

# OUR MISSION AND VALUES

## MISSION of Cheadle Parish

**CHURCH PURPOSE (Why do we exist?):** Love God, love others and share the good news!

**CHURCH MISSION (What are we trying to do?):**

**SHORT SUMMARY:**

Seeking to depend on God, love one another, reach our neighbours and serve our community.

**LONGER SUMMARY:** Cheadle Church seeks to honour God in building a loving community of mature disciples of Christ, under the direction of the Word of God, and through the encouragement of the people of God, who will share the gospel and serve the parish, the local community and the wider world, to serve God's purpose of uniting all things under Christ,

Primary Aim

Practical Aim

How? -Our Authority

How? -Our Approach

What? -Our Mission

Where? -Our Concern

Whither? -Our Goal

## CORE VALUES (What matters to us?):

*(from PCC away day 2000)*

### What we stand for

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit** - God reveals himself as three persons but one God.

**God has spoken** - the Bible is from God, without error; we need its teaching.

**Jesus is Lord** - he died for our sins, God raised him from the dead, he is alive today & will return

**Repent and believe** - we trust in Christ for forgiveness, then we seek to obey him.

**The gift of the Spirit** - God's Spirit within us empowers us to live for Jesus.

**Spread the word** - we must make Jesus known to others so they can follow him.

**The family of God** - we meet together to hear God's word, praise him & encourage one another

### What we aim to be

**Bible people** - growing in our knowledge of God's word and in obedience to him.

**Gospel people** - understanding the good news of Jesus and explaining it to others.

**Praying people** - committed to regular prayer both privately and together

**Joyful people** - filled with the Holy Spirit and testifying to his deep joy.

**Loving people** - eager to serve others in the church and the world.

**Church people** - valuing our common life and committing ourselves to it.

**Giving people** - cheerfully giving to God's work and the world's needs.

### What we aim to do

**Listen to God** – to grow deeper through our discipleship

**Love one another** – to grow warmer in our fellowship

**Respond to God** – to grow stronger through our worship

**Share our lives** – to grow broader through our service

**Share our faith** – to grow larger through our evangelism

## MINISTRY STRUCTURE (How are we organised?):

In Acts 2:42-47 the life of a church is characterised by activity in five broad areas, which in turn may be subdivided in two:

**Discipleship**—*a devotion to the apostle's teaching;*

This incorporates **Adult discipleship**—building up the faith of adults and

**Children & Youth Work**—discipleship of young people

**Fellowship**—*a devotion to one another;*

This incorporates **Pastoral Care**—caring for people's particular needs and

**Social Activity** - supporting the community of the church

**Worship**—*a devotion to God in prayer and corporate worship;*

This incorporates **Prayer**—opportunities to support God's work in prayer and

**Public Worship** - supporting the main worship gatherings

**Service**—*using the resources of the church for the benefit of others;*

This incorporates **Finance**—helping manage the Church's money and

**Resources** - helping manage fabric, equipment & buildings

**Evangelism**—*sharing the faith and seeking growth.*

This incorporates **Outreach & Social Action**—sharing our faith locally and

**Mission** - supporting those who share faith further afield



## MINISTRY PHILOSOPHY (How will we go about things?):



**Discipleship** - listening to God. *"They devoted themselves... to the apostle's teaching..."*

*"Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ; from him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." Eph.4:15f.*

**DISCIPLESHIP - is the commitment to always grow in faith and love of God, through the Word of God, by the Spirit of God, and is expressed in growing unity, stability, ministry and purpose.**

Discipleship will give the opportunity for all God's people, whatever their age, to grow in their knowledge of God through his Word, through preaching, teaching, reading, training, personal support and group work, as appropriate. It will be relevant, accessible and challenging. It will open our minds to the truth of God, inform our lives by its application, and impact our world in the power of the Spirit. It will be engaging, encouraging, and enabling for each member of Christ's church, so that they are able to fulfil their callings to build up the body of Christ.

grow



**Fellowship** - loving one another. *"... to the fellowship..."*

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34f*

**FELLOWSHIP - is loving each other in a Christ-like way, which is the fruit of spiritual birth, Spirit-given unity and forgiveness, and is expressed in meeting, sharing, giving and serving one another.**

Fellowship will give the opportunity for all God's people to belong in the body of Christ. It is a commitment to welcome all who have connection with the church through relationships with its members, or attendance at its various services. It will visibly express the unity we have in Christ across every age, stage and background. It will express our commitment to do all things with excellence and integrity. It will provide practical care and support to those with specific needs, in appropriate ways. It will enable those outside the church to see, in our unity and living concern for one another, the reflected love of Christ for us.

belong



**Worship** - responding to God. *"... to the breaking of bread and to prayer..."*

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God." Col.3:16*

**WORSHIP - is giving God the singular, undivided, loving devotion of our heart, soul and mind, seeking his rule and righteousness, and is expressed in prayer, praise and obedience.**

Worship will give the opportunity for all God's people to glorify God, personally and corporately. It will be well-prepared, purposeful, joyful, enlivening, uplifting and reverent. It will provide teaching, nurture and growth in the knowledge and love of Jesus. It will be expressed in honest prayer, heart-felt praise, biblically faithful preaching and genuine fellowship. It will help us all experience the presence of the risen Christ in the power of his Holy Spirit through his Word. It will result in growth in prayerfulness, fellowship, friendship and a sense of belonging. It then reaches out into daily life to communicate to everyone we meet, the love of Christ who loves us so much that he came and died for us.

engage



**Service** - sharing our lives. *"...they gave to anyone as they had need..."*

*"Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good..." 1 Cor.12:7*

**SERVICE - is fulfilling our God-given purpose, through using the gifts he has given us to build up others in the unity of the church, and strengthening them through our prayers and gifts in humility.**

Serving and caring in the body of Christ means that each one of God's people will be valued and appreciated, their various gifts and talents identified, encouraged, used and developed, their needs noticed and supported, their resources shared for the good of others and their faith nurtured and encouraged. It will enable all our God-given resources, both personal and financial; to be used wisely and strategically for the work God calls us to, for his glory.

serve



**Evangelism** - sharing our faith. *"...and the Lord added to their number daily..."*

*"In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that you have." 1Peter 3:15*

**EVANGELISM - is our calling in Christ to reach out with the gospel in word and deed beyond the comfort of our fellowship, to our contacts, community and beyond, to a world always in the reach of God's grace.**

Evangelism means each one of God's people will be able to appropriately articulate and share their faith, to be prayerfully and practically concerned for all those they know who are outside the body of Christ. It will lead to activities that are welcoming, relevant, accessible, imaginative, well-led and of high quality, in sharing honestly, passionately and truthfully the Good News. It will result in a people committed to showing and sharing the love of Christ not only among friends, family and neighbours but into our local community, our region, and ultimately in our world.

share

