

stjohnsharborne

Five Year Strategic Mission Plan 2022 –2027

Since the previous five-year Mission Plan of 2017, in God's grace we have seen significant fruit – including our renewed and extended building, our first church plant in over 30 years, and our Bridge-Building ministries underway. We would also have loved to see more of our aspirations turn into reality. It's time to draw up a new five-year plan, to help us focus on the things that we believe God is calling us to in the days ahead, as we combine some of our unfinished business with new emphases. All the details and emphases of our Vision and Values Statements (found on our website) remain in place. What follows simply sets out the things that God seems to be calling us to focus on in the coming days.

Nothing significant can be achieved for God's Kingdom purposes, without an ongoing commitment to a gospel – centred unity. The Lord has laid unity on our hearts particularly in the coming days. This resonates deeply with the biblical call to unity as well as God's ultimate purpose for His world (c.f. Ephesians 1:8b-10). To achieve unity around Jesus, we need to look at others through Jesus' eyes (c.f. Phil 2:1ff); be obedient to what Jesus says in Scripture and prophetically; be centred on Jesus' presence; hold to a gospel narrative, rather than a worldly one; undergird all we seek to be and do with prayer; and live with hope as we foster a personal relationship with Jesus.

Building on all that God has been doing in and through us, in the next five years we are praying for and working towards becoming a church that evermore has

a heart for God, our city, and the nations

Our simple strap line mission statement encapsulates who we are and what we're called to. Below are a number of new and renewed goals we have prayerfully set, which are based on the focussed aims that follow.

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In the next five years we'd love to see:

1. Another church plant. ([Resource Church](#))
2. Growth: 100 new Christians; 120 new members of small groups; and everyone serving in at least one ministry within or beyond St John's. ([Culturally Relevant / Equipping / Every-Member Ministry Church](#))
3. More cultural diversity in our leadership. ([Intra-Cultural Church](#))
4. Regular teaching on culturally relevant issues. ([Culturally Relevant Church](#))
5. Regular teaching and small group material on Discipleship and Freedom issues. ([Equipping Church](#))
6. At least two ministries from each Bridge-Building ministry area fully established ([Socially Active / Compassionate / Culturally Relevant Church](#))
7. More Worship Leaders; and encouragement of small group worship life. ([Worshipping Church](#))

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The above flow from our need in the next five years to be more focussed on being:

- A Worshipping Church that exalts and encounters the Lord in our body-life, as we care for one another and share the Good News. (Heart for God)
- An Every-Member Ministry Church that sees everyone playing their part in building for the Kingdom that God alone can build. (Heart for God, our City & the Nations)
- An Equipping Church that prepares and supports followers of Jesus for Word and Spirit ministry within and beyond the church community, both here and overseas. (Heart for our City & the Nations)
- A Resource Church that focuses on church-planting using a variety of models. (Heart for our City)
- A Socially-Active Church that works for justice and gospel transformation in our city, nation and world. (Heart for our City & the Nations)
- A Compassionate Church that cares for those on the margins to bring wholeness of body mind and spirit through Jesus. (Heart for our City)
- An Intra-Cultural Church that is at ease with and celebrates its growing diversity under God; reaches the city's international communities with the love of Jesus; and sees more cultural diversity in our leadership and ministries. (Heart for our City & the Nations)
- A Culturally-Relevant Church that wins our families, friends neighbours and colleagues for Christ through people-centred and creation-affirming holistic evangelism. (Heart for our City)

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