

# Mike's message .....

## Look at the MAP!

“Every parish should have a MAP”. That’s what the Diocese of Lichfield say anyway. MAP in this instance isn’t something to show where you are located, or are heading in geographical terms. MAP is an acronym. MAP stands for Mission Action Plan and, as we’re told, every parish should have one, in the context of our Anglican identity we’ve produced one.






A MAP isn’t entirely dissimilar to the geographical kind of map though. Both are designed to be able to show you where you are going. We’ve produced MAPs (that’s Mission Action Plans) in the past and then, for various reasons, they sort of dropped off the agenda at St Andrew’s, and indeed at other Church of England churches in West Bromwich Deanery. Now they are back on again. Our’s went to Church Council in September. It’s the MAP for 2016 and is short and sweet. It does however have some defined time scales of things we want to do - “where we want to go” - in a number of key areas.

There’s a copy of the MAP 2016 below. Take a look at it. If you want to download a copy it can be found in the resources section of [www.mjclaridge.co.uk](http://www.mjclaridge.co.uk). We’re not alone in producing MAPs. Other parishes are doing so too. Also the Deanery are writing a Deanery MAP 2016. The new Black Country Circuit of the Methodist Church has produced a Mission Statement, with broadly similar aims. That can be found on the Circuit website - which can be accessed via my website (link below).

Let’s use our MAP to guide us as we journey on as Christ’s disciples telling others of the abundant love of God.

The Church of England  
West Bromwich DeaneryThe Methodist Church  
Black Country Circuit



**St Andrew's Church, Carters Green, West Bromwich**

**Mission Action Plan 2016**

**Our Goals, Aims and Timescales for 2016 are:**

- 1) **To contact residents as they move into the new homes.**  
Aim: To provide them with information about St Andrew's activities.  
Timescale: To make a concerted effort to advertise Christmas 2016 events.
- 2) **To develop regular 'Messy Church' events, building on the Fun Days.**  
Aim: To provide a friendly, informal worship and learning context.  
Timescale: To hold two Messy Church events by the middle of 2016
- 3) **To work with the YMCA as it's new building is brought into use.**  
Aim: To discover ways in which we can work together on the shared site.  
Timescale: To meet with YMCA staff before the end of November 2015
- 4) **To build up links with Ryders Green Methodist Day Centre.**  
Aim: To provide helpers who can pop in for a chat with the Centre's users.  
Timescale: To invite members of St Andrew's to pop in at any time.
- 5) **To develop our finances, by improving our giving.**  
Aim: To move towards being a solvent, self-financing congregation.  
Timescale: To plan and hold a Gift Day at Patronal Festival starting 2015
- 6) **To extend the time our building is in use during the week**  
Aim: To enhance it's role at the heart of community  
Timescale: This will be an ongoing priority.
- 7) **To play a full part in the life of the Deanery, Circuit and wider church.**  
Aim: To grow in fellowship and discipleship as we journey together.  
Timescale: This will be an ongoing priority.

This Mission Action Plan was prepared for the ECC on Monday 28th September 2015  
Church Website: [www.mjclaridge.co.uk/standreshome.html](http://www.mjclaridge.co.uk/standreshome.html)