



GROWING ...BECAUSE GOD IS CHANGING LIVES

## Davenport Road Methodist Church Vision Statement

*We believe that God, our Father, has called us to make His Son Jesus known by word and life, in the power of His Spirit, expressed in corporate worship, prayer, mission and service.*

We acknowledge that **prayer is the hub** of our Christian lives and we will look at different opportunities and ways to pray.

We want to be more open to God and allowing him to **change our lives and the lives of others** through our witness and by sharing our faith.

We will increase the awareness of our **responsibility of care** to each other and our wider community.

We will **improve communication** within the church and the community.

We acknowledge that **everyone has something to contribute** to the life of our church. We will encourage each other to recognise and develop gifts and talents to fulfil our vision.

We acknowledge that **prayer is the hub** of our Christian lives and we will look at different opportunities and ways to pray.

We will

- Continue the two-year cycle for the 24/7 prayer weekend and look to publish the date a.s.a.p. (Consider when is an appropriate weekend)
- Develop the prayer meeting and explore the possibility of it being held at church, maybe not on a Saturday?
- Look at holding "Prayer breakfasts" - starting with an Advent event on Nov 28
- Relaunch the prayer team on a Sunday Morning and seek to offer the ministry to the evening congregation as well- a meeting to be held for those interested in praying with people.
- Use hand held mics for Open Prayer in the morning and look to develop it once a month in the evening also. Encourage folk to think about prayers ahead of the prayer time on the pre service PowerPoint. (Be pray pared!)
- Develop an area for prayer during the week - using the stage area, with a few chairs and items as aids to pray (kept in a box)

We will **improve communication** within the church and the community.

We will

- Look at the changes suggested by Jill and team re the news sheet to let people know what is happening and invite via the sheet for concerns from church members for the Church Leadership Agenda.
- Investigate the cost of banners for outside the church and the possibility of an extra notice board. We will involve the young people in the design of the banners.
- Look to raise the profile of the church in a publicity way both within and outside the church by appointing a publicity officer or team. We can then make use of "What's on" in the papers etc.
- Find out what skills our membership can offer and what they want to be equipped with.

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We will increase the awareness of our **responsibility of care** to each other and our wider community.

We will:

- Continue to develop Rendezvous 2
- Aim to have one social/ light entertainment event each quarter - Harvest Supper, Christmas Party, Church Anniversary?, Summer Barbeque (end of June), outing?
- Alternate a "Love your neighbour week" with 24/7 prayer weekend (Spring/Summer) when we get involved in acts of kindness in Dav Rd (possible survey/ visiting people in the road)
- Investigate the cost of and assess the need of internet access at church to offer to folk at Rendezvous, Tea and Chat etc.
- Offer tea/ biscuits to parents fetching girls from Brigade at 7.15p.m. as a way of connecting with them.
- Explore the possibilities of inviting Tower Hill Choir, Ballet Class for performance opportunities, thus building links.
- Ask Pastoral visitors to offer and liaise re transport needs. This to be discussed at Pastoral Visitors meeting and a list of volunteers that could be called upon being created

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We will:

- Investigate "Messy church" and whether this or Holiday Club would be appropriate to develop at Dav Rd.
- Develop further the use of testimonies in services, by developing sharing times "What has God been doing in your life this week?", "What would you like to give thanks for?" - prior to Thanksgiving prayers.
- Promote CTIW website, link from ours and promote events of other churches.
- Increase participation in worship and the wider church by asking people what they would like to offer, get involved with. This will be done using a questionnaire.
- Provide opportunities for young people to lead/take part in worship
- Continue to run DVD study groups
- Promote House groups
- Increase links between young and old by an "Adopt a child/grandparent" within the church

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Having read through our Vision Statement, why don't you underline the things we are already doing, that you see as really significant.

Then (perhaps in a different colour) underline the **new** things in our Vision which you feel are important for the church to develop in 2011.

Is there something you want to help make happen?

**Please consider all this prayerfully.**

Can you give any time or talent to help make the Vision happen?

*In January, at the Covenant services, we will encourage you to sign up against something in our vision that you are prepared to help take forward. It needs us all to help make any of these things a reality.*

*What Now?*

*We are trying to involve more people in the life of the church. On the insert sheet please tick all that you currently do for the church and all that you might be able to be involved in. Please place your completed forms in the box in the entrance hall before the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2011.*

Many thanks. The Minister, Stewards and Church Council members wish you a very blessed 2011. May we all grow together, learning and seeking the will of our Lord Jesus Christ as we try to make our world a more spirit filled and holy place.

07/10/2011