

ITCHEN  
VALLEY



CHURCHES

**Rector's Presentation**

**Future of the Parish – Mission and Vision**

# The Future of Itchen Valley Parish

- Do we **want** an independent church in our community here in 20 years time?
- The challenges faced by the Church of England
- A new emphasis in the Diocese on Urban centres
- A revision of the Allocation of Clergy

# Changes we have experienced

- From *Full Time stipendiary* Rector + two curates + two LLMs
- To One *Part Time volunteer* Rector + one LLM
- We have **had** to reduce our services
- But we also have different groups wanting different things when they come to church.....

When people want different things from  
going to church....



# Itchen Valley as part of Alresford Parish?

- Possibility of merger with Arle Valley Benefice in the future?
- Rector based in Alresford
- Clergy sent out from Alresford with priorities set by larger whole
  - Rather than needs and characteristics of Itchen Valley

# Two models of ministry?



# How can we retain our independence?

- Not a slam dunk...but it seems to me...
  1. Being good at what is regulated
  2. Paying in full our Common Mission Fund
  3. Good public relations
  4. By the church **GROWING**

# Growing Churches look like this...

- Clear sense of **mission and purpose**
- Actively engage with **local context**
- Willing to **change** and adapt
- Have a **welcoming** culture
- Are **innovating**, envisioning and motivating
- Have **lay people** (as well as clergy) in leadership
- Engage with **children and young people**
- Nurture **disciples**



# What you can do to help

- pMAP
- The very unpopular **E**-word.....
- But its not about what you do – but what the **Holy Spirit** does
- Evangelism without the embarrassment
- **Pray for Five**



## Prayer Novena

This year we are praying  
for our friends,  
neighbours and  
relations to want to  
know more about  
Jesus and to join us  
at church

The people that I am  
praying for are:

1.....

2.....

3.....

4.....

5.....

# 1 Peter 3:15

Always be prepared to give **an answer**  
to everyone who asks you  
to give **the reason** for the hope that you have.  
But do this with **gentleness and respect**

Come to Pentecost  
Evensong

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June  
at Martyr Worthy  
6pm

*'Reasons for Faith'*

*Not drunk, as you suppose!*

*Acts 2:15*

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