**Mission Action Plan Summary – The Invitation**
*United Benefice of Bradworthy*
Vision: *Building the Church, One Person at a Time*

This plan is designed to guide our mission and ministry in the rural communities of the Bradworthy Benefice, comprising nine parishes. We aim to build a welcoming church community that reaches people through relationship-building, community engagement, and relevant worship, while honouring our agricultural heritage and embracing the changing dynamics of rural life. Our goal is to meet people where they are and invite them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Core Mission Priorities:**

1. **Invitation and Welcome**
	* **Personal Invitations**: Focus on building relationships and meeting people in everyday spaces, such as pubs, local groups, and community events.
	* **Welcoming Spaces**: Develop spaces for engagement, both formal (church services) and informal (social events, cafes). Special services such as Harvest, Christmas, and Easter will continue, but will be complemented by casual gatherings.
2. **Presence in the Community**
	* Being present where people naturally gather, whether through attending community events or working with local groups, helps us build trust and relationships that can lead to spiritual conversations.
3. **Prayer as the Engine Room**
	* Establish prayer as the foundation of all outreach and engagement, with both personal and corporate prayer rhythms.
4. **Discipleship and Lay Ministry Training**
	* Equip congregation members for active participation in church life through discipleship programs, leadership development, and mentorship. We will train lay ministers to take on roles in worship, outreach, and pastoral care.
5. **Serving with Joy**
	* Our mission will reflect the joy of Christ in all we do, from community projects to church-hosted events.
6. **Reconsidering Liturgy and Services**
	* Adapt liturgy and service structures to be more accessible and relevant to newcomers, while maintaining the core message of the gospel.

**Key Strategic Initiatives:**

1. **Worship and Welcome Teams**
	* Organise teams in three parish clusters to coordinate worship services and community outreach.
2. **Community Engagement Beyond Church**
	* Expand projects such as transforming churchyards into wildlife havens, participating in local events, and organizing focal days like National Tree Week or Rural Mission Sunday.
3. **Special Services**
	* Offer unique services like pet blessings and flower blessings to engage the wider community. Create more informal, exploratory faith events like Alpha.

This plan reflects our commitment to building the church one person at a time, fostering relationships within and beyond our church walls. By prioritising prayer, discipleship, and community presence, we aim to invite people into meaningful faith journeys, ensuring that our church remains a relevant and welcoming presence in our rural setting.