



# Hatfield Heath URC

Chelmsford Road, Hatfield Heath CM22 7BH

## Mission Statement

2018 – 2023

Adopted: January 2018

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### Opening Statement

**We at Hatfield Heath URC believe that we have a mission to serve Jesus Christ and to share his love.**

- Our purpose is not just to survive but to do deeds and speak words that make God's love real inside and outside of the church.
- We do not exist just for ourselves but for others too.
- Everything we do then in the next few years will be with a view to widening our boundaries and extending God's mission.
- Our worship, fellowship, society and property will all be shaped by this sense of mission.

### Worship

**We take seriously our responsibility to share our faith with others.**

- To this end our worship services will be inclusive and responsive to the spiritual needs of our wider community.
- We want to welcome all people equally, to be sensitive to social diversity, and to provide a spiritual place where all feel strengthened for the tasks of Christian living.
- We will provide opportunities for prayer and Bible Study.
- We will grow in our practice of prayer by listening more to hear what is being asked of us.
- We will work hard at getting a balance of traditional and modern worship styles that respond to the needs of the local and wider community, and we will try to include local children in the life of our church - actually taking the church to them by attending school assemblies and Friday Club as well as planning for a Summer holiday club and perhaps a youth café in the school holidays

### Fellowship

We already do the following things for the strengthening of our fellowship: Friday Club, Luncheon Club, Bridge Club, Leisure Hour, British Legion meetings, History Society meetings, as well as annual events which include Quiz nights, Brass Band Concerts and Trafalgar Day Celebrations.

**It is our intention that in the future we will extend our fellowship still further.**

- To this end, we will host a Christmas Memorial Service, featuring a Memory Tree with the lighting of candles for people who have been lost.
- We also plan, a donkey walk around the village on Palm Sunday (25<sup>th</sup> March 2018) and a pet service in June 2018.
- As for ecumenism and our shared work with the local Anglican church, we recognise that we work better together than we do apart and that it is part of our Christian calling to support that church as it responds to its Christian calling.

## **Society**

**The needs of society, both in general and on our own door step, will never be far from our thoughts.**

- We are committed to serving all we can.

**We have a particular concern for those who are struggling with personal loss, loneliness, depression, mental / physical illness, addictions, injustice and pain.**

- To this end, we will establish a small church and society group to channel our concerns and help us to respond to local needs.
- We propose that this group should meet at least three times per year either in the URC building or in someone's home to discuss issues that we have been made aware of and decide on the best course of action to take
- We are committed to serve individuals and families in the poorest community's and we will continue to support the Whitechapel Mission and the Harlow Food Bank as well as all those with less than we have.

## **Property**

**We will look at becoming a green church so that our property and premises are used in ways that are good for the environment and consistent with the gospel.**

**We see our church property as a resource to be shared..**

- We will strive to open the church to support regular sanctuary hours - times where people of any faith or none can come in for personal reflection. In so doing, we hope to promote an environment of friendship and openness.
- We would like to see the property used for maybe a Youth Café in the school holidays, a Friendship Hour each week, Fairtrade open events, and a safe environment for people to meet over a hot drink.

## **Conclusion**

**In the next five years we want our church to be a vital place of mission and service in Hatfield Heath. We pray that God will use us to help others, and we commit ourselves anew to Christ's service in this place.**