

# Bournemouth Methodist Church

## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a church on a mission - God is our guide, in whom we trust.

Bournemouth Methodist Church has four Mission Centres and is a growing Christian community of different cultures and social backgrounds. God has ensured we are well resourced for our mission journey: people with wonderful gifts and talents, well maintained buildings and good financial reserves. We are passionate about using these resources to serve our wider community.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we are working to develop a culture that embraces change, encourages participation and sharing, and demonstrates compassion. We are striving to love God, the community, and each other, through Worship, Learning, Mission and Service, and Evangelism.



### Worship

- As part of our journey, we are exploring new ways and times of worship that are relevant, challenging, collaborative and inspirational for our growing congregation.
- Our worship services are welcoming, friendly, uplifting, and endeavour to be accessible to people of all ages and abilities, wherever they are on their faith journey.
- We encourage participation in worship, recognising and growing the gifts and talents of people in our congregation and wider community.
- We have developed forms of intergenerational faith exploration and worship beyond Sunday morning traditions, while holding our heritage with respect and care.
- We are learning from, and are moved to build on, our experiences of Church at the Margins.



### Learning

- We value intergenerational learning through worship, prayer and fellowship groups.
- We are further developing our faith and spirituality by nurturing relationships within and beyond our church community.
- We recognise that people learn in different ways, and so we are learning to use arts and crafts, music, and different media to encourage fellowship and spiritual growth.
- We work alongside and listen to our children and young people, offering them opportunities to be creative as they explore faith and spirituality.
- We promote a pattern of whole life discipleship, recognising that being a Christian impacts all aspects of life, including responsible stewardship of money, time, resources and the natural environment.



### Mission and Service

- In all that we are, do and say, we want to express God's love to people so that they may come to know the love of Christ, work together to transform society for the better and live life in all its fullness (Thy Kingdom come!).

- We have learned not to assume what our mission should be. In addition to working with and listening to our communities, we are building partnerships with existing agencies to adapt and grow our service within the community. It is through the building of personal relationships that we ensure we take a holistic approach when responding to the needs of those we serve.
- Following Jesus' model, we care for all with whom we come into contact, whatever their circumstances. We welcome and support those in the margins of our society, meeting them where they are.
- We are striving to counter prejudice and intolerance, and challenge our unconscious bias by encouraging mutual respect, forgiveness and reconciliation, recognising not only the beauty of cultural diversity but also our common humanity.
- We seek to use and adapt our buildings, so they are relevant to mission, welcoming and accessible to all ages and abilities, environmentally friendly, and a safe space for all.



## **Evangelism**

- Through our variety of worship styles, we are being challenged and are learning how to share our faith with people within and beyond the Mission Centres.
- We are learning that our personal and collective stories are experiences with God, and that, when we are ready to be vulnerable and share those stories with others, we are evangelising.
- We believe it is the Holy Spirit who will gently work in people's hearts (with the help of our witnessing or despite us!) so that they might want to join us in learning about our wonderful God and the difference faith makes in our lives.
- In our mission, service, and outreach to the community, and by working alongside each other, we too are being evangelised and changed by God. We are becoming brave evangelists.