



Roby's Regular Readers.

February 2012.

Reflection:

As we began the year together we started to think about mission and the 2020 vision that underpins it. 2020 stands for where we might like to be as a church by the year 2020 with God's help. It also reminds us that to achieve our aims we need to have clear vision, be focused and attend to our values.

We also recognised that for many people the church uses language that is 'past its sell by date'. This suggests that we need to find a new voice. We thought about these words by T.S.Eliot from the poem Little Gidding

*For last year's words belong to last year's language
And next year's words await another voice.*

How do we carry these ideas forward and discern what God is trying to say to us as a community of disciples? This requires us to listen and think

Rotas

Duty elder	Junior church	Teas	Communion
Angelica	Margaret	Carol	Pauline



Flowers.

Flowers this month have been provided by Mark Hinchliffe and the flower fund.

Dates for your diary.

Sun 5th Bob Day
 Sun 12th Bob Day communion service.
 Sun 19th Shou-hui and Mandarin Choir (bring & share lunch)
 Sun 26th David Anvam

Mission Values

Vision2020 is based on some clear values that we believe capture the essence of what it means to be the United Reformed Church.

1. God's character is to show love and grace to every person and all creation. This is shown in God's mission.
2. God sent Jesus Christ whose words and actions are the best possible example of that love and grace.
3. Jesus inspires the Church to become a community of love and grace in the world today.
4. This will mean different things in different places but the Holy Spirit can help us to work out what God is doing in our own situation. The Bible can also guide us.
5. God doesn't depend on the Church to do mission. God can be found at work in all aspects of life in the wider world.
6. God's mission brings transformation to individuals and to communities. This comes as a result of talking about faith, sharing good news and hope, and building relationships based on love and grace. It comes through worship. It comes as a result of service and action. It shows through how we live.
7. As we see in Jesus' death on the cross, God's mission is risky and costly. Spreading God's love involves standing up for justice and peace, and being gracious means taking sides with people who are normally overlooked or despised.
8. Being transformed by God's mission doesn't mean everybody has to become like us. The challenge for the Church and for the wider world is to understand better what it means to be made in God's image.

Do we think through these values personally and keep them at the heart of our activities as a church community?