

Summary of Growth Plan for 2025

1. Creating a Culture of Growth

Focusing upwards to God, inwards in caring for the Church fellowship, and outwards to the world by being invitational: '*Come and See.*'

1.1 Spiritual Focus

- Regularly include growth themes in intercessions and communications.
- Continue the Growth Prayer Group, emphasising gratitude and spiritual growth.
- Develop service prayer group

1.2 Engaging Families and Children

- Run year-round (Christmas, Lent, Easter, Summer, Autumn) joint events for children with St Andrew's.
- Develop children's activities in the 10am service.
- Plan special services, such as "Godparent Sunday" and "Marriage Sunday," with appropriate dates and invites to involve families beyond the regular congregation.

1.3 Faith Story Sharing

- Include personal faith stories in services and events to inspire the community.

1.4 Community Engagement

- Encourage invitations to informal gatherings like *Chat over a cuppa* and *Talks@2*
- Review and enhance dementia-friendliness and accessibility.
- Strengthen community links through Friends of Christ Church, Choir and targeted events.

1.5 Improved Outreach and Visibility

- Enhance church visibility with improved road markings and East-end signage.
- Organise events to attract visitors to the church.
- Boost advertising in print media (e.g. choir) and on Facebook, (CofE training available.)
- Promote enquirers' groups and events such as *The Chosen* taster, particularly at festivals and through occasional contacts.

2. Developing Pastoral and Community Care

Building a supportive community with targeted pastoral care. Review pastoral lists regularly.

2.1 Home Visitors

- Recruit and train home visitors to support isolated and house-bound individuals.
 - Dementia training could be helpful
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3. *Growing Discipleship and Commitment*

Equipping the congregation to live as *Lights in the World, Priestly People, Living Stones*, ready to face the cost of change and growth.

3.1 Financial Commitment

- Encourage increased participation in the Parish Giving Scheme and give updates on numbers.

3.2 Environmental Stewardship

- Pursue the EcoChurch Gold Award.

3.3 Welcoming Worship

- Finalise service booklets.
- Produce additional booklets with clear explanations of liturgy and practices to take away.

3.4 Deepening Faith

- Offer more spirituality-focused talks, such as *Labyrinth* and *Talks@2*.
 - Note scope for growth in discipleship and pastoral care in small groups.
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4. *Reviewing Progress and Adapting Plans*

A commitment to regular reflection and responsiveness.

4.1 Review Milestones

- Review progress and any necessary changes end of December 2024 and of June 2025.

4.2 Feedback and Adaptation

- Invite feedback (e.g., in notices, emails, and notice sheets) to assess the impact of initiatives and adapt strategies accordingly.