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ANGLICAN CHURCH

anglican parish of applecross

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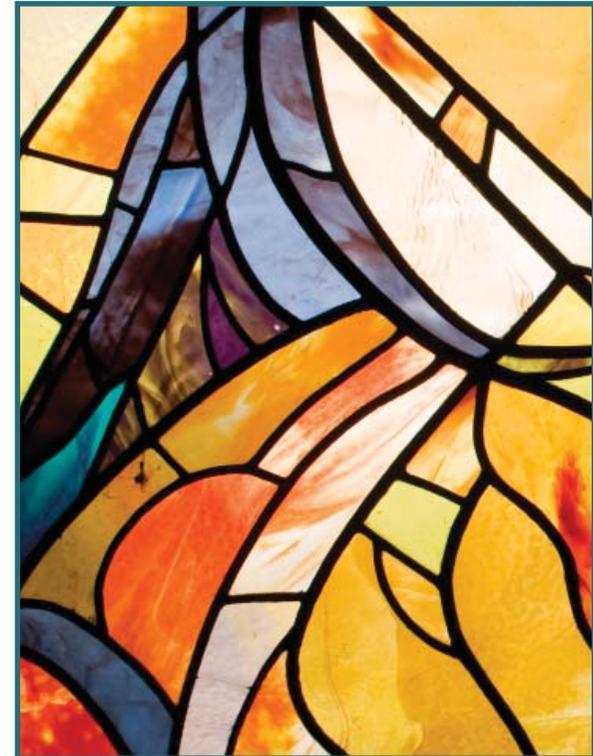
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Daring to live God's promises



Anglican Parish of Applecross

Mission Action Plan Review

June 2012

7 Marks of a Healthy Church

- **Energised by faith:** rather than just keeping going or trying to survive
- **Outward looking focus:** with a 'whole life' rather than a 'church life' concern
- **Seek to find out what God wants:** discerning the Spirit's leading rather than trying to please everyone
- **Face the cost of change and growth:** rather than resisting change and fearing failure
- **Operating as a community:** rather than functioning as a club
- **Make room for all:** being inclusive rather than exclusive
- **Do a few things and do them well:** focussed rather than frenetic

Building Missionary Congregations – Robert Warren, Church House Publishing 1995



This review has been produced in time for our 2012 Annual Meeting to guide our thinking and allow some reflection on the road we have travelled together over the last two years.

Our Mission Action Plan (MAP) was launched in July 2010 following a thorough process of development stretching back to a series of planning days with the whole congregation in 2009. It established a wide and extensive range of ambitions and actions. Many of the actions are in progress, some have been achieved and there are a small number which have not yet begun.

It has been an encouraging two years where we have witnessed much growth within our community, in our activities and actions, in the numbers of people who now call the Anglican Parish of Applecross their home and hopefully also in our individual and corporate spiritual journey.

As we reach the half-way point in our MAP there is considerable opportunity to build from this very encouraging beginning to attain our bigger dreams and identify new ones.

This brief overview of the outcomes which were identified from the MAP show that a diverse range of actions and achievements are evident in the richness of our Parish life with plenty of scope to continue to build and develop.

*Rhonda Kerr, Nic Templeman, Julianne Maisey,
Brian Steggall, Fiona Leuenberger and Andrew Williams.*

Mission Committee May 2012

Creatively listening and telling the good news of Jesus

Plans in Action

- **Improve the areas for children.**
Done but improvements will continue.
- **Continue to support the local children's ministry through the Young Disciples, crèche teams, Families @ Five and the Playgroup.**
Significant achievements and these teams need continuous support from all Parish members.
- **Have learning and study groups for Christian formation.**
A very successful and popular series of study groups has taken place in the last two years, this will continue and expand.
- **Be a resource for the training and development of clergy and lay leaders in the Diocese.**
We continue to support priestly formation and training and are expanding the opportunities for ministry, leadership and growth in the Parish, however more can be done.

What's next?

- **Develop a Liturgy and Worship Working Group to review the current pattern of worship at both churches.**
This includes music, styles and opportunities for worship. Development of this area is on-going but should be formalised over the next 2-3 years.
- **Explore partnerships with other churches and organisations locally, nationally and internationally.**

Inspirational Leadership & Life giving systems and structures

What's next? (Continued...)

- **Prepare and maintain a record of what committees are in operation; their Chair and composition; and determine how this record will be maintained, and by whom.**
To be done under the direction of Parish Council.
- **Remaining sub-committees to be established to drive the Mission Action Plan in those areas.**

Inspirational Leadership & Life giving systems and structures

Plans in Action

- **Establish a network of sub-committees who drive areas of our mission and report to the Church Council.**
New Committees have been formed including Social, Children and Youth, Social Justice, Mission, Maintenance and Planning.
- **Prepare standard guidelines and terms of reference for each committee to follow.**
Guidelines for committees have been approved by the Parish Executive and Parish Council. some terms of reference completed others ongoing.
- **Encourage each member of the congregation to see themselves as part of the Mission.**
The Social Committee, Prayer Group, Children's and Youth Ministries, Social Justice Committee, the Grounds and Buildings groups and many other groups are involved in developing the Mission. There is wide acceptance and support for the Mission Plan in the congregation. More people are leading and participating in Mission activities. This is on-going.
- **Establish policy and procedure for the ordering of goods and services. Issue it to every committee person.**
This policy has been implemented but needs extension to each new committee as they are developed.

What's next?

- **Create a Parish Diary to Record all events and activities within the Parish. Set procedure on how this will be maintained.**
The diary is in place on the Web site and it is to be managed by the Parish Administrator. Further work is required to make it functional.
- **Develop the role for Parish Council as a leadership group that sets the strategic direction, co-ordinates, guides and supports the activities of the various committees.**
The Rector, the Parish Executive, Parish Council, and the Parish Administrator supported by the Wardens and Committees have embraced the tasks of the Mission Action Plan. Consideration needs to be given to ensuring the appropriate training, education and supports are in place to continue and expand.

Building vital worshipping communities

Plans in Action

- **Continue our support for Applecross Senior High chaplaincy.**
Small but enthusiastic team deserves on-going support from members of the Parish.
- **Support the local schools and seek to be more involved in each other's events and activities.**
Good contacts but communication and involvement with the schools need to be remembered.
- **Make the grounds and the church buildings more welcoming.**
Considerable work has been done, improvements have been noted, reticulation and security problems have been addressed, and detailed and lengthy work on parking is underway. A dedicated team works on the grounds and building on a weekly basis.
- **Develop our individual and corporate vocations through prayer and the study of scripture.**
The valuable contributions of the Prayer chain, the high level of interest in study groups and materials and access to the Anglican Daily Prayer on our website are gratefully acknowledged.
- **Strengthen our support for Anglican agencies.**
This is ongoing.

What's next?

- **Consultation with Diocese over their new strategy of parish amalgamations and distribution of resources.**
- **Continue to monitor our current buildings and resources and assess their suitability for the current and future needs of our community.**

Reaching out in Loving Service

Plans in Action

- **Use fair trade products.**
Fair trade coffee, tea and other products are the standard for both churches.
- **Develop Pastoral care within the Parish.**
Resources and active support for pastoral care need to be expanded and more parish members engaged with this important part of our mission.
- **Raise the profile of the Parish and publicise church events, activities and how people can join in.**
The events cards at Christmas and Easter have been helpful in bringing our services to the attention of the wider community. New notice boards, involvement in the Jacaranda Festival and other settings and an improved website have also improved visibility. The new Communications Group will take the visibility of the Parish to a higher level.
- **Optimise the maintenance and use of church physical assets.**
Significant work has been done to make using the facilities at the churches easier. Systems have been installed and St David's Hall is increasingly well used. Church office spaces are let to outside groups. The churches are used for worship by approved groups. Optimising the use of the sites is limited by the nature and age of some of the buildings, equipment and parking. Work is on-going in this area.
- **Turn our minds outwards to broaden our understanding of people who need our help and support.**
Useful contacts with the City of Melville and other groups have been made through the Mission Committee and Social Justice Group. Examples include our recent project with MOSAIC – working with people with disabilities. A series of public workshops has begun.

What's next?

- **Establish a sustainable earth policy for the Parish and its buildings.**
Consider the 5th mark of mission of the Anglican Communion, 'to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.'
Our Ecologically sustainable mission began with the Patronal festival and a workshop and will be a key focus of 2012.

Reaching out in Loving Service

What's next? (Continued...)

- **Establish the tenor and Terms of Reference for Pastoral Care Committee.**
While this committee has not been developed it was considered that the Lay Pastoral Ministers on-going work supports much of the work a future Pastoral Care committee will be involved in. Further development required within 2 years.
- **Develop a mechanism for identifying those in need of help or company.**
This area deserves the prayerful attention of members of the Parish.