

Mission & Values



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**First, I thank my God
through Jesus Christ
for you all, because
your faith is being
proclaimed throughout
the whole world.**

Romans 1:8

This document is about looking to our future and seeing how God wants us live out His plan in this place. However, we can't look to the future without first acknowledging our past.

For many years now, the Holy Spirit has been so active and alive amongst the people of TUC. We give thanks to God through Jesus Christ for your faith and your good works, which are all for the glory of God!

We are a people who pray without ceasing in order to know and line up with God's plan. We are a people who die to self in order to serve others and help others know Christ. We are a people with a generous spirit, always seeking to care for those around us. We don't say this to build up our own egos, but to acknowledge what God has done among us.

Our Mission, Values, Goals and Actions as described in this booklet are an attempt to ensure we continue being God's people in this place, lining up with His plan. It is an attempt to ensure the good work that Holy Spirit has done among us continues for many more generations to come. Please read on and catch God's vision for us!

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:10)

our mission:

The Light of Christ For All the World

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Jesus said “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 8:12

our mission:

At TUC, we believe God is calling us to be a campfire church - a gathered people who shine the light of Christ for all the world.

But what do we mean by “campfire church”?

A campfire is a place where everyone can gather around for warmth, community and fun. There’s always room to expand the circle and invite others to join in.

Jesus is the light of the world, so we gather with him at our centre. We are called to be a people and a place where everyone is welcome to be part of God’s family and know His love, light and life.

We are not content to huddle around the fire and keep it to ourselves. Rather, we are called to share the light of Christ with everyone for the glory of God. Think of this image; an ember from one campfire can be taken to another place to start a whole new campfire, providing light and warmth for many new people.

**If we are able to fulfil our
God-given mission, we believe
that we will be transformed,
along with the people and the
world around us.**

our vision:

**All people
transformed
to be like
Christ**

Our values are expressed in the things we do, the activities we run, the decisions we make - everything!

When these values are expressed, we are on our way to fulfilling God's mission for us - that the light of Christ is shared with all the world.

our values:

- 1. Prayer**
We are a people of prayer, individually and corporately totally dependent on God in all aspects of our life and ministry.
- 2. Word & Worship**
We believe that Scripture is the written Word of God, and that Jesus is the Living Word. We seek to understand God's Word and know Him more through it.
- 3. Equipping**
We want everyone to identify, use and develop the unique gifts they have been given by God so we can encourage one another, mature in faith and partner with God to grow His kingdom.
- 4. Community**
We are called to care for all those around us, both practically and spiritually. We seek to connect with and welcome everyone, regardless of ethnicity or background.
- 5. Sharing**
We are called to create and take up all opportunities to share our faith with others, through word and action, offering the transforming power of Christ.

It's all well and good to have these values, but if we don't take some practical steps to express them, they will only remain on paper. Read on to see the goals and actions we believe will help us express our values to ultimately fulfil God's mission to share the light of Christ with all the world.

We are currently already doing some actions ("Core"), but others are things we plan to do or introduce in the mid- or long-term ("More"). You may notice that many of these goals are "only if God" goals. There's no way we could achieve these unless God makes a way.

goals & actions:

**Practical
steps to
express our
values**

1. Prayer

We are a people of prayer, individually and corporately totally dependent on God in all aspects of our life and ministry.

Goal:

To pray about everything and commit everything to God so we line up with His plan.

Core:

- Pray before, after and within every meeting and event to commit them to God.
- Hold a 24 hour Pray All Day event every Pentecost.
- Encourage the personal habit of praying regularly.

More:

- Grow our current prayer meeting and seek to form additional prayer groups/networks.
- Increase our focus on corporate prayer through: prayer focused services, Prayer & Praise nights, diverse modes of prayer in our weekly services, prayer in Pastorates/small groups.
- Share abridged prayer points on social media.
- Hold prayer walks around Toowong.
- Work through an online course about prayer.

2. Word & Worship

We believe that Scripture is the written Word of God, and that Jesus is the Living Word. We seek to understand God's Word and know Him more through it.

Goal:

To open up Scripture through faithful preaching and teaching and to respond in authentic, relevant and Christ-centred worship.

Core:

- Weekly worship services that are Scripture-focused and Christ-centred.
- Continue and expand live-streaming in Sunday worship.

More:

- Develop the skills of all our church and our worship team as 'proclaimers of the gospel' (e.g. 2 workshops/year to enable this).
- Create opportunities in worship services to share experiences of Scripture.
- Seek to include Scripture in worship services regularly in creative ways e.g. through art, music, drama, video.
- Provide Bible reading suggestions aligned to preaching series and encourage Bible reading at home.

3. Equipping

We want everyone to identify, use and develop the unique gifts they have been given by God so we can encourage one another, mature in faith and partner with God to grow His kingdom.

Goal:

To encourage, educate and support everyone to use their gifts, be disciples and to live out their faith wherever they are called.

Core:

- Help everyone discover and use their spiritual gifts.
- Provide discipleship and leadership training and mentoring, making use of Trinity College Qld opportunities/resources.
- Continue courses such as the Three Course and Alpha.
- Fund the ongoing training and development of emerging leaders and staff

More:

- Create "Equip" nights to provide practical mission training.
- Foster the importance of Pastorates/Bible Studies with view to starting new ones.
- Establish a 5-year plan for staffing, inclusive of a possible second ministry agent.

4. Community

Value:

We are called to care for all those around us, both practically and spiritually. We seek to connect with and welcome everyone, regardless of ethnicity or background.

Goal:

To serve the community, creating a community hub in and for Toowong. To provide a safe place for our congregation and the community to gather, fitting in with the campfire vision – creating a welcoming, nurturing, inviting, healing, and overflowing place.

Core:

- Continue with our current pastoral care, community activities and support.
- Recruit for a “Mission Teams Leader” (volunteer role) to explore further ways we can connect with the wider community.

More:

- Increase focus and grow support and funding for the Uni Chaplain role.
- Explore and implement other agreed community engagement opportunities that align with our values.
- Create intentional evangelistic opportunities for each of our already established community groups.
- Hold a congregation camp.
- Be intentional and caring stewards of the God-gifted built and natural environment.
- Address the recommendations that arise from the Highest & Best Use initiative.

5. Sharing

We are called to create and take up all opportunities to share our faith with others, through word and action, offering the transforming power of Christ.

Goal:

To consider every aspect of our church missional and everyone a missionary. To view every aspect of our church life and our individual daily lives as mission, acknowledging that working towards our vision is an ongoing process.

Core:

- To encourage people to see themselves as missionaries in their own home, workplace, school, university, social club and circle of friends.
- Commit to keeping the structure and activities of our church as simple as possible, allowing time to invest in genuine relationships with the world around us.
- Continue to make use of social media and Zoom connectivity.

More:

- Grow our relationship with the Toowong Korean Community.
- To examine how to generate the best stewardship of all our resources to create a 'hub' (a heart, nucleus, core) with all of our resources used for the proclamation of the gospel so that every aspect of our church is missional.

