



Committed to Growth Shotesham All Saints and St Mary Jan 2017

Growing in Discipleship

Following Jesus

Learning to see Him more clearly, love Him more dearly and follow Him more nearly

What are the good things we are doing already?

Sunday sermons. Presence of Cell Church in the village. Faith provoking reflection in parish magazine. We have one person serving as an AWA. Prayer boards in use for prayer requests.

How do we feel God is calling us to grow in this area in the long term?

Deepen prayer, faith and personal discipleship. Encourage more lay participation in our services. Encourage more children and young people to be involved. Events to develop community links.

What steps shall we take this year?

Involvement with prayer 24/7 as response to Archbishop's call to prayer 'Thy Kingdom Come'. Promote the Cell Church and encourage people to join. Offer special services for the community eg St Luke's Day, Helpers' Service, Mothers' Day, consider offering a 'Pet Service'. Link with Saxlingham to offer children's' ministry when not available at Shotesham.

Growing in Service

Responding to human need

Caring for God's creation

Transforming unjust structures of society

What are the good things we are doing already?

Home visits happen as needed. We offer practical help to villagers eg lifts to and from services for those who do not have transport and covering a housekeeper's two month absence. We regularly support Foodbank, Operation Christmas Child and various other charities. Church is available for village use eg musical events and community carols. We have tidied up the ruins at St Martin's and St Botolph's for locals and visitors to enjoy. Church buildings open all day, every day. Fresh Flowers. The Churches are clean and welcoming and information sheets are always available for visitors.. Maintenance of historic church buildings for the benefit of the whole community.

How do we feel God is calling us to grow in this area in the long term?

To discern other areas of need and seek to meet them.

What steps shall we take this year?

Consider offering cream teas for walkers and others for a set period during the summer months.

Growing in Numbers

Helping more people to find faith

Helping people to join our congregation

What are the good things we are doing already?

We offer excellent facilities (toilets and kitchen in both churches) and now have cushioned seating in All Saints. St Mary's car park has a newly built ramp to enable smooth access for vehicles.

We take steps to keep in touch with couples who have got married in our Churches and with those who have brought babies for baptism.

How do we feel God is calling us to grow in this area in the long term?

To be more pro-active in welcoming newcomers.

What steps shall we take this year?

Work on a welcome leaflet – aim to visit with a small gift from the church.