



FELIXSTOWE
methodist church

Mission Vision 2026

Having merged and formed Felixstowe Methodist Church in 2023, we are now looking at the resources we have, in terms of people, buildings and money. The aim is to determine the path God is calling us to follow, in order to share His love in the most effective way with those both within the Church and within the wider community.

‘Making God’s Love visible’

Introduction

Felixstowe Methodist Church seeks to serve God and the community:

- Sharing God's love
- Offering hope
- Sharing faith
- Caring for God's creation

All this through word and action.

We aim to show equality to all people as we, with God's help, assist them to reach a fuller understanding of becoming a Christian.

We embrace all people, creating an inclusive environment where everyone can experience God's grace. As a vibrant channel of His love, we work to bring people to faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, while fostering unity and peace, exploring new patterns of worship and evangelism alongside traditional practices.

We serve others through making the best use of our resources; these include all our spaces, our money, our time, our God-given talents and our spiritual experiences.

We work by focusing our Mission, listening and enabling our Church to turn its face outwards to the community and into the needs of the world. Understanding that not everyone shares our beliefs but, with God, that is not a problem. Showing, in practical ways, God's love to our neighbours.

The cross and the empty tomb remains our sign of hope in all we do. Our mission is to reflect God's love in every aspect of our ministry, seeking to heal, serve, and renew those around us.

Philippians 4:13 For I can do anything through Christ who gives me strength

1 Peter 4: 10-11 God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

Mark 16:15 Jesus said to them, 'So wherever you go in the world, tell everyone the Good News'

What is our Mission?

A) WORSHIP

- Can take place on any day, at any time, in any place
- Should be inclusive with a diversity of styles
- Continue to move towards being offered in one location on a Sunday morning
- Will seek to use existing musical talent to provide live music on a regular basis
- Takes into account the limited human resources in the Church and Circuit

B) CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- Involves reducing our carbon emissions to net zero by 2030 through the management of our buildings, the sharing of transport and the use of online meetings
- Means using the A Rocha requirements to guide us in improving our carbon footprint both as a church and as individuals and
- Commits us to raise awareness of climate justice issues

C) ENGAGING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

- Continue to seek the views of people and organisations in Felixstowe, the Trimleys and Kirton so that we may best use our resources to show God’s love in support of our community
- Recognise that church is not a building but involves living and working alongside people wherever they are
- Acknowledge the many ways in which this is already happening but accepts the need to prioritise by encouraging volunteers, including those from the community.

How do we fulfil our Mission?

Involves taking decisions about which of our spaces can best be adapted to meet the needs of our Mission

- Accept that we cannot sustain all five of our existing spaces
- Recognise that there should be at least one worship space, not necessarily stand alone, capable of holding 150 people,
- Worship space should be flexible with no fixed pulpits, lecterns, chairs etc
- Commit to assessing the environmental impact of any refurbishment or rebuild
- Accept that our human resources are limited and need to be prioritised
- Continue to work alongside our friends at the United Reformed Church, finding ways in which we can support each other
- Continue to take steps to refurbish or rebuild:-
 - Examples might be:
 - create a space with a community cafe, a music/arts venue, a worship area, and the capability of meeting the needs of outreach activities such as Open4U
 - create a space to provide housing accommodation for single people with an area for community use and worship and fellowship

Our current Worship and Community Engagement activities:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Worship</i>	<i>Learning and Caring</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Evangelism</i>	<i>Area of Mission (see below)</i>	<i>‘Space required’</i>
Sunday services	x	x		x	W	
Midweek services: Prayer & Reflection @ Trimley Well in the Week @ Seaton Road	x	x		x	W	
Healing services	x	x	x	x	W	
Time 4 U	x	x		x	W+S	
Prayer walking	x	x		x	W	
Bible study		x			W	
Tuesday Tunes			x	?	C+S	

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Worship</i>	<i>Learning and Caring</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Evangelism</i>	<i>Area of Mission (see below)</i>	<i>'Space required'</i>
Kirton Garden cafe			x	?	C+S	
Coffee mornings			x	?	S	
Trimley Red Devils			x	?	Y	
Hobbies Club		x	x	?	S+C	
Informal Chat & Support Group		x	x	?	S	
Folk Cafe		x		?	C	
Trinity Players		x	x		C	
Open 4 U		x	x	?	Y+C+S	
Open the Book	x	x	x	x	Y+W	
No Labels group			x	?	S+C	
Community Lunches			x	?	S	
Pastoral visiting		x	x		S+Y(?)	
Children's activities (e.g. Muddy Church)	x	x	x	?	Y	
Church Family Events		x			S+Y	
Prayer and Painting	x		x		W+C	
Climate Justice group		x	x		W	
Support for charities e.g. Christian Aid, Fairtrade, Town Pastors, AA, A Rocha, Home and Overseas missions.		x				
Churches Together events	x	x		x	W	
Methodist/URC joint services and Bible study groups	x	x		x	W	
Partners in WPN		x	x	x	W+S+Y	

Mission activities not held in a building

The activities shown above broadly fit into four distinct 'Areas of Mission':

W – Worship

S – Social isolation - community

C – Creative – Music, Art, Drama etc.

Y – Young people and Families

With environmental considerations incorporated across **all** we do.

The 'Space required' column has intentionally been left blank so that we can all consider the space requirements for each of these areas.