



*Growing Together*

*in*

**LIVING AND LOVING**

**LIKE JESUS**





**DOING GOD'S WILL**

**AND**

**LOVING ONE ANOTHER**





# FRUIT of the SPIRIT

love

joy

peace

patience

kindness

goodness

faithfulness

gentleness

self control

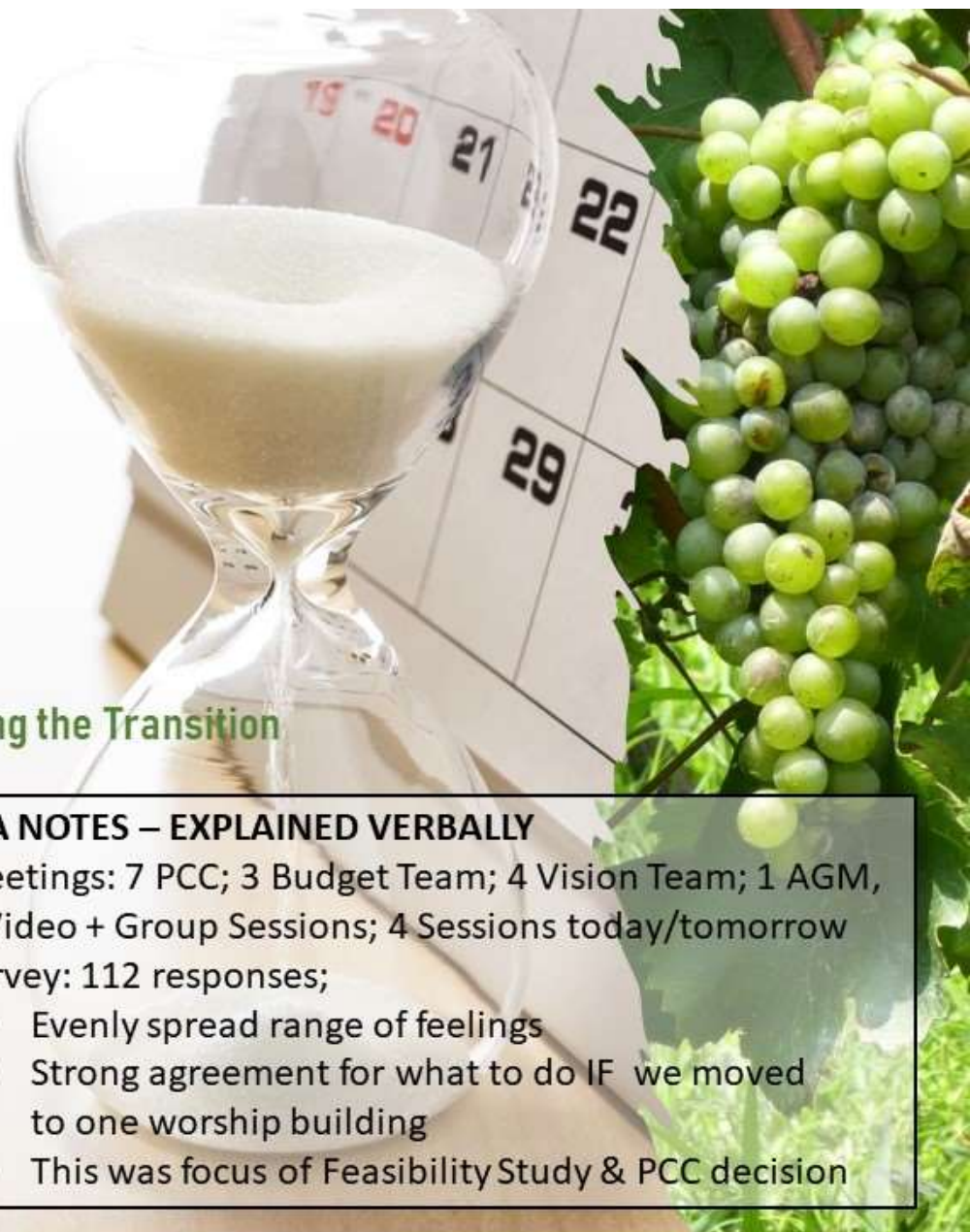


# Growing Together: Timeline

- **Oct 20**
  - PCC & Budget Team Discussions Begin
- **Feb-Jun 21**
  - Video + Group Sessions
  - Survey
  - AGM: Lengthened Timescales
  - PCC: Considered Feedback & Other Financial Options
  - Feasibility Study
  - PCC: If we moved... How we would use St Luke's + Making the Transition
  - Newsletters with Updates
- **Sept-Oct 21**
  - **Update Congregation & Feedback Groups**
  - PCC decision on number of worship buildings
- **Nov 21**
  - Set Budget for 2022

## EXTRA NOTES – EXPLAINED VERBALLY

- Meetings: 7 PCC; 3 Budget Team; 4 Vision Team; 1 AGM, 7 Video + Group Sessions; 4 Sessions today/tomorrow
- Survey: 112 responses;
  - Evenly spread range of feelings
  - Strong agreement for what to do IF we moved to one worship building
  - This was focus of Feasibility Study & PCC decision





# WHY one building for worship?

- **Loving God: What is God calling us to?**

- Preparing for the Future or Preserving the Past?
- What Legacy are we leaving?
- The Body of Christ - Church is People not Buildings

- **Good Stewardship**

- Using what God's given us (2 buildings, 0.5 miles apart, 93% Empty)
- Spend on 1 Worship Building not 2 (improve & maintain)
- Save £27k pa in Buildings costs
- Releasing Time & Gifts instead of duplication & under-staffed teams

- **Loving One Another & Others**

- Welcoming Others - not cold building; hard pews
- Serving our community
- Messages to community: We love you; Not keeping for ourselves; Care for environment & those in need; Growing not shrinking

- **What Would Jesus Do?**

## EXPLAINED VERBALLY...

- Numbers falling consistently for 10 years + likely extra in 2021 (due to people upset + COVID). Also getting older year-on-year.
- URGENT to do something. Can't just repeat/recover what we've done before
- Look to future: Younger people
- We don't have people to fill all the teams for 2 churches – people stretched and ageing eg AV, children, music etc
- We want to invite people – but should we invite them to cold building & hard pews?
- Young today expect good kids work, care for environment, responsible use of money, care for community



# WHY we can't afford to do nothing



## EXPLAINED VERBALLY...

- Use it or Lose it! We can't afford to do nothing. If we delay, we will probably lose the option to use St Luke's positively – because a project takes time.
- 'Do Nothing' means paying full Parish Share to Diocese, Full Staff & Current use of buildings
- £50K is minimum recommended charity commission reserves to ensure cash flow
- Extra £70k bill for St Luke's roof likely in 2-3 years.

- 'Less Diocese': 50% for 2022; £70k after
- 'Less Maint': £5k pa on mid-term repairs; \*re-purposed building could attract grants
- Urgent: Delaying decisions increases the problem



# IF we move to one worship building...

PCC Decided...

## • Making the Move

### • New Services

- Move to St James for all worship services
- 3 Distinct Service Styles (2 Sunday, 1 Wednesday – similar to current)
- Refreshments between Sunday Services for mixing of congregations

### • One Church, Multiple Congregations

- Retain the name “St James’ & St Luke’s Church” across all buildings – not a merge into St James’ way of doing things
- Everyone will need to adapt
- Teams & leaders from across existing congregations

### • The Transition

- Joint teams to address practicalities - music, children’s, youth, AV, welcome, transport etc
- Finish well & start well
- Aim to grow in love through this process

### EXPLAINED VERBALLY...

- PCC have decided on this approach IF we move to one worship building
- **NOT** a merge into St James style. New joint teams & distinct service styles.



# IF we do this... St Luke's Building

PCC Decided, following Feasibility Study & Survey Part 2

Current Costs: £27k

Average for 5 years, 2015-19  
excluding £100k for roof

Income Range: £0-39k

£39k if 100% Commercial Rents



Income: £28k  
+ Potential Grants (from agreed sources)

**Building Pays for Itself**

## Partners

Local Charities & Community Groups

## Our Use

Mission & meeting local needs -  
complementing community groups

## EXPLAINED VERBALLY...

- PCC have decided to pursue this approach following feasibility study & survey feedback **IF** we move to one worship building
- Aim is to save & use St Luke's, instead of waiting & closing it.
- Use is joint – by ourselves + long-term charity partners + short-term room hire
- There would be major capital costs. Funding would include giving & grants ethically approved by PCC.
- Also consider Church House





# LOOKING AHEAD

## EXPLAINED VERBALLY...

- If we want church for future, we must lower age profile
- Imagine... A young family moving to the area needing help with finding work. Food from Foodbank & Grace Kitchen; Furniture from Furniture Project; Job seeking & debt help from us; Children's & Youth clubs from us – St Luke's or Vineyard. Alpha from us; Sunday in St James – warm, chairs, kids work, good AV etc.
- Or, if we do nothing...?