

God's calling for All Saints Marlow

Summary

What is God calling us to be and to do?
Where is the Holy Spirit leading us?
What should our priorities be for the next 5 years?

The Church Council and staff team have been seeking God for answers to these questions and these are our answers so far.

Who are we?

Over recent years as we have tried to respond to his call, God has used 8 values to shape us into the church we are today. We have articulated these values in a fresh way and summarised them with the words "God Brings New Life". These values call us to action. We believe He has amazing plans for Marlow. In particular, we believe God is calling us to invite Marlow to share God's love.

Where is the Holy Spirit leading us?

We see some particular opportunities that we believe God is opening up for us:

- Being at the heart of the wider community becoming a more 'town-centric' church
- Reaching out to younger adults with our 7pm service
- Making more of the opportunity to serve Marlow's schools
- Communicating better with each other and the wider community
- Taking our Welcome of new people to another level

What should our priorities be?

We believe we will only be able to take these opportunities if we:

1. Recommit ourselves to following wherever Jesus leads us
2. Appoint a new Team Vicar with responsibilities for welcome, discipleship and pastoral care, to work alongside Dave and free him up to focus on vision, strategy and reaching new people
3. Reorganize and revitalize our operations so that we run more smoothly and can take on new things
4. Create a more flexible and welcoming church space, including replacing our pews with chairs
5. Ensure we have the right combination of congregations
6. Develop young leaders by becoming a training hub for interns in the local area

What next?

We are making plans that will lead and resource these priorities. The next steps are:

- Grow a shared vision in the whole church around these ideas (already underway)
- Plan for the practical work of leading these priorities
- Identify the costs and changes involved and seek the resources we will need
- And of course – PRAY so that we keep in step with God's gracious leading.

All Saints
Marlow

