

Holy Trinity Geneva – Vision & Strategic Plan 2023-2025

Over the past two years, we have met together as a church, within the Church Council and with planning groups to help us identify our vision and plan for Holy Trinity over the next three years. In common with all institutions, we've faced considerable issues and changes because of the Covid pandemic. This was compounded in our case by the Chaplain vacancy followed soon afterwards by the start of the first phase of the Building Tomorrow Project.

Now that the first phase of the renovation of our church is completed, we are fully back in church and have both Chaplain and part-time Curate in place, this is a very good time for us to look ahead to the future.

Our Vision & Strategy Plan 2023-2025, which we have developed from all our consultations together has the following overall Vision, Mission and Values:

Our Vision:

To make God visible

Our Mission:

Inspired by our life of worship, to build a compassionate community sharing God's love in the world.

Our Values:

We are rooted in the Anglican tradition of prayer, worship and music; growing together in Christ; sharing the love of God from the heart of Geneva, and are guided by these three core values:

Spiritual: We seek to grow in faith in Christ as a community

Diverse: With Christ as our guide and cherishing our diversity, we welcome all

Compassionate: We listen, we care, we reach out with help and support

We have four main areas or 'Objectives' in our plan covering our mission and life together as a church. These are our Worship, Congregation, Community and Social Outreach, and the Environment. For each of these areas we have identified one main overall objective and some specific plans or 'Sub-Objectives' relating to these, based on what we want to achieve over the next few years. These Objectives and the overall plan will be reviewed by Council at the end of the year and shared with the congregation so

that we can see how we are doing and what our priorities should be for the forthcoming year.

Objectives and Sub-Objectives:

1.Worship: We will use the richness of the Anglican tradition (both music and liturgy) to serve as wide a community as possible.

We will do this by:

- Building on our existing strong musical and liturgical tradition to create a greater variety of worship opportunities.
- Drawing our young people more into the worshipping life of Holy Trinity.
- Deepening the range and outreach of our worship

Our 2024 Priorities

- i. Creating a more participatory All-Age service.*
- ii. Helping to develop the spiritual lives of our young people through the content and worship within Junior Church and Youth Group, increasing their participation in the regular worship, building up the newly-formed 14-18 group and preparation for First Communion and Confirmation.*
- iii. Developing the 'On the Way service' and event as a way of encouraging professionals to join in the worshipping life of our church and to explore ways of linking them more widely to Holy Trinity.*
- iv. Developing a monthly service of Holy Communion, with anointing and laying of hands.*

2.Congregation: We will nurture a welcoming congregation to enable people to feel part of the church and to develop their Christian faith and discipleship

We will do this by:

- Helping individuals to develop their spiritual life and knowledge of the Christian faith.
- Strengthening congregation capacity through training and support.
- Fostering stewardship and encouraging participation in the life of the church.

- Developing vocational discernment across a wide range of ministries.
- Creating a visible culture of welcome.
- Providing social events aimed at different groups in our congregation.
- Exploring the possibility of using platforms such as WhatsApp to create online community.

Our 2024 Priorities

- i. Providing wider opportunities for Bible study, a range of prayer and study opportunities in Lent, a Christian discipleship course in the autumn as well as encouraging ongoing participation in the Diocesan Lay Discipleship course.*
- ii. Holding, if possible, a parish quiet day and a parish weekend.*
- iii. Running the 'Difference' course in the late spring to explore how, within the richness of our diverse traditions at Holy Trinity, we can work well together.*
- iv. Have an intentional focus targeted on different areas of church life throughout the year to encourage wider participation and leadership of groups and activities, particularly by younger members of our congregation.*
- v. Providing a wide range of social, fundraising and pastoral events to encourage as wide as possible range of participation and to encourage people to people to initiate and run other events.*
- vi. Building stronger links with the parents and families of those in our Junior Church, Sunday School and 15-18 Group to provide practical and spiritual support and to help them feel integrated in the life of the church through stronger communication strategies and core events.*
- vii. Build the spiritual lives of our teenagers through participation on the diocesan trip to Taizé at Pentecost or an equivalent trip*

3. Community and Social Outreach: We will use our location, building and talents to serve and foster partnerships with the wider community.

We will do this by:

- Building on our existing outreach work including Jardin de Montbrillant and Samedi du Partage.
- Researching, in conjunction with local churches and relevant organisations in the Ville and Canton, areas of need in which we may be able to offer help.
- Developing partnerships to bring skills and resources to help deliver projects.

- Providing space and support to community groups e.g. those supporting young children; drama; the arts.
- Supplying practical help to those who are homeless or with very limited means, possible through meals and other services.
- Developing support for projects in countries where there are specific needs, through our congregational links.

Our 2024 Priorities

- i. Continue to develop the number of people involved in Jardin de Montbrillant and Partage including our young people.*
- ii. Developing our support we offer to those who approach us in need including support packs and up to date information and sources of help.*
- iii. Seek to develop our own outreach project at Holy Trinity and /or work on partnership projects with Emmanuel, including their work with refugees.*
- iv. Explore possibility of developing a music-based project to help the community building on our skills and resources in this area. This might include music in prisons or music for those with dementia and we would apply for external sources of funding to support this work*
- v. Set up links with support a water project in Africa or equivalent.*

4. Environment: We will actively seek to be good stewards of God’s creation through prayer, action and advocacy.

We will do this by:

- Working on and achieving the Eco Awards starting with the Bronze level.
- Involving our young people and asking them to bring recommendation to Council on environmental matters.
- Setting up an environmental action group at HTC.
- Preaching and teaching about the environment including celebration of the Season of Creation.
- Inviting relevant speakers and preachers to raise awareness of the issues and practical steps we can take.
- Involve congregation including the young people in setting up a garden for prayer and reflection at Holy Trinity.

Our 2024 Priorities

- i. To get an environmental action group set up and working across all areas of our church to build awareness of environmental issues and enabling us to make a difference.*
- ii. Building on our success in achieving the A Rocha Bronze Eco Award, to work towards and aim to achieve the A Rocha Silver Eco Award.*
- iii. To continue to build up understanding of environmental matters through our worship including observing the season of Creation and inviting relevant external speakers.*
- iv. To invite external speakers to deepen our understanding of environmental issues and practical steps we can take.*
- v. To involve our young people in some environmental and community projects e.g. the 'Nettoyage Annuel du Lac' (14-15 September) this year and possibly an activity in our church garden.*

To Conclude

We are glad to have this plan, which the congregation has helped to create, which sets out our vision, mission and values, affirms our identity as a church and gives us a clear focus for the next few years. It's not a radical change of direction but one which builds on what we are already doing so that we can continue to evolve with God's guidance and blessing in the future. I am very much looking forward to putting it into action with you.

With every blessing

Daphne