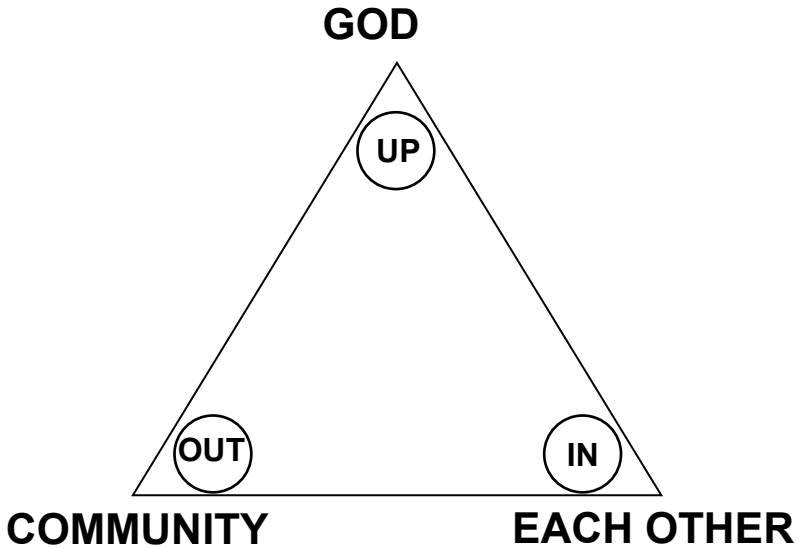




# St Leonard's and St Paul's, Bursledon

## **VISION STATEMENT 2008/9**

*“Serving God, Each Other  
and the Community”*



This booklet sets out our vision and priorities as a parish for 2008/9. It is important to us as a church to be clear about God's call to us. The first half of this vision statement summarises the areas which are part of that call now, and the second half highlights the priorities we need to attend to if we are to meet these aspirations.

Our vision statement - "Serving God, Each Other and the Community" - comes out of an understanding that we are all called into relationship - firstly to God, then to each other and then out to the world around us. This reflects the Bible's teaching that

- We should love God with all our heart - Matt 22:37
- We should love one another – John 13:34
- We should love our neighbours as ourselves – Matt 22:39.

This is summarized as looking **UP** to God, **IN** to each other and **OUT** to our neighbours and the world, which is a helpful way of remembering how Jesus calls us to live.

Bursledon is an exciting parish, with many opportunities before us. Our hope is that this booklet will help each of us to understand our purpose and play our part in fulfilling this vision before God

## **As a church we seek to:**

1. Offer inspiring, biblically based worship and teaching, which enables people of all ages to encounter God
2. Value each individual, helping them to discover and use their God-given gifts
3. Be a place where those exploring faith and belief are welcomed and feel secure
4. Offer a network of small groups, where people can meet regularly to grow in their Christian faith through study, prayer and support
5. Offer youth and children's ministry that will help young people grow up secure and confident in their relationship with Jesus
6. Raise up leaders able to meet the challenges of being God's church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
7. Be a "mission-minded" church, seeking opportunities and events through which we may make known the hope and life of the gospel
8. Be a church which is open to the community
9. Nurture our links with the ministry of the wider church locally and overseas
10. Be faithful in prayer, seeking God's purpose and direction for us in all we do as a church.

## **To meet our vision our priorities for 2008/9 will be:**

1. Continue to develop our Youth and Children's ministries, under the guidance of our youth and children's leaders.
2. Encourage more people to use their God-given gifts in serving the church and the community. This will continue through our Growing Leaders course and ministry training seminars to meet the needs of a growing church
3. Continue to offer courses, such as Alpha, for those wishing to enquire about the Christian faith.
4. Continue to encourage and grow the small group network as a key element of church life.
5. Continue our work with the Diocese of Bukedi, in Uganda, on the Catering School project, supporting the work to establish the school as a recognised Tertiary College
6. Continue to develop our Leadership team, including Readers and those in training. To support Celia Parkes in her training towards ordination
7. Welcome and accept new people, offering them support and help to integrate into church life
8. To encourage a greater awareness of social, justice and Fair Trade issues
9. Provide pastoral care that is available to everyone through prayer ministry, visiting and one-to-one support.
10. Strengthen our links with the whole community by supporting the following activities and seeking new opportunities:

Particularly:

- i. The Parenting Courses.
- ii. The “Parent and Toddler” and “Little Stars” groups.
- iii. Our contacts with local schools through our work as governors and leading weekly assemblies.
- iv. Conversations – experimental church.
- v. Young at Heart – a ministry to the elderly.
- vi. Surf’s Up – children 5-11 midweek group.
- vii. NRG – Children 11-16 midweek.
- viii. Stepping Stones – our money advice service.

## **The Team**

### **Vicar**

Revd Canon Peter Vargeson 023 8040 2821

### **Curate**

Revd James Ogley 023 8040 4220

### **Youth Pastor**

Jon Kitching 07939 111764

### **Children's Pastor**

Bernadette Taylor 023 8056 2967

### **Administrator**

Mike Watts 023 8040 6866

### **Readers**

David Sharps 01489 584784

Peter Taylor 023 8056 2967

Peter White 023 8040 2530

### **Ordinand**

Celia Parkes 023 8040 6363

### **Churchwardens**

Tony Houston 023 8040 6061

Peter Taylor 023 8056 2967

For contact details for other church group leaders and activities, please phone the Administrator or see the Welcome Brochure.

### **Office hours:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.00am to 3.00pm