

**Which of these suggestions appeals to you?
Which of them is most appropriate to your situation?
Do any of them challenge you to take action?**

Read through them carefully. Discuss them at your Deacons Meeting. Ensure that the whole church makes up its mind.

If these ideas aren't enough then:

Using National Events for mission e.g. International family day **SUN – 15th May**
Financial guidance – eg **CAP**

Lunches for kids when school meals aren't available e.g. **Chomp**

And if you are still struggling try **HOPE** – p102-3

Remember to review how things have gone after Pentecost. Some of these ideas have long term potential. Watch out for further ideas in the future.

www.cwr.org.uk/training/courses

www.acornchristian.org/listening/listening-courses

www.outreachuk.com

www.seba-baptist.org.uk

www.skepticsinthepub.org

www.hopeuk.org

[www.htb.org/media/subject/The Elderly](http://www.htb.org/media/subject/The%20Elderly)

www.facebook.com/MoMedenbridge

www.scriptureunion.org.uk

www.nofrontiers.org

www.urbansaints.org

www.boys-brigade.org.uk

www.girlsb.org.uk

www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk

www.parishnursing.org.uk

www.u3a.org.uk

www.mustardseedgames.com



6 April - 15 May 2016

F = evangelism among young people

E = evangelism with other churches

D = direct evangelism (possibly with other churches)

C = social action

B = friendship and bridge building events

A = preparation of pre evangelism

6 different categories.

To aid you in your planning the ideas are presented in

come into this category.

The Association Team may be able to help identify those who responsibilities and give them the opportunity to use their gifts. Identify the evangelists in your church. Release them from other

of Good News could include prayer-walking the area.

explain why we live as we do today. Preparation for these days We need to demonstrate the Good News and be prepared to

work! We also offer training in many areas of evangelism.

that your Association Team are committed to preaching the Gospel and assisting you in these days and expect to see God at doing during your church's involvement in 40 days. Remember appropriate for your church as you consider what you should be with an open mind. Ask whether any of the ideas suggested are underway. It is meant to provide thought and action. Read it ideas leaflet. It gives suggestions about getting the process This leaflet is designed to answer that very question. It is an evangelism the first question we must ask is where we shall start. When we are confronted by the challenge of mission and

40 Ways for 40 Days

group' or banner-making group.

craft evening, 'knit and natter

7 B. Use the existing craft gifts in the church by setting up a

major European languages.

able to help with material in the

church, provide coffee, hand out

Tourist campaign. Open the

6 D & E. If your area attracts

to the bystanders.

Give out good Christian literature

procession. Run a refreshment tent.

good stall or a float in the

make sure that your church has a

5 B & E. If your town or village

has an annual fete or carnival,

other suitable building and organise

4 D & E Take over the Town

gone with the *Make A Difference*

Whitchurch about how this has

from the church (contact Maave

plant and explain it is a free gift

Visit local homes with a gift e.g. a

help and advice.

3 A. Organise a door to

door team to visit the

neighbourhood around the church.

2 D. Invite an Evangelist to be

the main speaker at a Mission

event. This might last from a day

to a fortnight. Possibly invite one

of the Baptist colleges to help.

1 A. Every member to bless a

not-yet-Christian every week

with something practical and a

prayer (e.g. blessing prayer from

Fal d brein: Body, Labour,

Emotion, Social, Spiritual)



40 WAYS for 40 DAYS

8 D & E. Join together with other churches in your area to put on a musical or dramatic presentation of the Gospel. There is plenty of material available but if you can't find anything suitable, write your own.

9 D. For the whole period of 40 days give your regular services and meetings a distinctly evangelistic flavour. Interview local Christian personalities about their faith. Politicians and sportsmen and women usually come across well. Make the services more user friendly. Talk with a local church that has experience with Seeker Services and are willing to put a service together with you.

10 C. Form a care core group in the church to respond to the increasing social needs in the community and society. Write to CARE for more details. Also the 'Acorn Listening Course'.

11 B & D. Ladies Pamper evenings. These can include things like prayer stations and card readings of the Jesus Deck.

12 B & D. Hire a sports centre for an evening of fun and games. Provide a meal, 'Juice Bar' or light refreshments and interview a sportsman or woman about their faith.

13 B & D Hire a restaurant for a meal with a message. Christians invite their non-Christian friends, and pay for them of course, and the evening ends with music and an appropriate presentation of the Gospel by a suitable speaker. The Association team can help.

14 B & D Use the homes of members as *Frontier Posts* in the neighbourhood. Organise an Agnostic Anonymous group or *Good News down your Street* to reach the warm contacts your church already has. Alpha and Christianity Explored can be home based – or on church premises or in a neutral venue. *Question Time* or 'Sceptics in the pub' are style events to look at.

15 E & D Rediscover the delights and disciplines of working in the open air. Use the church music group and drama group, if you have one, to make a vivid presentation of the Gospel in the local shopping precinct. Make sure you have permission first. If your own resources are limited combine with other churches in the area to make a united witness. Street evangelism can also mean puppets or sketch-boarding. NB not preaching – empties the streets!

16 B. Does your local pub have a music room? Is the landlord looking for local talent to fill the vacant slots in the programme? Take the plunge and offer to do an evening for him. A good pianist and several reasonable singers can present a mixture of old hymns and contemporary Christian songs. Well worth investigating. Open mike nights?

17 A. Take a fresh look at your notice board. If it is small and inconspicuous replace it with a larger one. Get the artists in your congregation to design a series of posters to communicate the Christian message. Explore electronic screens for continual updating information of who you are and what you do. This is another project that has long term benefits.

18 A. Set up a series of prayer triplets. Encourage members to pray regularly for people on their lists.

19 B. Invite friends and neighbours to an Open Air Songs of Praise Service on a Sunday. Have a medley of favourite old and new. This can prove to be surprisingly popular and can be organised ecumenically.

20 B. Investigate the opportunities provided by the local media.

Does your local paper have a Christian comment column or something similar? If it does offer to contribute to it. If not, write to the editor and suggest they start one. Are there openings in local radio?

21 B & C. If your church doesn't already run a parent and toddler group or playgroup, ask social services if there is need for one in your area. If you have the resources and support from the whole church, consider setting one up.

22 A, C & F. Fewer children come to Sunday school these days, but have you thought of a mid-week activity or club night for them? Use the time between the end of school and parents returning from work, if you have the workers available, otherwise early evening is best. Consider Urban Saints or Brigades.

23 B, D & F. Hold a Funday or holiday club. Be prepared to follow it up afterwards. John Hattan's book *Family Evangelism* is packed full of ideas about how to do this successfully. Obtainable from SU.

24 B, C, D & F. If you do not do anything for older young people, consider starting something for the 12-16 age group. Things like *Ministry of Movies*; anything connected with food like Pizza night or 'Test the local chippies'

25 D & F To reach older teens and those in their 20s more sophisticated methods are necessary. Opportunities for exploring the *Questions of Life* are welcomed. Millennials are the most open age group today to discuss Jesus. Release any 18-30's to engage with their peers, including young marrieds using their homes.

26 B, D & F Organise a cringe free, non naff, street cred event for local families. The only requirements are that there has to be plenty of food and it has to be entertaining. Use your imaginations for this one. 15th May is International Family Day.

27 D. Treasure hunting. This involved listening to the Holy Spirit for insights about the lives of people you meet in the street. Chris Duffet at chrisduffett.com will explain more, along with: Free hugs; I will listen; Need a moan; the Red carpet

28 B. Set up an aerobics or Zumba class for the women (or possibly men) of the fellowship and encourage them to bring their friends along. Use this as a bridge building exercise to form friendships and as a step towards faith. NB you will need a qualified instructor. Fitness and weight-watching classes are very popular. *The Cinnamon Network* will help with 'MegaFitness' and 'Parish nursing'.

29 D. Food again! If the way to a man's heart is through his stomach hold a series of monthly breakfast meetings for the men of the church and their non-Christian friends and colleagues. Provide a full English breakfast and round off the gathering with a good speaker. Afternoon tea may be an alternative for some groups.

30 B & D. Make contact with the nearest Retirement Home, Sheltered Housing scheme,

or Hospice, to see if it is possible to visit once a month to hold a service for the residents. *Alpha for the Elderly* has worked well in many places. *Mustard seed Games* have teaching material and flash cards that are good for children and the elderly (recommended for ages 3-93).

31 A & D. Body, Mind and Spirit. Christian Meditation, wholeness and exploring prayer events. Labyrinths are a useful tool.

32 D & E. If you have contacts abroad, sponsor a visit by an evangelist from these lands to our own country. See what you can learn about evangelism from the visit.

33 B & D. Use of homes for BBQs or dinner parties. Invite friends, family or neighbours and have someone give a short testimony as part of the evening.

34 B, C & E. Organise retirement preparation classes to help folk prepare. Bring in Christians from the medical, social, caring and financial professions to help run the course. Also get involved in local U3A (University of the Third Age).

35 A & D. Take a fresh look at the things the church already does – Parents and Toddlers; lunch-clubs; youth clubs; women's meeting. How can they be used more evangelistically?

36 B & C. Investigate ways to reach senior citizens in the neighbourhood. This may mean afternoon tea (with proper china cups), a luncheon club or a tea dance. Add a little spice to the proceeding by providing community singing and a good after lunch speaker.

37 B. Put on a barn-dance with grace and a short testimony before the food.

38 B, C & D. Start a Community Gospel Choir, Pop-up-Choir or other community choir.

39 E. Party in the Park to celebrate Pentecost.

40 A, B, C, D & F. PLANT A NEW CHURCH!!