Trinity Methodist Church, Ellesmere Port, has a vision which states: “Trinity seeks to be a church working with community partners by sharing tasks which extend an inclusive welcome, offer simple hospitality and contribute to the well-being of people in Ellesmere Port.”

It aims to pursue this vision through the delivery and support of activities which focus on the physical and emotional well-being of people in a context of strengthened community relationships built on trust, mutual support and security underpinned by a developing spiritual life. Our vision, in total, is of a vibrant, open building, recognised by the community as a valuable and accessible resource, a place of fellowship and support. Trinity continues to meet the defined needs of the people of Ellesmere Port, working within the ‘Our Place’ approach (http://www.talkingwestcheshire.org/default.aspx?page=2387), whilst retaining at its core, a space for Christians to work and worship.

The church will deliver these activities directly from its own resources, in partnership with other agencies, or by providing accommodation to activities wholly run by others. Current activities focussed on community well-being include:

- Daily Bread café open to all with a focus on simple nutritional food,
- Development of cooking skills through preparation of Daily Bread items and other standalone programmes
- Supporting West Cheshire Food Bank as a distribution centre
- ‘Incredible Edibles’, an urban growing initiative with the Youth Offending Team which focuses on growing and cooking fresh food
- Prayer during weekday mornings and Sunday worship
- ‘Agility’, an activity centre with a range of particular therapies.

Commitment to the Vision is overseen by the Management Group, which reports to the Church Council, and the day to day management of the activities is undertaken by a team of paid staff and volunteers. The paid staff are currently employed by a third party (Transforming Church Communities) and made available through a service level agreement. They comprise:

- Operations Manager:
  *To be responsible for the overall management and smooth running of the operations, including; supervision of staff, management of finance and compliance with policies and procedures*

- Activities Co-ordinator:
  *To support and oversee the activities being delivered within Trinity, for and on behalf of the Church and the wider community, including; project management, initiating and supporting new activities, ensuring existing activities fiction appropriately*

- Volunteer Co-ordinator:
  *To support, train and direct volunteers for and on behalf of the Church and the wider community, including; recruitment and retention of volunteers, creating a suitable environment for volunteering,*

- Caretaker:
To act as a point of contact, and be responsible for, the day to day smooth running of the building, including: catering, hospitality, housekeeping, building maintenance, premises and personnel security.

Trinity has agreed a Church and Community Charter which all members of the team and participants are encouraged to aspire to:

- Inclusivity and welcome for all
- Relationships built on trust, respect and mutual support
- Acceptance of differing beliefs without imposition or pre-condition of one,
- The valuing of everyone’s skills and participation with a commitment to their enhancement,
- Maintaining safe boundaries for activity providers and participants particularly those with emotional and physical vulnerability,
- Collaborative and partnership working within the team and community.

It is a fundamental requirement that these activities operate in the Christian context expressed in the Gospels thereby distinguishing them from similar activities delivered by other organisations in an entirely secular manner. Equally it is a requirement that all such activity is embraced as an integral part of the whole church life alongside more overtly faith based activities, and that all participants in whatever activity are regarded as valued members of the whole church community.

The Mission Development Worker will be employed by the Wirral Circuit to work alongside staff, volunteers and participants in maintaining this Christian context by:

- devising and delivering opportunities for all to engage in prayer, worship, spiritual development and fellowship,
- overseeing pastoral support of the Trinity community either directly or through the co-ordination of others,
- devising and participating in events which encourage the values of Trinity,
- working with the church council and management group to ensure the strategic development, initiation and running of activities is reflective of the Gospels.

In addition they will be responsible for promoting the activities and work of Trinity by:

- seeking out and developing partnerships for the running of activities with other faith groups and secular agencies,
- maintaining a dialogue with those groups and agencies to identify opportunities to deliver new activities,
- raising the awareness of the activities within the local community to encourage participation and financial and volunteer support,
- representing the Methodist church on bodies within the Ellesmere Port area.

As a member of the circuit staff team the Mission Development Worker will contribute to the development of circuit policy in the field of church and community relationships including the development of new forms of worship. Whilst primarily responsible for these aspects specifically in relation to Trinity and the wider Ellesmere Port community, should circumstances and circuit priorities change in the future, they may be required to discharge their duties in other locations within the circuit.

The Wirral Circuit, consisting of 24 churches across the Wirral peninsula (plus one LEP nearby in Cheshire). Ellesmere Port itself is located in the south east corner of the peninsula, bordered by the River Mersey to the east, and sits adjacent to the M53 (Wirral Motorway) and M56 (Chester to
Manchester motorway). The town comprises a mix of industrial (petro-chemical, automotive and more recent industries) as well as significant “leisure retail.” Areas of the town (particularly those served by Trinity) appear high in most deprivation and socio-economic indices, whilst other parts of the town are more affluent.

Ellesmere Port has good road and transport links, main line rail services are accessed at Chester (6 miles) or Runcorn (15 miles). Within 75 minutes are the Lake District, Peak District or Snowdonia National Parks and most of the UK is within about a 4 hour drive.