

ST. ANDREW'S  
CHURCH  
*GORLESTON-ON-SEA*

**Our vision to promote**

**CARING  
RELATIONSHIPS**



***A guide to pastoral principles  
for living well together***



# *Relationships Matter!*

Our many differences can build us up in trust and mutual affection or they can mar the image of Christ that Christians are called to reflect through their life together.

In any church community the quality of relationships can be hindered by:

- Prejudice
- Silence
- Ignorance
- Fear
- Hypocrisy
- Power

St. Andrew's Church seeks to be a healthy church, creating a value-based culture that is unhindered by prejudice, silence, ignorance, fear, hypocrisy and power.



# *A Healthy Church!*

St. Andrew's Church encourages believers to grow in relationship with one another in the context of a loving, safe and affirming environment.

We seek to accomplish this by:

- Creating a culture of love and care.
- Communicating openly and honestly.
- Having an understanding of human personality.
- Resolving conflicts.
- Listening to those who speak out on issues of relational concern.
- Responding appropriately to pain and suffering.
- Developing good caring practices such as confidentiality and accountability.
- Following the teachings of the Bible and the example of Jesus Christ.
- Complying with the Safeguarding Policy of the church that protects children, young people, and vulnerable adults.
- Expanding care beyond the church by raising awareness and responding to the needs of our local communities.

## *Healing and the Healing Ministry*

Healing was central to the ministry of Jesus. Like the early church we dare to believe that we can ask God to draw others towards healing, health and wholeness, and give us the grace to be part of enabling this.

St. Andrew's Church has a tradition of practicing various forms of healing ministry. We seek to bring positive change and wholeness through:

- prayer
- the laying on of hands
- anointing with oil
- the sacrament of Holy Communion
- the use of "charismatic" gifts
- counselling and care

St. Andrew's Church adopts a holistic approach that recognises the place of different kinds of healing that includes:

- healing of the spirit
- healing of the mind
- healing of emotions
- healing of memories
- healing of relationships
- healing of the body

*Note: As a church we support and value medical professionals and practitioners. We endorse the use of medically prescribed medicines in treating those who are ill and those with long term ailments or conditions.*

# *New Testament Teaching!*

The New Testament includes many statements about how relationships in the church are held together. A selection is listed below along with Bible references:

- Be devoted to one another ...  
*Romans 12:10a*
- Honour one another ...  
*Romans 12:10b*
- Live in harmony with one another ...  
*Romans 12:16*
- Love one another ...  
*Romans 13:8*
- Accept one another ...  
*Romans 15:7*
- Serve one another ...  
*Galatians 5:13*
- Submit to one another ...  
*Ephesians 5:21*
- Live in peace with one another ...  
*1 Thessalonians 5:13*
- Spur one another on ...  
*Hebrews 10:24*
- Encourage one another ..  
*Hebrews 10:25*
- Offer hospitality to one another ..  
*1 Peter 4:9*

## *Our Purpose*

The church of St. Andrew exists to know Jesus better and to make him better known.

## *Our Vision*

In order to achieve the kind of future we are striving for, our vision is to promote:

- **A**dventurous Mission
- **S**pirit-inspired Worship
- **C**ommunity Engagement
- **E**xtravagant Generosity
- **S**trategic Leadership
- **I**ntentional Discipleship
- **S**upportive Administration
- **F**riendly Hospitality
- **C**aring Relationships

