

A. As a church we seek to:

1. Accept and value people regardless of cognitive abilities
2. Ensure that the person who has dementia, and those who support them are cared for through all the stages of the illness.
3. Make sure that the person who has dementia, and their friends or family members, are both spiritually and pastorally supported and nurtured in order for them to enjoy being part of a worshipping community in every sense.
4. Be open to what people with dementia have to offer, look for strengths and abilities, then support and encourage the use of these gifts so that they may participate in the community that is the body of Christ.

B. As part of the wider community we also support the National Dementia Declaration which lists seven outcomes for people with Dementia and their carers:

1. I have personal choice and control or influence over decisions about me
2. I know that services are designed around me and my needs
3. I have support that helps me live my life
4. I have the knowledge and know-how to get what I need
5. I live in an enabling and supportive environment where I feel valued and understood
6. I have a sense of belonging and of being a valued part of family, community and civic life
7. I know there is research going on which delivers a better life for me now and hope for the future

C. We are currently taking the following action in regard to Dementia awareness

1. To provide dementia friend training for all Elders, Team leaders and other significant leaders of organizations
Status: Being implemented
2. Through our Families Matter project, to provide support to the local Dementia Awareness Group
Status: Delivered
3. To offer regular ongoing 'dementia friends' training to the wider church family of all ages.
Status: Being implemented
4. To raise the profile of dementia through Sunday worship on an annual basis
Status: Planning
5. To encourage additional spiritual nurture for people with dementia, including through our week day opportunities at Cornerstone, in care homes and in peoples homes
Status: Investigation
6. To discuss other implications of Dementia Awareness for the life of our church via the Leadership Team and Pastoral Team (In consultation with the Prayer Team and Families Matter)
Status: Planning
7. For dementia awareness to be further considered by our Safeguarding officer in the context of our care for vulnerable adults
Status: Investigation
8. To make available literature at all levels of the church which highlights good practice in other places
Status: Investigation
9. To identify those within the Church family who are caring for a person with dementia and offer appropriate pastoral care to them
Status: Planning