

# **HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

**WORSHIPPING  
CARING  
DISCIPLING  
WITNESSING**

## **OUR CORE VALUES**

**HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**



**HELPING PEOPLE FOLLOW JESUS**

# **Helping People Follow Jesus**

This simple statement sums up the primary task which we are called to fulfil. Our mission as the church is to introduce others to Jesus and to help one another grow into Christian maturity. We hope this MISSION STATEMENT can be owned by every member of the fellowship and that all our activities can be focused on helping people become more committed followers of Jesus Christ.

For this to happen we need to be a

**WORSHIPPING  
CARING  
DISCIPLING  
WITNESSING  
community**

These four CORE VALUES were the distinguishing marks of the early church described in Acts 2:42-47. The challenge is for us to work out the implications of these values in our own situation. To help us do this we have set out in this booklet things which we believe need emphasising and developing in our fellowship at this time.

Here is an affirmation and description of the kind of church we are. This is a VISION FOR GROWTH for the church - a measure by which we can both test what we are doing, and what we plan to do together.

September 1999 / Revised February 2007

# **WORSHIPPING** community

## *Scripture*

“Come as living stones, and let yourselves be used in building the spiritual temple, where you will serve as holy priests to offer spiritual and acceptable sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 2 v 5

*Psalm 100, John 4:24, Romans 12:1, Hebrews 12:28*

## *Principle*

- ◆ Corporate worship, prayer and Bible teaching are essential for the good health of every believer and for the fellowship as a whole.

## *Practice*

- ◆ Teaching Scripture clearly and relevantly in order to develop spiritual understanding, practical Christian living, and growth in maturity.
- ◆ Offering a variety of worship styles and involvement to reflect the make-up and expectations of our fellowship.
- ◆ Encouraging each believer to develop their own devotional life and to participate regularly in corporate worship.
- ◆ Emphasising the importance of praying together by providing different and regular opportunities for prayer.

# **CARING community**

## ***Scripture***

“Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.”

Hebrews 10 v 24

*John 13:34-35, Romans 15:7, Philippians 2:5-11 1 John 4:7-11*

## ***Principle***

- ◆ The fellowship should be inclusive; welcoming people from all backgrounds and circumstances and encouraging the development of supportive relationships.

## ***Practice***

- ◆ Offering a warm welcome to everyone who comes into our church.
- ◆ Ensuring that each person finds acceptance and becomes integrated and able to participate in the life of the fellowship.
- ◆ Supporting and caring for a wide range of spiritual, social and physical needs within the fellowship through our network of groups, our structures and the provision of appropriate resources.

# **DISCIPLING** community

## *Scripture*

Jesus said: “Anyone who wants to come with me must forget self, take up their cross every day, and follow me.”

Luke 9 v 23

*Matthew 28:19-20 Romans 12:1-2, Colossians 1:28, 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3*

## *Principle*

- ◆ Full commitment to Christ and His cause should be expected of every Christian and this should affect every aspect of our lives.

## *Practice*

- ◆ Challenging Christians to lead sacrificial lives by offering self, talents, time and wealth in God’s service.
- ◆ Seeking as individuals and as a fellowship to do, give and be the best we can for God.
- ◆ Encouraging every Christian to use their spiritual gifts to serve the body of Christ.
- ◆ Equipping people for Christian service and helping them to relate their faith to daily life and work.
- ◆ Recognising that small groups play an important part in helping people grow in Christian faith and maturity.

# **WITNESSING** community

## *Scripture*

Jesus said: “As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

John 20 v 21

*Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8, 2 Corinthians 5:20, 1 Peter 2:9*

## *Principle*

- ◆ People who do not know Jesus have a right to hear the Good News about him explained in a clear and relevant way.

## *Practice*

- ◆ Ensuring that all church activities recognise the importance of evangelism.
- ◆ Encouraging and equipping every Christian to share their faith.
- ◆ Reaching out to all age groups, and in particular providing an effective outreach and support programme for children and young people.
- ◆ Involving the church and its members in concern and action for local, national and world-wide issues.
- ◆ Sharing our resources with, and serving in, mission locally, nationally and overseas.

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