

# THE GROVE MISSION STATEMENT

## Our Vision

To be a flourishing, visible and accessible Christian presence in the town centre sharing faith through worship, service to the local community and celebration of our rich Methodist heritage

## Our Mission

To witness to a loving God, who is revealed in Jesus Christ and sustains the Church through the Holy Spirit, by working effectively with the circuit and ecumenical partners in Christian worship, service and outreach

## Our Policy

### In Worship we will:

- Strive to meet the needs of people of different ages and background to nurture their faith
- Draw on a variety of worship styles from different traditions whilst remaining culturally relevant and faithful to our Methodist heritage
- Encourage our congregations to participate fully in worship
- Provide a comfortable and attractive space for large ecumenical services, civic services, weddings, baptisms and funerals

### In Discipleship (learning and caring) we will:

- Encourage people to meet together in study, prayer and fellowship
- Offer regular opportunities for sharing faith in Jesus and growing in discipleship
- Provide effective pastoral support for church members and adherents, especially in times of ill-health, anxiety and bereavement
- Provide opportunities for people to learn about and celebrate the story of local Methodism and its influence within the community

### In Service we will:

- Encourage people to be good neighbours in their community
- Encourage people to challenge poverty and injustice wherever it is found
- Provide a space for the local community where hospitality is regularly offered
- Work closely with the museum and other agencies to develop local tourism, in particular exploring and promoting the area's Christian heritage
- Create and maintain well equipped and accessible premises which can be used by a variety of community groups

### In Mission (evangelism) we will:

- Seek to witness to a God of love and compassion by offering a warm welcome to all who use our building and by taking that love out into the local community
- Use our premises as effectively as we can to tell the faith story of the Methodist community based at the Grove
- Seek to draw newcomers into worship and fellowship so that they might grow in faith
  - Work effectively with local partners to proclaim a faith which is relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> century