooth running is achieved by an excellent team effort. At present there are 26 people on the rota of helpers, with 6 or so serving each month, plus Evelyn, Finsetta and Monica who do the food preparation.

Out front are those who lay tables, collect money (and bookings for next time), and just chat to people. That last item – chatting to people – is one of the most important things to happen. We all enjoy talking to friends and that is just what the Lunch Club is, an opportunity to enjoy an excellent meal, meet old friends and make new ones.

Evelyn Dennington is head chef, responsible for planning the menus, buying the food at wholesale prices, and ensuring that it is prepared in accordance with current Health and Safety regulations. She is ably assisted by Finsetta Cummings, who is chiefly responsible for the vegetables, many of which she grows on her allotment. Between them they produce delicious roast dinners for 40 or so people for an amazingly low cost. The third stalwart manning the kitchen is Monica Shipp who quietly looks after the heavy duty washing up in the kitchen, and assists the others in leaving the kitchen absolutely spotless and hygienic for next time.

What do the rest of the helpers do apart from chatting with everyone as they arrive? They set the tables, collect the dinner money, serve the food, pass round the coffee and tea, WASH UP and tidy the Hall at the end. WASH UP is in capital letters because there is so much of it, but with a good man/woman at the sink it's amazing how soon it's done. They also manage the raffle, which is based on free lucky tickets provided when you pay for your meal.

How can you qualify to join this Lunch Club? You need to be a Senior Citizen and you need to live locally. What does the Lunch cost? £3.00 for an excellent roast dinner comprising fruit juice, roast meat with potatoes and at least two vegetables, followed by home-made pudding and tea or coffee. There is a grand Christmas dinner with all the trimmings you could think of, including Carols wonderfully led by the Good Shepherd Church Choir. At present there are some vacancies, so, if you are interested, contact John or Libby Lamont (01223 565559). You'll have a great time.

John and Libby Lamont



Ministry Team

The ministry team consists of David Maher, vicar, John Polkinghorne, Honorary Assistant Curate and Linda Dean, Reader. This year we have been delighted to be joined by Harry Rose a retired priest, who assists us with the midweek communion and study group.

Once again the variety of the team has been further enhanced and encouraged by the students we have had from both Westcott and Ridley. Marcus from Ridley and Sarah from Wescott were with us at the start of the Autumn term and contributed greatly to the consultations. Imogen, another Westcott student, was here for all of the Autumn, leading us in a great Advent service. Dave Britton has been with us for two years and we are delighted that he and Rachel are able to stay for another year. We have also welcomed David Oxtoby and his wife Christina, who have joined us from Ridley this year. As always we very much value all the students' contributions to the life of the church, and they seem to be enjoying the learning experience!

As well as Sunday's there are the Occasional offices, which have been particularly busy this year, parish visiting, and on a monthly basis we take communion to four out of the five care homes in the parish. We regularly visit three primary schools, Arbury, Kings Hedges and Orchard Park, and have them come and visit us.



Music at The Good Shepherd

What is the function of the Good Shepherd Choir? Our main job is to lead the singing of the congregation at the scheduled services. This is made easier for us in that we have a congregation who already sing well! We also provide an anthem during Communion at the 10am service and this might be a beautiful piece of early polyphony with the four parts interweaving gently with each other or it might be an anthem by Mozart or Elgar or a piece of contemporary music – there is enormous variety in what we sing and all that matters is that it is good of its kind and relates closely to the theme of the service.

Apart from singing regularly at 10 o'clock we have sung at special services throughout the year – on Palm Sunday evening, Trinity Sunday

afternoon, All Souls' afternoon, and at the Advent and Christmas Carol Services etc. This gives us an opportunity to sing other liturgical music and sometimes there is a chance to sing an anthem which would not fit easily into the regular post-Communion slot. Who is in the choir? A wide variety of people who are all involved in other different jobs in the church. We meet regularly each week (except during August) and know each other's weaknesses and strengths which makes us very supportive of each other. What binds us together is that we are in the choir because we love music and our music is part of the worship we offer to God.

We present two concerts each year which raise money for different charities, alternating local and national good causes and providing an opportunity for choir members and those in the audience to sit and chat together in the Church over the excellent tea which always follows these concerts. (Very many thanks to the volunteer tea makers!) Again the music is varied, encompassing the Beatles and madrigals! We enjoy, together with The Good Shepherd Players, a Welsh Evening with appropriate music and words, and other events throughout the year. We love singing carols with the Sunday Lunch Club before their Christmas lunch and had a lovely carol evening at Orchard Park School which was very well attended.

This year the Good Shepherd hosted a joint Songs of Praise in North Cambridge and was delighted to welcome members from a number of local churches to sing favourite hymns with us. Singing with other Christians is a great pleasure and hearing why they had chosen particular hymns was very moving. This may well lead to other shared services in our area of Cambridge.

We respond, wherever possible, to invitations from local organisations to provide entertainment –we have visited Havenfield, Harry Scott Court and the St. Raphael Club. We have sung carols in our local Budgens for the last few years in aid of CLIC Sargent and were again invited by Cam Mind as one of four choirs which each presented an hour's programme of carols in Lion Yard.

In last year's report we appealed for a bass to join us as Tim had moved away (although we are delighted to welcome him back to sing with us when he can manage it). We have been fortunate to welcome a bass and a soprano, Tom and Gill Ambrose, as regular members as well as benefitting from occasional visits from relatives and past members. Do think about joining us. Finally, we particularly thank our congregation for the support they give the choir and the music of the church.

Dorothy Holliday

Parochial Church Council

It has been another busy year – but what year isn't busy? The PCC and Standing Committee has each met on alternate months and, although there has been a great deal of “business” to attend to, the meetings have been characterised by good humour and a willingness to listen to one another's points of view. This more relaxed atmosphere has been helped by the fact that we now meet in the Vicarage rather than the Church Office. We are at a period of change and the PCC members together with David are all trying to work together prayerfully to guide the Church in the ways suggested during the consultation meetings. Change is frequently uncomfortable and we are all trying hard to explain the changes as we go along and to make them non-threatening. The good thing is that we do discuss them fully at PCC meetings and then move forward unanimously. We all “own” the decisions which are reached.

Because David and the PCC wanted to know what all the members of the Congregation thought was good and bad about our church, and also where they felt the church's future should be, David commissioned a series of Discussions and Puddings meetings at the Vicarage – you will see the results of those discussions at the end of this Annual Report. We have started gently implementing some of those recommendations and, as we go to press, the PCC is going on an Away Day (to far away Impington!) to discuss them further.

This year has seen a number of changes of PCC officers. Coral was now spending much of her time in Lode and attending the Church there, so, having seen David settled in, she relinquished the position of Treasurer. Lynn took over as Treasurer in the Summer of 2008 but, after some months, found reconciling the conflicting demands of family and the complicated Church finances an impossibility. We were very fortunate that Ginni was willing and able to take over as Treasurer at the beginning of 2009. I am really the Church Administrator but took on the additional job of PCC Secretary for a single year at David's request as Fiona wished to move on to other things. The members of the PCC are very grateful for the major contributions Coral, Fiona and Lynn have made and would like to thank them for all their hard work during their terms of office.

Ruth Banger



Pastoral Team

Pastoral care continues to be a large and very important part of our ministry here at the Good Shepherd, and much of this work is undertaken by the Pastoral Team on behalf of the Church. However, this also happens informally amongst members of the congregation and we greatly value these contacts and rely on them to alert us to people's needs. At the time of writing the team consists of five active members, two of whom are authorized by the Bishop, having completed the Diocesan course on Pastoral Care; they are now ALMs, Authorised Lay Ministers, with the Reader/Licensed Lay Minister as team co-ordinator.

We visit those who are ill at home or in hospital, the elderly at home and those who live in Residential Homes in the Parish. We also offer care and support for people who are bereaved.

A new initiative is now being developed:

People seeking Baptism for their children or for themselves are invited by the Vicar to come to our all-age service on the first Sunday of the month, and after the service two members of the Pastoral Team meet with families and assist them with filling in the appropriate forms. The team members will then be present at the Baptism and later make a follow-up visit to the family. We hope that this will help people to feel welcomed and encourage them to keep in contact with the church.

The team meets regularly every four to six weeks for training purposes; anything that is discussed at those meetings is treated with total confidentiality

Being alongside people who are in any kind of need is a way of living out our faith and following in the footsteps of Christ. We believe that through us he exercises his ministry of healing and we see Pastoral care as our particular part of the Healing Ministry of the Church.

Linda Dean



Social Events Coordinator

This role was created so that there would be a single person to contact if help is required at any event organised by the Church. These events include, but are not limited to, the Carol Service (mulled wine), tea &

biscuits at Songs of Praise, choir concerts and the Shrove Tuesday fish & chip supper.

We hold a list of helpers, but new recruits are always welcome, so please contact me to be added to the list.

Evelyn Walker



Toddler Group

I run a toddler group on a Friday morning from 9.30-11.30. This group is for anyone who is caring for a child up to school age be you a grandparent, a parent, a carer, or any other you are welcome to come and join us.

We provide lots of fun things for the children to do. Along with our toys including animals, bricks, books, cars, trains, and baby toys we also provide a art activity that can be anything from play-do to sticking and glue. We also try to cover all events of the year - Easter, Christmas but also things like Chinese New Year also.

We provide tea and coffee for the carers but also drinks and biscuits for the children with a mix of fruit on and off during the year.

At around 11.00 we ask the children to help tidy up so we can get the ride along toys out most children are very willing to help with this!!!

We also have a Christmas party and a few short services in the church to mark special occasions.

We are a fun group who love to see any new faces!!!

Claire Duell



Uniformed Organizations

Rainbows

The Guiding year starts in February, and precisely February 22nd, the founder's birthday. Girls from both Units attended thinking day celebrations 2008 and kicked off the new year in style!

Its has been a busy year for the Rainbows and it's always all about the sticking & gluing, having fun, playing games and making friends

Last year the Rainbows stayed at full numbers with 12 girls aged 5-7 years, with a full waiting list.

Guiding HQ have given us the Change the World Challenge and we will be taking "Because I am A Girl", and will be raising money for Plan UK, working in Liberia. The project gets the girls thinking about what it means to them to be a girl here in the UK, and look at the lives of girls in Liberia who are not offered the same opportunities.

The project will conclude towards the end of this year in an exhibition of photos and art work created by the girls. We hope to be able to involve members of the church in this project, and will be displaying work for all to see.

Rainbows will have some spaces from September 2009, so if you know of little girls aged 5 or 6 please get in touch NOW and join the waiting list!

Brownies

As ever Brownies continue to grow from strength to strength with our maximum number of 30 girls reached yet again in 2008. They too have a waiting list.

Last year saw us take the girls away for Pack Holiday in Newmarket. 18 girls and 5 leaders running around a wooded area, lighting fires, and cooking outside. All coming home tired, but very happy.

The girls have been very busy this year working towards their Speaker badge, making all sorts of wonderful Crafts for Easter, Mothers Day and Christmas Fair.

They also worked hard and put together a wonderful Christmas concert for Parents at which they sang their little hearts out.

A highlight of the year was also singing Carols for the residents at Buchan House, it was enjoyed by all and hopefully we shall return again soon.

Both units have been busy raising money for children with Leukaemia, helping out at the Christmas Fair and attending Church Parades as agreed with David.

Brownies and Rainbows continue to move with the times giving the girls a secure environment in which to learn and grow at their own pace and this gives them confidence.

Without the support of the church we couldn't do half of what we do, we look forward to a new year in which we can strengthen the ties we have.

Pat Marsh

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers

The 18th Cambridge Scout Group, based at the Good Shepherd Church, have continued to go from strength to strength in 2008 with one of its most ambition years to date. Both the Beaver Colony (24) and Cub Pack (24) are thriving with full membership, though both have relatively small leadership teams. After a 10 years absence, the group is also pleased to welcome Scouts to the group after reviving the Troop in September, initially with 4 members and two adult leaders.

Both Beavers and Cubs have spent much of the year enjoying activities outside and getting involved with activities across the District. Beavers enjoyed a wet weekend in June at the inaugural District Aquathon, a day full of water-based activities and a water fight to finish off. The Beavers have also enjoyed three sleepovers, trips to the Fire Station and Blue Cross, as well as days out to the County Parks at Milton and Wandlebury. The Cubs spent a weekend camping and learning about traditional scouting skills. They also ran a combined 400 laps of the Arbury Town Green to raise over £350 for SSAFA, and competed in the District Sports Day.

The 18th have been very fortunate in 2008 to receive over £1,000 in outside funding. The City Council provided £700 for the Group's "Autumn of Ambition", which included a trip to Gulliver's Theme Park and the inaugural Group Camp in October, both of which proved very successful. Beaver Scout Leaders, Emma Roberts and Simon Gates, also won a Cambridge Evening News Community Award for their outstanding contribution to community life, netting another £430 which will be spent on new tents for the group.

2008 was also about improving the identity and branding of the Group in the community. The 18th have continued to develop their web-based projects, with the fourth incarnation of the website launching with a new media gallery. The URL for the 18th website is as follows: <http://www.18th-cambridge.org.uk> The Group have also invested in Groupwear, a range of 18th branded clothing to complement traditional uniform, ranging from baseball caps and polo shirts, to neckers and hoodies. The group has turned to 'family' values in the way it is managed, which has brought greater unity between the sections. The Group is also honoured that the new District Commissioner for Cambridge Scouting is a current 18th leader.

In November 2009, the 18th will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary and will be looking to the future with plans for an International trip to France with the Cubs and Scouts in 2010.

Charlie Brown & Simon Gates



Worship and Prayer

The times of the services on a Sunday remain at 8 am and 10 am, with occasional services in the evening. Morning Prayer is said at 9.30 am in the side chapel everyday except Wednesday. On Wednesday we have a Eucharist, followed by coffee and often by a seasonal Bible study which is often thought provoking, challenging and encouraging. We also meet each week in the vicarage on Tuesday evenings at 8pm for an hour of prayer for the parish.

As a result of the feedback from the consultations we have introduced a monthly family service on the first Sunday of each month. With lively music, a more experimental liturgy and greater involvement from the younger people this continues to grow and develop. We have also been encouraging those seeking baptism to come along to this service, which they have done and felt very welcome.



Vicar's Report

This year the emphasis has been on pausing for a little while and spending time listening to God and to one another. It was a brave decision by the PCC to have the consultations but they were very worthwhile and as you will have seen there is plenty of fuel for thought. Hopefully you will be as excited about the Mission Action Plan and the next four years as we are on the PCC

It has also been a year where we have had to said goodbye to a number of our friends who have either died or have moved away to be looked after in care and by family. We do miss them as they have been such an important part of the establishment of the church. They are not forgotten and we keep all in our prayers and stay in contact with those that we can. It has also been a year of hellos with a number of new people of a variety of ages joining the church. It is lovely to have you here and we hope that you feel at home.

Baptisms have also been on the increase and it has been great that the baptism families have been joining us on the first Sunday of the month. We have also had a good year working with the other churches in the area on combined outreach and worship and look forward to that continuing in 2009.

Finally, in 2009, we are really looking forward to our curate, Anthony, starting. He and the family will be joining us in the summer. We have another exciting year ahead, with plenty going on. Do pray, do get involved and let's have fun!



Summary of Consultations

Church of the Good Shepherd, Autumn 2008

Firstly to, Ruth, Marcus Purnell, Sarah Gower and of course Hazel, as well as all those who brought excellent puddings – thank you. The evenings and afternoons were a great success. Thanks also to all that came, as you can see from below we left no stone unturned and I was impressed at how much we love the Church of the Good Shepherd but also how we are willing to change and grow for the sake of the community, learn from the past and look to the future of the church. There was enormous honesty, patience, a few tears and plenty of laughter as we gathered and, as we listened, we felt that we could pick up the themes that God wanted us to hear. Below is a summary of all those ‘post its’ and notes made on the evening.

In total 92 adults attended the afternoons and evenings and 12 children came to the ‘big breakfast’ at the vicarage. This was probably the most inspiring and challenging session of the lot, so let’s begin with what the children and young people think.

Children and Young People

Positives

Sunday School, Biscuits, All-Age, Playing in the Church Hall, Brownies and Rainbows and Having friends who go to church

Negatives

Talking and singing not liked by several. Lack of understanding about the service

One very angry that nothing is done for them

They want more involvement and engagement

Sad/boring

Suggestions

Happy songs

Children’s band or orchestra

Warmer church

More flowers

Doing plays and dressing up

Adults to smile more

Arcade

TV/movies

Adults

Overwhelming consensus that the church was a friendly, welcoming place, and that it was a good place for families and children and that there is a 'warm, friendly approach to liturgy', a place where everyone matters. Music, liturgy, preaching, teaching, flexibility of the building, acceptance of diversity, inclusivity, Sunday Club, the children, students, lunch club, and proximity to where people lived were all mentioned as positives by a number of people.

Other comments were: that the church was peaceful (particularly midweek and 8am), concerts were liked, church was able to appeal to people of diverse traditions, and many liked Rosie's liturgical dance! Some suggested that we are a good church 'for Christians'. People were also positive about the occasional offices and generally they liked the Healing Service.

In response to what could be done better, or needed changing, many people mentioned the building itself and the look and use of the building inside. Whilst most liked the building, (some felt nothing should be changed) the following came up for discussion:

Most popular: the need for comfier chairs and the need for better heating. The crèche was also mentioned a lot as a space that could do with a re-vamp: making it cosier, more suitable for young children and better integration with the office space.

In terms of 'the look' of the worship space many people felt that more colour was needed, reflected in suggestions for stained glass windows and colourful hanging banners and brightening up the front of the Church. The sunlight was mentioned by quite a few as a problem when it comes through in the morning and obscures the view. There were some mixed feelings about the crucifix and occasional suggestions about changing the altar area and the side chapel, but no significant response in this area from a majority. However, many more did feel that the west end of the church could be 'tided up' and 'sorted out' to create a more flexible and accessible area of the church.

The coffee after the service and use of the Hall came up for discussion; some of the suggestions were – having real Fair Trade coffee, using the church for coffee, making a covered link between the church and the Hall and using different size tables. It was largely felt that the Hall was not cosy and it took many a long time to pluck up the nerve to come in for coffee.

Many people mentioned the need for amplification, suggesting they can't hear the services (better projection of voices needed) and there were a few discussions about the use of screens with the words projected on. There is also a need to extend our disabled access and to provide transport for the infirm, there would be more on Sunday if they could get there.

Some felt the healing service was not appropriate for the morning service. Drainage was needed for in front of the Church.

One person suggested rack for umbrellas, coats and sticks.

A few suggested having a bell tower.

Many people felt that we are 'good once you're in' but we are not so great at bringing people in.

People were also concerned that we should reach people 'who are not like us' even though this may be costly to us and to the way in which we have become accustomed to doing things.

Suggestions about improving our engagement with the wider community ranged from comments about worship to suggestions about youth clubs and cafes.

It was felt that more modern worship songs, family friendly services, 'alternative' and non-Eucharistic services on a Sunday morning and shorter very informal services at different time on Sundays could all help with attracting new members. A pram service and open air services were also suggested. Some wondered whether all the different sheets and books were actually a hindrance to new people.

There was a general and pervasive sense that the Church wanted to attract more young people, families, and young adults. Suggestions included having a youth choir, youth club, football training, pantos, X-factor, last choir standing, and inviting schools into the church at festival times.

People also wanted to share resources with our ecumenical partners in the area.

Other suggestions

Having a social for newcomers with regular members of the congregation at certain intervals.

Drop-in/Café

Deliver parish newsletter to all in the parish

Go out to the local community by getting involved in local projects

Flower Festival

Dinner/bring and share suppers

Engage local students for an art project to update the Church

Welcome evenings for newcomers

It was generally felt that the Church did not advertise enough in the local community and that there could be much better use of notice-boards, more publicity, advertising services, concerts, events, fliers. We should also have more social events that the church could invite people to and that we could follow up our occasional offices better.

Where do we go from here?

The next stage is for the summary of the consultations to go in front of the PCC. From this we will develop our Mission Action Plan (MAP). This is what the diocese has asked us to produce for the 900 year anniversary next year. The Mission Action Plan is to last five years and should give us clear aims and objectives. It will then be presented to the whole church at the APCM in April for a last chance to contribute and comment and then will be sent to the Bishop. The MAP will be used as our guide over the coming years as we seek to follow God's will for us in this parish. Then, get your diaries out, in September 2012 all back to my place for a review – how did we do – and to ask what is God calling us to do next!

Dave

**From where we are
to where you need us,
Jesus, now lead on.**

**From the security of what we know
to the adventure of what you will reveal,
Jesus, now lead on.**

**To refashion the fabric of this world
until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,
Jesus, now lead on.**

**Because good things have been prepared
for those who love God,
Jesus, now lead on.**

Amen.



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