



# **“Complementary Expressions”**

## **Revd Kate Stacey, Team Rector, Stroud Parish Churches**

The network of people and values that are represented and expressed as part of the wider community around us are not an add-on to what happens in the building we know as St Laurence, but rather integral to it. Revd Simon Howell has created a visual map of what has been discerned so far. What we are co-creating is not a bolt on: it is deep, wide and robust. And it extends beyond the confines of the walls of a building.

St Laurence, and what is being expressed, exists within a wider network of complementary expressions and generous support. Across Stroud worshipping communities and wider communities are working more closely, finding ways to release more capacity.

What this looks like includes:

- An emerging partnership amongst groups in Whiteshill and Ruscombe with a deep commitment to spiritual ecology that will complement and symbiotically sustain what evolves in the centre of town;
- A growing network of food provision for those on the economic margins of our community in partnership with The Long Table that we can engage with as we continue to develop our vision as a centre of contemplation and action

I could go on, but I hope this gives a flavour. We are committed to working together, to not existing in silos, to see transformation and life in this place.