

Bretton Baptist Church Vision

After recent conversations and discussions within church, Trustees felt it would be helpful to draw together the main points relating to the vision we have for BBC and share a little more on how we see this being achieved through the activities of church members and staff. This is not a finalised plan, or concrete. We continue to discern the mind of Christ for the future of BBC as we constantly listen to Him through His word, Spirit and church family. I hope the following pages are helpful to you all.

GROWING WHERE WE ARE

Isaiah 54:2-4a & Matthew 28:19-20

'Growing whole life missional discipleship makers'

In gathered and scattered places

VISION: What we see the ministry mission and life of BBC family becoming. We believe God desires for all believers to grow as whole life missional disciples of Jesus who seek to witness the good news of salvation in Jesus through repentance. We do this through how we live work play and serve in the gathered and scattered places of everyday living.

VALUES: Values drive culture: What we value sits at the heart of who we are as a church family which includes growing in authenticity, love, grace, humility, and generosity. Values seldom change as they are part of what defines us as a people. Our values are rooted in what it means to be followers of King Jesus.

VEHICLE: How we do what we do. We do this through working closely together, sharing resources, time and skills, wherever possible. Everything project programme, activity, service and provision is driven by having Christ at the centre of why we do what we do.

The vision is supported by a threefold approach:

- 1) **Ministry: Making disciples - To be a discipleship centred culture**
 - Unity in diversity: Making disciples of all nations. Being intentional about the demographics of who the people of God are. Making room for people from all walks of life who love Jesus
 - Christian life courses: Have rolling opportunities for growing as followers of Jesus courses, ranging from Christianity Explored, Alpha, Freedom in Christ, Marriage courses etc
 - Discipleship Training Centre Hub: An annual school where people go deeper with God exploring spiritual formation, spiritual gifts, evangelism, and healing
 - Internship placement: working with agencies that support interns nationally and globally, enabling BBC to be a place where 18-30's can grow in service to God as they explore their future in ministry and mission

- 2) **Mission: Opening our doors wider - To be a community hub that serves the community with a gospel focus**
 - Enlarging the place of our meeting: Developing our current site to be a more accessible and resourceful place for mission to those in need and seeking support, accommodating social action growth as well as spiritual growth, more community services and church related services
 - Community services: Offering space to offer more community services and provisions
 - Improved facilities: enlarging our lounge area, additional meeting rooms for more community projects. Explore the potential of soft play, café area and social action support such as winter night shelter, safe spaces

- Be known for safe accessible usable spaces: being a Beacon, Refugee and HIA church, we seek to be a place where anyone can be welcomed loved, supported, and sign posted according to their needs

3) **Multiplication: Stretching out - To plant churches and Christian groups of all sizes**

- Micro church: Varying models of church reaching and discipling “unchurched” whether within our current building or within the community. This can take shape in the work environment, schools, community centres, pubs, clubs, café’s, homes, sports & leisure places, walking church etc
- Planting: Being intentional about discerning church plants, large or small, across the city and surrounding area. Wherever there are Christians living in the community, we believe this is a beacon of God’s scattered church. Our hope and dreams are that there will be a model of church planted within walking distance for everyone.

Growth Objectives

- Attendance growth: *Moving from 180 members to 250 over the next 5 years*
- Spiritual Growth: *Seeing a minimum of 10 people baptised each year*
- Discipleship growth: *Seeing a new small group start each year*
- Micro church: *Establishing at least one micro church every year*
- Church planting: *Begin praying and discerning whether God is leading us to plant another church in or around the city*
- Staffing: *Beyond the emerging generations team lead role, to pray for the future shaping of the staffing and ministry team*
 - *Second minister: Pastoral, Church Planting, Discipleship school, Afternoon services*
 - *Operations manager: Someone who manages, Events, Buildings, Bretton Lounge*
 - *Hybrid Evangelist: Someone who promotes and engages in evangelism (spreading religious beliefs) through both online and offline methods, typically within a "hybrid church" model that blends digital and physical community.*

Growth Plan

- *X2 Alpha courses per year*
- *X2 Comedy events per year*
- *Café and afternoon communion services each month*
- *Forward advertising of key events and services through weekly church mission activities*
 - *Alpha*
 - *Café service*
 - *Comedy evenings*
 - *Additional services such as Christmas, Easter, Afternoons services & outreach*
- *Evangelism focusses each year*
- *Reviewing and reimagining our building*
- *Accommodating more public service provisions in the building and making them aware of our ongoing in-house provisions, activities, programmes, services etc*

Mission Statement

Living for God's glory, Loving one another, Making Jesus known

PASTORAL and SPIRITUAL MINISTRY

VISION: *‘Growing as disciples together’*

VALUES: *‘Everyone looks out for everyone’*

- It is the responsibility of the membership to pastorally and prayerfully look out for and support each other as we grow together as disciple of Jesus.

1 John 3:18

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth

- We have a culture of caring for each other through members connecting with each other through small groups.

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together

- A Pastoral Care Coordinating Team: This team meets weekly with the minister to go through pastoral matters and explore how everyone is connected, being connected, and being cared for where needed
- Pastoral Team: This team is lead by the above team and actions the lighter aspects of pastoral ministry, such as meals, short term support groups, lifts, visits etc

Exodus 18:21-22

Jethro advises Moses to appoint capable, trustworthy men (*and women*) as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens to handle all but the most difficult cases.

- The leadership are accessible where needed for prayer and ministry

James 5:13-16

¹³ Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Vehicles

What roles will we play in pastoral ministry?

Pastoral Care Coordinating Team: Our pastoral coordinator, leads, manages and delivers the vision in pastoral ministry supported by key volunteers, members and the coordination of small groups.

Small Groups:

This is one of the pillars of pastoral and spiritual support comes. Our aim as a church is to see everyone connected in a small group as this is where we grow best in pastoral support, prayer and discipleship.

We have small groups from Monday to Thursday, daytime and evenings, and are always happy to set more up. A display board in the entrance will help you know where you may find one

Prayer Life at BBC family:

Prayer is another essential pillar for the covenanted community of God's people grow in faith and witness.

- Prayer Tree: Urgent prayers through a WhatsApp group, anytime any place. For members only. Talk with Christine Graham to join this
- Prayer Triplets: This is encouraged not forced. Each triplet is encouraged to form their own rhythm
- Prayer Diary: This is for more general prayers for what is taking place in the life and ministry of BBC. Please share with Christine if you have prayer points
- Pre-service Prayers: 9.20am Sunday's. All welcome, just turn up
- Prayer and Fasting Day's: 2nd Monday of the month 8am, 12pm & 8pm at the church. All welcome, just turn up.
- Prayer ministry: During our services we offer opportunities for people to receive prayer

Appointments with the Leadership Team:

Members of the Leadership Team are willing to support with private appointments for anyone who worships with us. These can be arranged on request through the Pastoral Care Coordinator Team.

Urgent Prayer & Pastoral Support throughout the week in order of priority,

1. Someone from your small group
2. A member of the pastoral team
3. Pastoral Care Coordinator
4. Member of the leadership team

WhatsApp Support groups

We set-up a small working group using WhatsApp where specific support is needed and agreed.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

VISION: Growing disciples within our children youth and young adults

Name: *'Youth, children and young adults at Bretton Baptist'*

For all our YP to know they,

- **Belong in the Church:** That all YP have a sense of belonging to the church family at BBC and God's wider Church family
- **Have identity in Jesus:** That all YP will know their identity in Jesus. To support every YP to thrive in their personal faith and walk with Jesus
- **Can serve through their church:** That all YP will know their part within the mission of God wherever they are in the gathered and scattered places of life.
- **Are witnesses of Jesus:** Preparing them to be confident in witnessing Jesus in the gathered and scattered places of life, before they reach 18 yrs

BBC's aim is to enhance and complement what parents and guardians are already doing in terms of faith development with their children, youth and young adults

"It takes a whole community to raise a child".

The children's and youth leaders' partner with the families of the young people to support and encourage personal and collective spiritual growth.

'Together we grow disciples.'

Deuteronomy 6:

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

VALUES:

We have three simple core values that drives the culture we believe God is calling us to within the young people's ministry

- **Fun: Having fun with God**
God is serious about us enjoying learning about him.
Fun must be at the centre of all learning cultures. Building an environment where learning about Jesus is adventurous experiential and life changing. We are committed to setting a culture where having

serious fun with God, runs through the heart of what we do and how we do it. Having fun together with God.

- **Fair: Respect and participating**

Participation and respect are at the heart of building community. We are all unique in Christ, and uniquely united in him. We believe when we treat each other the way Jesus teaches us through the scriptures, we all gain a greater sense of worth and belonging. Leaders and young people enjoying growing as disciples of Jesus in a fun fair loving way, helps us to thrive in who we are in Jesus.

- **Focused: Creating a culture promoting discipleship**

Every session will have a standard structure and clear direction to ensure everyone has something positive to take away with them and apply to their everyday life. Every session is designed to promote whole life growing as a follower of Jesus. Knowing what we do in each session and how we plan to do it, will provide the basis for growing in Christ in a fun, fair, focused, safe and secure way.

VEHICLE:

Through a dedicated team of volunteers, paid workers and a clear curriculum, we have confidence that every young person coming through BBC will have the best opportunity to thrive as a follower of Jesus.

Staffing: We aim to grow the church workforce through recruiting an Emerging Generations Team Leader, who will oversee, coordinate and encourage any other paid children and youth workers, interns and volunteers.

Strategy:

➤ Children

- Children Church on Sunday Mornings for EYFS, KS1 & KS2
- Children Church at monthly Café services for EYFS, KS1 & KS2
- Every 5th Sunday to be an all in service (All ages)
- Tuesday evening 'Going Deeper' creative bible study groups for KS2
- Wednesday afternoon, 'Seedlings' a parent/guardian stay n play group
- Community events, children's holiday club, Light party and other events throughout the year

➤ Youth

- Youth Church on Sunday Mornings for KS3 KS4 & KS5
- Youth Group Sunday Evening for KS3, KS4 & KS5
- Every 5th Sunday to be an all in service (All ages)
- Book Club Monthly
- Together Monthly Youth Gathering through CROPS
- Youth trips socials and activities throughout the year
- Open invitation to be involved in services and church life

➤ Young Adults

- Regular young adult's bible study
- Supporting Young People going to university, finding a church etc
- Ongoing internship opportunities
- Encouraging and supporting into gap years & mission opportunities
- Links with Peterborough colleges and University

Please note this is an ongoing vision document and developments will be made along the way. Vision is a journey, not an end.