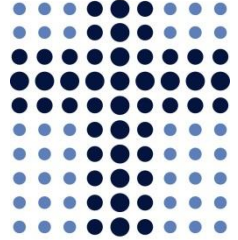
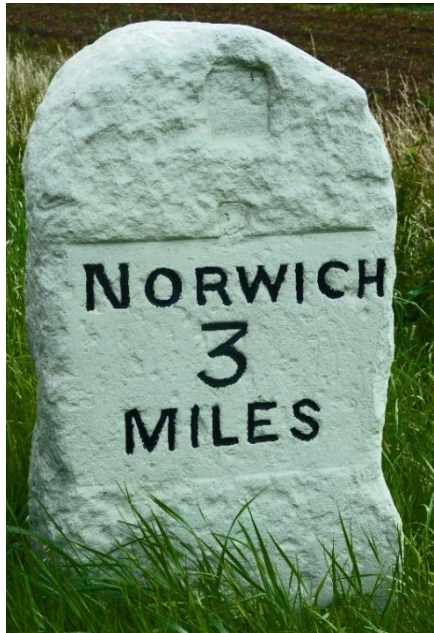


HOLY



TRINITY
CHURCH NORWICH



Milestones to 2020

Milestones



A few years ago, the Church Council agreed the following vision:

A church that reaches out with confidence, in God's power,
growing more like Jesus Christ,
loving one another,
serving our networks and local communities,
so that, by 2020,

there are multiple congregations established or grafted from Holy Trinity.

This document now describes a number of Milestones to help us achieve our vision for 2020. We will review our attainment of these milestones every year or so, within the Church Council.

Our spirit



An emphasis on service should flow always from what we believe about a God whose Word changes us, a Lord who gave up his life for us and a Spirit who empowers us. In the next years, however, we look to see a real deepening of a spirit of glad service: God has given everything in giving Jesus, so our service will be as radical and generous as his.

A shared spirit of service will mean that we offer willingly, but also that any such offer is met with care, training and gratitude. It will mean that we enhance our efforts to put the right people in the right places. But it will also mean that we need to offer increased support to those of us offering unpaid service, so that we have a sense of a community in which mistakes are allowed, growth is encouraged, and change is possible.







That spirit lies at the heart of all the Milestones you'll see as bullet points in this leaflet (📄).

Mission



Our Vision looks to reach out, and we hear the Great Commission of Jesus to go into the world, remembering that the world starts at our doorstep locally. We expect to see multiple congregations created, and the whole church needs a new “mission footing”. The Mission group within the Council will be looking at how everything we already do can be directed to making disciples.

-  We will adopt a model for telling the good news, so that we all have something clear and simple to offer to those who enquire
-  We will have a regular schedule of evangelistic courses, so that members know when one is likely to be coming up
-  We will look to integrate serving ministries and social events into our mission work
-  We will develop stronger links with external agencies, to ensure that we are globally informed and mission-centred.



Services



What we do when we come together as a congregation is a matter of great interest for all of us – it may be the reason we come to this church rather than another. As our Vision puts it, we trust that our services allow us to grow more like Jesus, express our love for one another, reach out with confidence and serve others. That’s a tall order! While we have a reputation for good teaching, we could strengthen it further: we look for bold proclamation and effective engagement with daily life. We want our services to be accessible to all types of people and we want no-one to leave us on a Sunday without a real sense of fully “meeting” with others. We need to connect well with each other, and it helps if we understand our connection to the wider church.



We will investigate a development - another service on our own site might produce smaller, more welcoming congregations, making it easier for members to connect with one another



We expect to engage in at least one service a term with one of our supported agencies



We will put in place ways for our musicians to work more closely together, to develop more coherence of approach.

Communications



The ways in which we exchange information is changing; we have different possibilities and preferences. We believe in a God whose Word was faithfully spoken, so we look for all our communications to be effective. But God didn't, simply send a message; he took our human form, so our most important communications will always be personal. We need to think about our usage of the internet, our church services, our links to agencies, and to other churches both local and further afield, with whom we are like-minded. Good communications are at the root of loving one another.



We will use our Meeting-Place for more effective communication



We will develop a fully-effective website, to distribute news and convey what we stand for








We will develop and promote the links we have with churches and agencies outside Holy Trinity.

Discipleship



We trust that it is the Word of God, above all, that helps us follow the living Lord Jesus on a daily basis and grow more like him in holiness. So, alongside our Sunday work, we need to ensure that there are small-groups in which care and development can take place, as the Word is applied and lived out in service. We welcome growth in small-groups, but look to see further progress.





-  We would like to see more groups and more varied groups, and more people in them, especially younger people and men
-  With regular small-groups running permanently, we will also establish programmes with a special focus: mentoring, accountability, prayer
-  We will promote effective reading of Scripture by individuals
-  We will promote discipleship as an ambition among those working with our older members
-  We will work to offer the “Network” programme every year, to place people into fruitful service.



Facilities



“Milestones” comes into being in the 150th year of our establishment – our Victorian forebears have handed us an amazing heritage, and we want to use our facilities to support gospel ministry for the next century or so. The main building was put up when all around was private terraced housing, but we now have a mix of private and social housing, and our facilities should welcome and serve all who come. We face ever-increasing demands for compliance: health and safety, disability discrimination etc. This means that the work of maintenance to new demands is also ever-increasing.

-  We will consider offering to re-acquire the Essex Rooms site, negotiating with the Council for the provision of community facilities
-  We will take into account the current emphasis on localism and The Big Society
-  We will bring a Facilities team back into existence, to spread the burdens and opportunities for service
-  We will develop a culture that cherishes our facilities, with many more people involved in their care.



Welcome



It's easy to express what we want here: we want newcomers to meet a genuinely warm welcome, not only in week 1, but in week 5. We want them to have speedy connection to a small-group, and we want them able to join the Electoral Roll as a sign of fully belonging. Somewhere in that time, we look to see them open to growing through serving, too. In that way, the body of Christ in this place will be built up, and we will have members that are fully integrated into that body.



We will develop ways for everyone at Trinity to become a welcomer



We will ensure that those with a gift of hospitality are known

