



# Wealdstone **Methodist** Church

## **Mission Plan 2023**

Our Mission Plan is based on the Methodist Church *Our Calling* statements.

### ***Our Calling***

- Worship
- Learning and Caring
- Service
- Evangelism

This plan outlines the main activities that the church plans to carry out during the next 12 – 18 months.

The agreed actions will be monitored by the Church Council and Leadership Team to see if they are having the desired effect. They will modify or change the plan in the light of what happens or when new needs arise, so that there is always a plan in place.

*Currently, there are a significant number of vacancies for important church roles. We will need to find volunteers for these roles or work out how to cope if none can be found.*

### **1. Worship**

The main services of worship are on Sunday mornings.

1. We will maintain the current variety of formats and preachers at Sunday services. We will continue with occasional Café Worship, Taizé services and services that highlighting the work of specific charities.
2. The Worship Forum will meet twice a year to consider matters relating to worship
3. We will continue to encourage and train people to do the Bible readings and especially to lead prayers.
4. We will hold Mid-week Communion services approximately once per month and try to encourage greater attendance. (*These are likely to follow Monday Bible Studies*)
5. We will continue to offer occasional prayer trails, usually associated with significant Christian festivals such as Lent, Easter or Christmas.

### **2. Learning and Caring**

We will continue to care for members and adherents through the Pastoral Care system. We will encourage “lifelong learning” about our faith eg through Bible Study groups, discussion evenings and by taking part in new activities.

1. We will welcome children and young people and if possible restart Young Church.
2. We will try to encourage greater attendance at the Bible Study group.
3. We will encourage attendance at Wesley Guild which has talks and discussions on Devotional, Christian Service and Literary topics
4. We will advertise and participate in interfaith events.

### **3. Service**

We will continue to provide services to the local community.

1. The Friendship Café will continue on Wednesdays. We will continue to encourage more church people to attend and interact with attendees and volunteers.
2. We will continue to sponsor and support the Online Skills Training which enables local people to have confidence online and access community services.
3. We will continue to sponsor and support the Baby Bank which is providing much needed support to local families.
4. We will continue to run and support the Toddlers Group, which will meet twice weekly.
5. We will continue with Saturday Coffee Mornings and Carol Singing as well as special collections and other fund raising events to support charities such as *Christian Aid* and *Action for Children*.
6. We will continue to be a *Fair Trade* Church and support *Fairtrade*.
7. Where possible, we will continue to let the premises to local organisations, in accordance with our "Use of Premises" policy. Lettings provide income but they are also opportunities for interacting with the community, getting to know them and showing support.
8. We will continue to let the premises to the *LifeSpring* church. We will work together with them, both on worship arrangements and property matters, and hold occasional joint services.

### **4. Evangelism**

We will train ourselves for evangelism by participating in the *Worship* and *Learning* activities in this plan. Then we will try to do more of expressing God's love by welcoming people, engaging and sharing with them and offering mutual support, especially when carrying out the *Caring* and *Service* activities in the plan.

1. We will try to present ourselves to the world outside as a lively, attractive and welcoming Christian community that it would be good to belong to.
2. We will encourage church members to meet and interact with other users of the premises, especially the people who come to events such as Friendship Café, the Online Skills Group, Toddlers' Baby Bank. Saturday Coffee Mornings and the *LifeSpring* church.
3. We will invite Toddlers' parents and carers, Friendship Café uniformed groups and other church users to all the Christmas and Easter events and services.
4. We will look into organising and participating in events to which all church users and people from other churches could be invited.
5. We will try to improve the church web site, which is likely to be viewed by people wishing to learn more about our activities. (*We need to find a person with the necessary skills to maintain it*)