

**CREATING AN ABUNDANT FUTURE:  
MISSION STATEMENT, 2017-2020 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY ACTIONS  
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH**

**Mission Statement**

As a member church in the Anglican Church of Canada, we proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ in worship and action. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we strive to be a committed, creative and compassionate community that inspires and empowers all to more fully live the life of Christ.

**Strategic Objectives  
2017-2020**

In responding to God's call, our strategic objectives for the next three years are:

- To nourish our faith and care for each other within and beyond the walls of our church, while being open and welcoming to all.
- To undertake ministries that will serve the community in which we live and the wider world in practical ways.
- To show leadership, take risks, and advocate for social justice.
- To preserve and care for our church as a sacred space for all and a secure home for our ministries.
- To secure a sustainable financial basis for our mission and ministries.

**Operational Principles**

We will achieve our strategic objectives by:

- encouraging and supporting all our members;
- ensuring the effectiveness and viability of all our ministries; and
- enhancing our stewardship program, including the stewardship of our building by optimizing its rental and leasing potential.

## **PRIORITY ACTIONS: OUR VISION OF ST JOHN'S IN 2020**

### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:**

**TO NOURISH OUR FAITH AND CARE FOR EACH OTHER WITHIN AND BEYOND THE WALLS OF OUR CHURCH, WHILE BEING OPEN AND WELCOMING TO ALL.**

### **Priority Actions:**

#### **Nourished in our faith**

- We hold services in the Anglican tradition, as well as non-traditional services and events that are more appealing to the unchurched. Special services include those for young people and seniors. These are coordinated with other churches, offered at different times and not necessarily clergy-led.
- We facilitate a variety of study and discussion groups to help us grow in our faith and become informed about important issues.
- We organize retreats and other opportunities for deepening our spiritual life.
- We offer a vibrant and varied music program to enhance our worship

#### **Care for each other**

- We have a strong pastoral care network.
- We focus on effective communications: we talk and listen carefully to each other, we use facilitated sessions, social media, and surveys to make sure that information goes out and comes in accurately
- We offer clinics and classes/discussion groups for seniors.
- We hold a variety of social and community building events for all ages.

#### **Open and welcoming**

- We host events reaching out to the world and to Ottawa's multicultural and multiracial communities and other faiths
- The Open Doors program has been expanded to offer a spiritual space and refuge all week. Students are taking advantage of this because they appreciate a reflective space that is not a coffee shop, bar or the university.
- Art Credo continues to draw visitors into our sacred space.

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:**

**TO UNDERTAKE MINISTRIES THAT WILL SERVE US, THE COMMUNITY AND THE WIDER WORLD IN PRACTICAL WAYS.**

**Priority Actions:**

- We have a partnership with an indigenous community to address problems such as the water situation in Northern Ontario reserves.
- We are extremely conscious of environmental impacts in our procedures and thinking.
- St. John's is recognized as a centre for refugee assistance – RAG has members from other churches, more parishioners from St. John's are involved, and we support more refugees.
- We support financially and with volunteers:
  - the Thrift Shop;
  - the Centretown Emergency Food Centre;
  - the Foot Clinic;
  - CoSA; and
  - other outreach ministries.
- We do a lot for seniors who are isolated or shut in.
- We support affordable housing through the MHI and other initiatives.

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:**

**TO SHOW LEADERSHIP, TAKE RISKS, AND ADVOCATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE.**

**Priority Actions:**

- We play a lead role in coordinating ministries with other local churches to address the needs of our community.
- We are deeply knowledgeable about global issues such as refugees, poverty and climate change.
- We advocate with MPs, MPPs and City Councillors on social justice issues.

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:**

**TO PRESERVE AND CARE FOR OUR CHURCH AS A SACRED SPACE FOR ALL AND A SECURE HOME FOR OUR MINISTRIES.**

**Priority Action:**

- We have developed a planning and consultation process for preserving and caring for our sacred space

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:**

**TO SECURE A SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL BASIS FOR OUR MISSION AND MINISTRIES.**

**Priority Actions:**

- We have developed an effective year-round stewardship program
- We share the church with other faith groups.
- We have taken out the pews to make the nave more flexible.
- We have strong entrepreneurial leadership – lay and clerical.
- We have developed commercial partnerships to bring in revenue on a sustained basis.
- We have installed A/C in the nave so that it is more attractive for concerts and other events.