



Women's Ministry

GROWING TOGETHER AS WOMEN OF GOD

Women's Ministry Update 2025

The purpose of our women's ministry is two-fold: to nurture and encourage each other as sisters in Christ and secondly to reach out to the women in the communities in which we live in love and care and pointing them to Jesus.

Over the past year we have continued this in two main ways:

A monthly Bible study which is open to all women who wish to join. We continue to have an average attendance between 8-15 each session. Last year we worked through the Apostles Creed, examining each phrase and pondering what it means. This year we have started looking at the 10 commandments.

Our women's evenings have continued to be popular. These consist of a meal together here in church and a short talk given by a woman from the church family. We average 30-40 women each time and a good number of these are non-church women who come time after time. This year we have adapted them a little and have done a games evening and most recently a quiz night (with food of course!). These have still included an opportunity for people to think a little more about faith issues.

The Women's ministry WhatsApp group is further source of encouragement and prayer as well as a useful place to find practical help.

We are grateful to those women who both informally and formally help to maintain our 'women's ministry'. So much ministry is done quietly by women reaching out to friends and neighbours with the love and care of Jesus, and we hope to see this grow.

APCM 2025

Men's ministry report – in rhyme

Aromas rise, of bacon, strong and deep,
At men's breakfast, where fellowship we keep.
Thank God for laughter, stories freely told,
For steaming mugs, and hearts that now unfold.
The pub's warm glow, on Monday nights so clear,
Men's drinks and chat, banishing all fear.
Thank God for bonds, forged in simple ways,
For open ears, and shared, reflecting days.
Curry's spice, on evenings set aside,
Where stories simmer, and true hearts confide.
Thank God for food, that brings us to one place,
For honest words, and glimpses of His grace.
Yet challenges rise, like shadows in the night,
To keep the flame, of ministry alight.
Capacity strains, where numbers overflow,
And finding leaders, for the seeds to sow.
How to deepen faith, beyond the surface gleam?
To nurture souls, and follow His true dream?
To reach the lost, with gentle, guiding hand,
And build a bridge, across this weary land?
Thank God for men, who seek a deeper truth,
For honest sharing, in their vibrant youth.
For every prayer, that rises to the throne,
And for His love, that makes our hearts His own.

APCM 2025

Mission Committee Report for APCM 27th April 2025

Introduction:

All Saint's Church is committed to 'mission' and our current approach is to *'Prayerfully, Practically and Financially partner with organisations and people based on need'*.

As a church, we have historically supported up to 3 mission partners. This past 12 months has seen a long-term partnership with Marcham Moldova Lifeline (MML) come to an end as we said happy retirement and thank you to Nicu and Lili for all their amazing work in Moldova. Our current active partnerships continue to be with Ripple (formerly 'Send A Cow') and Andy and Emma Dipper serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) in Indonesia.

Thirsty Café remain an established community partner given the church's vision of community outreach that was a part of its foundation.

Financial Support Changes:

The Mission Committee have felt it important that in addition to the practical and prayer support we provide our partners, we as a church, formalise financial giving to mission from our central church funds. There has historically been no such giving and monetary support, has been into a couple of specific ring-fenced 'pots' for MML and Ripple for 'conditional giving' from church family members and the community to these specific partners.

The Mission Committee put forward a couple of briefing papers to the PCC for consultation in which proposals were made to close the historic ring-fenced pots and move to a model of giving to mission from the main body of church funds. This would see our financial giving to mission align with and match our practical and prayer support.

A suggested figure of around £10k per annum was felt to be a figure that should be set aside for supporting mission. This figure is based on a combination of historic figures given to the previous mission pots and represents around 10% of the church's annual planned donations.

The Mission Funds will be used to support our current partners as well as a future 3rd partner and there will also be a portion set aside for a sponsorship / bursary scheme for short term mission projects that church family members may well undertake each year.

Residual monies in the Ripple pot will be given as a lump sum to Ripple and this pot will be closed. Donors will all be written to informing them of this step and inviting them to see their giving go towards mission generally at All Saints or to Ripple directly outside of church giving if that is a preference.

The PCC agreed to the proposals at its meeting held on 26th March 2025.

Mission Sunday

The mission committee are planning a Sunday morning service dedicated to mission in June 2025. This will enable opportunities to share with the wider church where mission is currently at in All Saints, celebrate our

various partners, associates and short-term projects and provide opportunity to refocus on our individual and corporate call to mission as Jesus teaches us in His 'Great Command' (Matt 22 v 37-39) and 'Great Commission' (Matt 28 v 18-20).

This Next Year:

The mission committee would love to see our church can become increasingly 'mission focused' with an equal weighting to prayer, practical and financial support and hope to do this via:

- Mission Partner / Mission Link notice board at the back of church
- Link person for each of the partners who can provide prayer requests, personal updates etc.
- Incorporation of a Mission Partner into weekly Sunday Service prayers
- Mission Partner slots / updates a couple times per year in a Sunday Service
- Monthly prayer meeting to periodically focus on mission.
- Encouraging short term mission projects to the church family
- Encouraging increased financial giving to All Saints enabling the support of mission.

James Gilbert

On behalf of the Mission Committee