



New Testament Church of God Faith Tabernacle

Moving Forward Together to Reach our Community for Christ

Our Mission & Vision Strategy

Revised & updated
2017 – 2021

“The Greatest Danger for most of us is not that we aim too high and we miss it, but we aim too low and reach it.”

- Michelangelo



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1. Introduction

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him" (2 Corinthians 2:9).

Our first Mission and Vision Strategy was adopted by members in conference on 5th July 2008; it sets out how we believe the Lord would lead us in pursuit of our missional mandate (Matthew 29:18-20) in the coming years. Over the past nine years we have seen much progress in building on the foundation that was already laid. We have achieved significantly more in some areas and less in others than we set out to do. For example, there has been a 50 percent growth in membership and a youth club that has grown significantly from six youth to between 20 and 30 young people in attendance at each session. Most of our young people now come from homes where neither parent attends church regularly or at all, and this opens up a rich harvest field for evangelism and mission.

We are not content with our achievements to date, as valuable as they are to the ministry of the church. We believe there is so much more God wants to do, and over the next four years (2018-2021), we aim to continue building on what we have already achieved at a much faster pace, strengthening and securing all that we set out to accomplish through the leading of the Holy Spirit. Proverbs 29:18 tells us that *"Where there is no vision, the people perish"* This text is crucial for the church in this day and hour, as we face numerous challenges on a socio-political scale, and in an age of growing apostasy.

There are some who believe that the church is no longer relevant to their needs and aspirations, or even to the prevailing social attitudes and beliefs of the day and would prefer a church with a more liberal religiosity. But the church is Ecclesia - "the called-out ones," and must seek to walk in true righteousness and holiness (Ephesians 4:24). Yet, the church must also seek to embrace all who would come to her for help and support, however they come and whatever they come for. In moving to new and larger premises, we aim to be a church in the community, for the community. Maintaining the right balance without compromise is quite a challenge, but achievable, as we seek to build a church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit that God can take pleasure in and be glorified.

Our second mission and vision strategy sets out our core objectives as a church in the contemporary arena. We restate our responsibilities of the Great Commission, as given by the Lord Jesus Christ, to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:20), and we also firmly restate our commitment to the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-39) to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbour as yourself". In these two Divine commands we find what we believe to be the five purposes of the church that will undergird our missional mandate for the next four years. These are (1) **Worship**, (2) **Discipleship**; (3) **Ministry**; (4) **Evangelism/Mission** and; (5) **Fellowship**, as we seek to mobilise and apply the total commitment of every member in fulfilling this vision, to the glory of God.

Our mission and vision strategy sit squarely within the realms of the *Mission and Ministry Christ Centred Vision* of the national church. It recognises and supports the seven pillars of that vision: Evangelism and Church Planting; Communication; Pastoral Responsibility; Social Responsibility, Discipleship, organisation Development; and Leadership Development.

We should not be afraid to dream BIG, or to walk by faith. Our dream to move to larger premises and widen our profile in the community will only be realized with God's help. Our strategy takes us up to Project 2021 – the 150th anniversary of our new church (the former St John the Evangelist), which was completed in 1871; and the 50th anniversary of the New Testament Church of God in Cheetham Hill – established in June 1971. Project 2021 will oversee a series of activities leading up to this date.

We believe that in every generation God calls people to make a difference to their world, and so we want to make a "Make a Big Difference" to our world here in Manchester. So, let us move forward together and reach our community for Christ.

Bishop H. McKenzie, Senior Pastor

2. Our Statements of Faith

What we believe

- 1.** In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
- 2.** In one God eternally existing in three persons namely, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
- 3.** That Jesus Christ is the one and only begotten Son of the Father conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, that Jesus was crucified, buried and raised from the dead. That He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the intercessor.
- 4.** That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, that repentance is commanded of God for all and is necessary for the forgiveness of sins.
- 5.** That justification, regeneration and the New Birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus.
- 6.** In sanctification subsequent to the New Birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
- 7.** Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people
- 8.** In the baptism with the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
- 9.** In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
- 10.** In water baptism by immersion and all who repent should be baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
- 11.** Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
- 12.** In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.
- 13.** In the pre-millennial second coming of Jesus. First to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
- 14.** In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked

3. Our Vision Statements

Our Mission Statement:

We will be relevant to the needs of the community as we grow larger, numerically and spiritually; and we will mobilise all the ministries of our church to *win the unsaved* for Christ: *membership* them into His family; develop them to *Christlike maturity*; empower and release them for *ministry* in the church and *mission* field, and be one in the Body of Christ, as we *magnify* God's name together.

Our Vision is to:

1. Be a church where the warmth of God's love is communicated in our actions and words, and no one is made to feel unwelcomed.
2. Mobilise every member to actively engage in evangelism and outreach in order to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the unchurched, and work so that our church become relevant to the needs of the community.
3. Inform and impact our youth for leadership and ministry; and actively seek to instil in them godly confidence and long-term commitment to our church. They are our future.
4. Prepare every person *for membership into the family of God, through our 'New Converts,' 'Membership' and 'Discipleship' programmes, as we develop them to Christ-like maturity.*
5. Help and encourage every member to discover and use their God-given gifts and talents; empower and release them for ministry in our church and the mission field.
6. Be a church where God is the centre of our worship, and His Shekinah glory is ever present.
7. Actively seek to grow larger, both numerically and spiritually, until the church is raptured.
8. Be a church where God's miraculous gifts of healing and deliverance are a regular occurrence.
9. Be a church where prayer and fasting is our daily spiritual food, and the Word of God is preached with conviction and without apology – *until all have heard.*

'I shall instruct you and teach you the way to go.'(Psalm 32:8)

4. A Caring & Compassionate Church

Theodore Roosevelt, the 26th President of the United States, once said "*People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.*" It suggests that the key to motivating others is empathy – seeing things through other's eyes and feeling their emotions. Colossians 3:12 provides us with the qualities that should mark the Christian's life: "*As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with **compassion**, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience...*" Compassion is a desire to free others from their suffering, as seen in the life and ministry of our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is called the sympathizing Jesus; the One who 'speaks the drooping heart to cheer.'

Every encounter Jesus had with hurting people during His early ministry was characterized by his compassionate touch. He was always moved to act on behalf of those whose hearts were broken and downcast; and overwhelmed with the cares of life. People were able to find in Him comfort, hope, and encouragement. His ear open and His heart prepared to soothe and sympathize. It is this compassion that drew the hurting crowds to Him. And we, too, are called to "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep" (Romans 12:15), and to display the characteristics of the 'Good Shepherd' and 'Good Samaritan' – Jesus Christ Himself. In so doing, we are to:

- a. **Put Aside Prejudices** – knowing that Jesus died for all people regardless of race, colour, religious, social or economic status, as seen in His ministry to the Samaritan woman (John 4:5-29), and the faith of Canaanite woman in Matthew 15.
- b. **Notice Other's Pain** - always looking for ways to serve others - *reaching out to them*. As Jesus told His disciples in Mark 6:37 when He saw the great multitude of people as sheep without a shepherd: "*Give them something to eat.*"
- c. **Take Time to be Compassionate** – having empathy. Empathy is the "The ability to enter into the pain experienced by the other person."
- d. **Get Involved** – committed to pastoral care. Roger Hurding defines pastoral care as 'the practical expression of the Church's concern for the everyday and ultimate needs of both its members and the community.' We must show how much we care.
- e. **Not Stingy** – be ready and willing to give. Jesus' golden rule: '*Do unto others as you would have them do to you*' (Matthew 7:12). Our giving does not necessarily have to be in monetary terms; it can be just a few minutes of our time – time to listen and offer a word of comfort and hope. As Jesus said "*As you have done unto the least of these, you have done unto Me*" (Matthew 25:40).
- f. **Communicate and listen without judging** – be approachable and let others know how much you care. We will not win the unsaved for Christ if we fail to communicate or listen. We are to repeatedly let people know they can come to us, and not judge them when they do.

Compassion is the glue that will bind us together. John Fawcett points to the power of compassion in his hymn, '**Blest Be The Tie That Binds**', when he writes: "*We share each other's woes, Each other's burdens bear, And often for each other flows, the sympathizing tear.*" In a world rife with brokenness and sorrow, compassion is one of the most powerful healing forces we have as a church. It is medicine for a heart that has been broken or a spirit crushed by rejection, and lack of love; and it is a key that opens doors that have been slammed shut by criticism and condemnation. Compassion heals deep wounds.

5. Explaining the Five Purposes of the Church

What do we mean by the five purposes of the Church? The Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-39), and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) set out the formula for doing ministry in our contemporary society. It is in these passages of Scripture that one finds the five purposes of the church clearly defined. For example, the Great Commandment to, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind' is **worship**, and 'love your neighbour as yourself' is **ministry**. In the Great Commission, making disciples is **evangelism/missions**, baptizing them is **fellowship**, and teaching them is **discipleship**. These are set out further below:

1. Worship:

- Worship is bringing pleasure to God by expressing our love to Him. We give priority to worship by providing resources to educate and inspire individual, family, and corporate worship experiences.

2. Ministry:

- Ministry is using our spiritual gifts to bless the church. Involving each church member in ministry opportunities within the church by helping them to discover and understand their spiritual gifts; and at the same time to be able to be moved with compassion and minister to the needs of those outside the church – the so-called 'lost sheep without a shepherd'.

3. Evangelism/Missions:

- Evangelism is reaching those who are without Christ. Our objective must be to train and equip members to win the unsaved for Christ; not sit back and wait for them to come to us, but go to them instead. Genuine kingdom growth is unlikely without evangelism, and it is for this very reason why purpose-driven churches are committed to the purpose of evangelism.

4. Fellowship:

- Fellowship is developing a dependence on God and each other. We must promote Biblical fellowship in the church by providing a hospitable atmosphere of openness and acceptance for our visitors and members. Fellowship is not just casual conversation, socializing, food and fun. Real fellowship is experiencing life together.

5. Discipleship:

- Discipleship is reproducing the character of Christ. It must be our objective to develop passionate, mature, obedient believers to love, trust, and obey God and to teach them how to win and train others to do the same.

This model of the five purposes of the church is seen in the First Century Church. In Acts 2:42-47 these five facets of a balanced, healthy church were a daily event: They fellowshiped, edified each other, worshipped, ministered, and evangelized. As a result, "... the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

As we set out the mission and vision of our church for the next five years, we know that God has already provided all the tools we need for ministry in these challenging times. We know that "...faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Following God's instruction manual, gives us that confident expectation that if we delight ourselves in the Lord, commit our way to Him and trust in Him also, not only will He give us the desires of our heart, but will also bring it to past (Psalm 37:4-5).

"With Christ the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work (Ephesians 4:16)."

6. Our Mission and the Five Purposes of the Church

6.1 Our Mission Statement

Underlying the mission for our church are three specific passages of Scripture taken from Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:41-47. They demonstrate our commitment to the mandate given by our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Our Mission Statement:

We will be relevant to the needs of the community as we grow larger, numerically and spiritually; and we will mobilise all the ministries of our church to *win the unsaved* for Christ: *membership* them into His family; develop them to *Christ-like maturity*; empower and release them for *ministry* in the church and *mission* field, and be one in the Body of Christ, as we *magnify* God's name together.

6.1.1 How does our Mission relate to the Five Purposes of the Church?

1. **Worship:** Worship is bringing pleasure to God by expressing our love to Him.

Our Mission:

- *To magnify God's name together – oneness, unity, fellowship*
- *To grow spiritually healthy churches, and mobilise our church for ministry and missions*

2. **Ministry:** Ministry is using our spiritual gifts to bless the church and respond to the needs of others.

Our Mission:

- *Empower and release people for ministry*
- *Informing and impacting our youth for leadership*
- *Be a church in the community, for the community.*

3. **Evangelism/Mission:** Evangelism is reaching those who are without Christ.

Our Mission:

- *Win the unsaved for Christ*
- *Evangelising extensively*
- *Delivering ministry and mission in our communities*
- *Offering hope and leadership to our community*

4. **Fellowship:** Fellowship is developing a dependence on God and each other.

Our Mission:

- *Membership in God's family and becoming one in the body of Christ.*
- *Growing spiritually healthy churches*

5. **Discipleship:** Discipleship is reproducing the character of Christ.

Our Mission:

- *Developing all members to Christ-like maturity*
- *Building confident, committed leaders*

7. Consolidating the Vision

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13)

The last seven years have seen both spiritual and numerical growth across all areas of our church. We are building and consolidating all spiritual gains so that the next five years will be a greater harvest.

7.1 Prayer and Fasting:

We believe that prayer and fasting is the key that unlocks doors and it will continue to undergird our every move. Prayer is important for at least three reasons: It is a channel of communication with God; it brings us into His presence and; it brings Him and His power into our situation. Jesus once told His disciples “... this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting” (Matthew 17:21). And since it is the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man that avails much (James 5:16), we need to pray and fast, by faith, that our vision will come to past. A prayer strategy for the church will be developed and put into place.

7.2 We welcome you and care about you too:

We care about the lost, and the Lord’s Great Commission is our mandate for evangelism and mission. Our primary motive is not to fill the pews of our church, but to populate the Kingdom of God. We know that we will often come across those who want to attend a local church. Where we direct people to Faith Tabernacle, it must be that they will not just be another number for the spiritual statisticians to record and analyse, but every effort made to embed them into the spiritual life and ministry of the church. In other words, we are not seeking bench warmers, but workers for the kingdom.

We are mindful that a first time church visitor makes up his or her mind within two to five minutes whether or not they want to stay. Not everyone feels comfortable entering a church for the first time, especially if they do not know anyone. We want to make sure that on entering the building, the first person a visitor meets is the welcoming face of a Greeter or Usher who can introduce them to someone and show them their seat, making sure they are comfortable and have everything they need for the service.

We remain keenly aware of our ‘cultural fit’ as we try to reflect the community we serve. A church in the community, for the community is our aim. We must rid ourselves of any labels the might limit our engagement and inclusiveness with the wider community. Instead, we want to be a church that welcomes and embraces people from all racial and cultural backgrounds, without compromising the Word of God. Too often churches turn people away because of their cultural and segregationist approach to ministry. The Gospel must be presented so that it is understood by everyone, and people are made to feel at ease joining in our worship. We must create an environment that is inviting not just to first time visitors, but to all those who attend services on a regular basis.

We care about people that they are given every opportunity to make a decision concerning their relationship with God. We realise that some people may come to church with no intention of making a decision to serve the Lord, but may be drawn by the Holy Spirit during the worship service or preaching of the Word. A call for prayer allows them to respond, in an appropriate way, to the stirring and urgings of the Holy Spirit. Others may want to come for prayer, not for salvation, but for other pressing needs: sickness, travelling or spiritual rededication. The call for prayer also allows appropriate others to minister to the needs of people.

Finally, we need to be mindful of health and safety issues and ensure that we do not contravene any health and safety regulations, and people's lives are not put at risk in an emergency. We will continue to undertake risk management exercises and evaluate how best to ensure good practice and procedures in all our activities.

7.3 Preaching the Word must be Christ centred, and Holy Spirit led

We must not be blind to the fact that many of the wounds of the enemy towards the church can come from the pulpit, if we fail to guard who stands in it to speak into our lives. Once words are spoken – especially if it is not of God, you can correct, but you cannot take them back. **All heads of department and ministry team leaders must check with the Senior Pastor first before engaging a speaker or any individual to do ministry, especially from outside our own local church for any event.** Guard the pulpit and protect the flock – at all times.

7.4 Teaching & Bible Study

Sound doctrinal teaching is the life-blood of a healthy church (Acts 2.42). Along with Bible Study, it allows us to refresh ourselves in the Word of God; to penetrate deeper, with more clarity and purpose. We will balance teaching and preaching of the Word in order to build up the saints: *“till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ”* (Ephesians 4:13-15). Come to church expecting to be edified.

We believe that as we try to walk and live a God-directed life, we must allow the Word of God to be a lamp to light our pathway; a compass and navigator as we walk the highway of Holiness.

Faith calls those things that are not as though they are; hope calls those things that are not with the confident expectation that they will.

8. Leadership and Ministry Structure

We have developed and consolidated many new ministries, and are seeking to plant and grow even more. Some areas of ministry remain undeveloped and unfilled and we want to ensure that these are suitably well established and allow God to choose the right person to lead each area of ministry.

The vision for our church will only be realized when: ‘WE’ ‘OUR’ and ‘US’ are embedded in the delivery mechanism, and everyone takes ownership and work steadfastly to ensure that the vision come to pass. God could have said ‘I will create man in My image,’ but He said instead, “Let us create man in our image, according to our likeness...” (Genesis 1:26). God desires that others should be involved, plurality in purpose, in the work of the church and not let it become the responsibility of just a single individual.

One of the challenges we face is the growing secularisation of society with all its quick-and-easy solutions to human woes. It can be very attractive to those without any firm spiritual foundation; a magnet that entices our young people and crushes the hope of those who have been waiting on the Lord for a Long time. If we want to retain our youth in order to develop them as future leaders; bring new members into our fellowship and teach others how to wait on the Lord, then we must develop a structure for leadership and ministry that is right and suitable for the contemporary arena. One that is relevant to the time and season, and different from that which the world offers.

We must, at all times, ‘strive for excellence’ and give our best in all that we do: in our worship services, fellowship and outreach and care ministry. God is too important to do otherwise; we should give Him only the best. As the phrase goes, “*Mediocrity is a sin where excellence is possible.*” We purpose to commit ourselves to excellence, and refuse to do anything on the cheap.

The leadership and ministry structure for our church include:

1. Church and Pastor’s Council
2. Departments
 - Administration and Finance
 - Youth & Christian Education
 - Men’s Life Builders Ministries
 - Women’s Ministries
 - Outreach and Care Ministries
 - Training and Discipleship
 - Creative Arts

This organisational structure takes on a particular significance as we are on the verge of moving to larger premises, which will see a rapid growth in church attendance/membership, concomitant with a busyness of some key ministry areas. This will certainly demand more resources – which, currently, can only come from members volunteering their time to support the work of the church.

Our training and development ministry will play a crucial in enabling members to be effective in the role God assigned to them. Those whom He calls, He equips, provides, qualifies and enables. Our effectiveness and success in the pursuit of this vision will be truly realized when all participants are fully equipped for ministry through:

- In-house / or external training and development programmes
- Leadership retreats and team building/planning events
- Prayer fellowship
- United in serving only for the glory of God, and not ourselves.

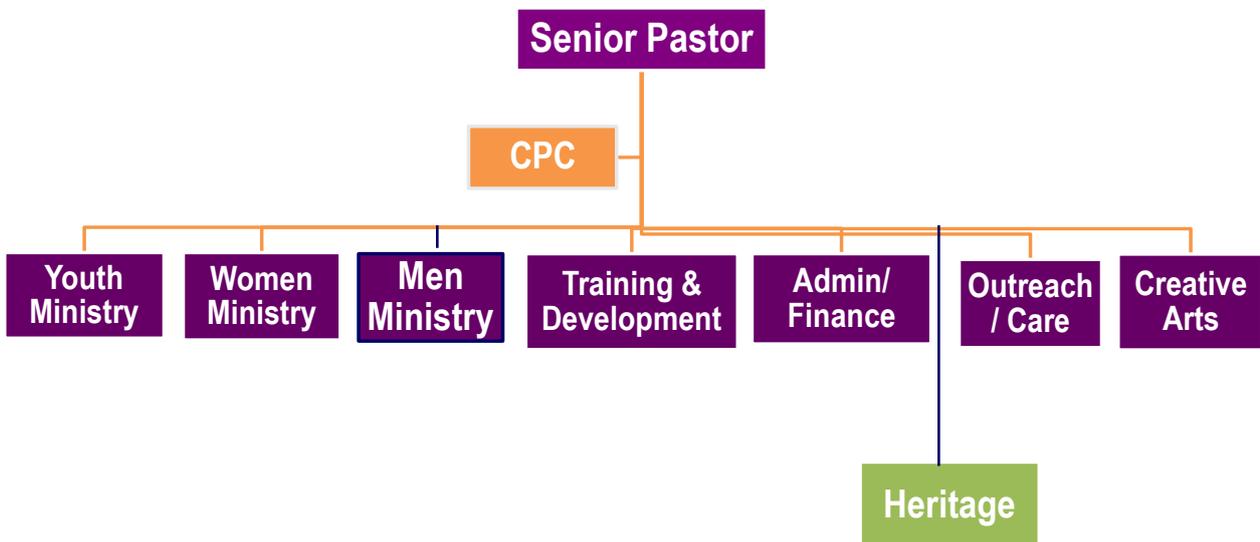
8.1 Structure of Individual Ministries

“In every generation God calls people to make a difference to their world”

1. Church and Pastors Council

The Church and Pastor’s Council (CPC) is elected biennially (and by ballot) by the governing body of the church, and consist of loyal members of the church. The Pastor serves as chairman of the Council, whose duties and responsibilities include assisting the Pastor in the institution and direction of the local church program such as:

- The spiritual needs and growth of the Church
- The proper management of the church’s finances
- The proper management of all church properties, including building.



2. Department of Youth and Discipleship

Department Lead: Director of Youth and Discipleship

The Department will equip its workers and leaders to effectively carry out their roles and responsibilities at all levels – national, district and local.

Responsibilities for our local Youth and Discipleship Department:

The Youth and Discipleship Director for NTCG Faith Tabernacle is responsible for organising and overseeing the following areas:

i. Youth Ministry

A youth programme that is relevant to the needs of all young people.

ii. Youth Club

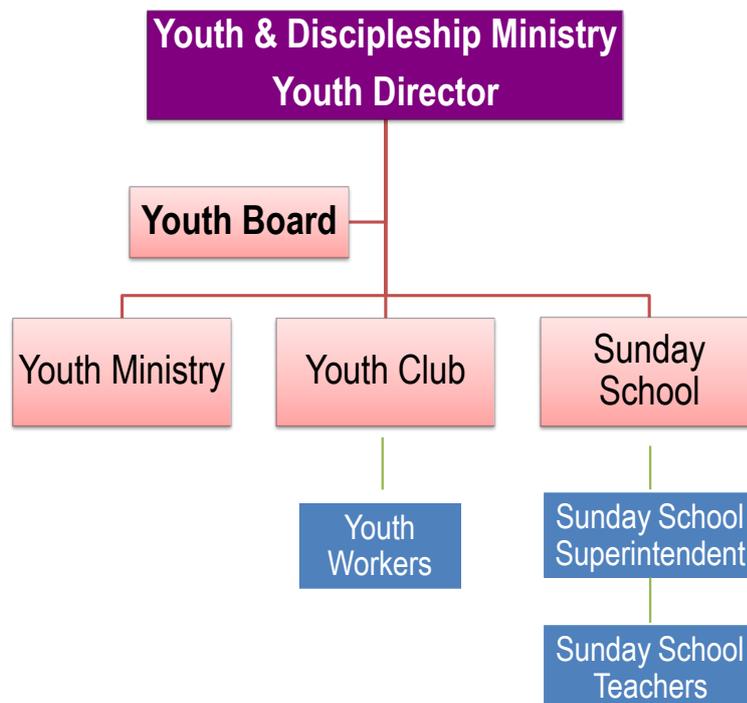
A weekly forum for young people to meet, under the direct supervision of responsible adult youth workers, where they can engage in social, spiritual, educational and physical activities.

iii. Sunday School

Leader: Sunday School Superintendent

The Sunday school represent the primary disciple-making forum in the local church, and is the initial platform for biblical training and development of both young people and adults attending the church. The Sunday School Superintendent and his/her assistant will supervise all Sunday School Teachers and; along with the Sunday School Secretary, carry out the work of this ministry.

A Youth Board will support the work of this ministry.



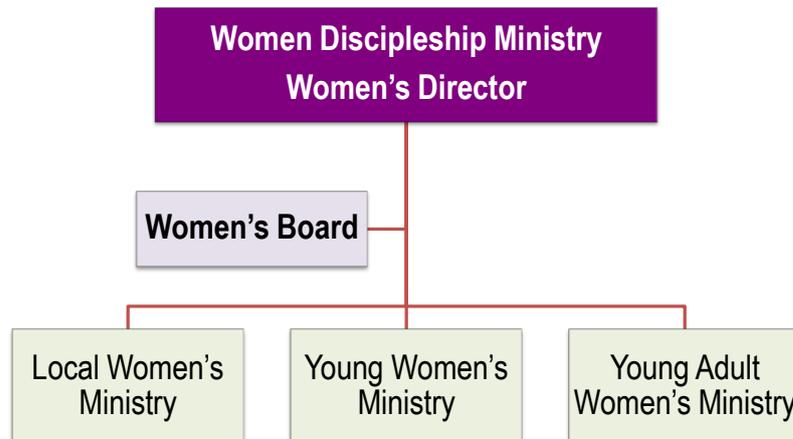
3. Women Discipleship Ministry

Department Lead: Director of Women Discipleship Ministry

“Impacting Women; Inspiring Change”: To assist women in developing a deeper understanding and relationship in God through worship, fellowship, training and leisure; and to enhance our relationship with the wider community by welcoming other cultures and organisations. Encourage spiritual growth, personal development, and leadership among women and to contribute to the general welfare of the home, church, community, and world.

Responsibilities for our local Women’s Ministries:

- i. **Local Women’s Ministry**
Responsible for organising women’s events, regular meetings and fellowship; taking part in national and district women’s programmes, support and encourage women members through visits and prayer, and helping to empower and release them for ministry.
- ii. **Young Women Ministry & Young Adult Women Ministry**
Bring together the young women of NTCG Faith Tabernacle in order to encourage and pursue each woman’s destiny through Christ according to the Great Commission; encourage recognition of spiritual gifts in each woman, her worth and potential in the kingdom; provide strategies for teaching and nurturing spiritual gifts and talents; support each woman in seeking opportunities and rising to challenges within the immediate church setting, the wider body of Christ and the local community with the authority and power of the Holy Ghost.



4. Men's Life Builders Ministry

Department Lead: Director of Men's Ministries:

Mission: To build better men with a Christ-like identity and foster a 'can do' approach to life.

Vision: To build confident disciples and leaders, to equip our men to serve our communities.

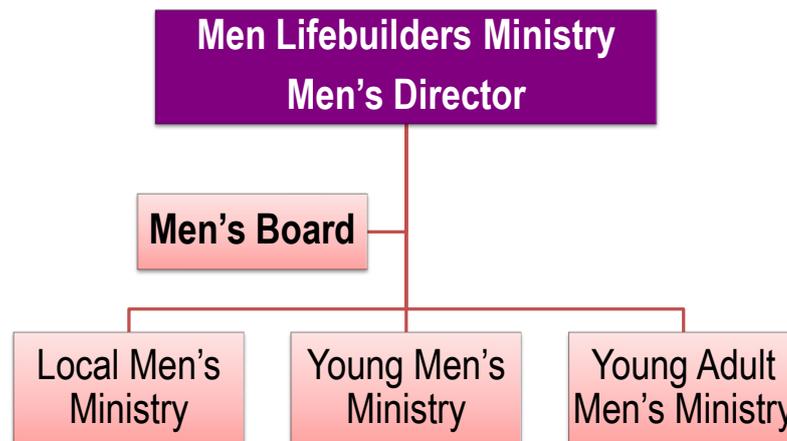
Responsibilities for our local Men's Ministries:

i. *Men's Lifebuilders Ministry*

Responsible for organising local men's events, regular meetings, social and fellowship, taking part in national and district men's programmes and support and encourage men through visits and prayer, and helping to empower and release them for ministry.

iii. *Young Men Ministry & Young Adult Men Lifebuilders Ministry*

The work of this ministry includes offering support, advice and encouragement to the young men and young adult men through regular meetings and fellowship; engaging them in the business of the men's life builders ministry locally, district and nationally. Striving to value, teach and empower our young men to be godly men that are responsible and effective in their church, communities, personal and social life.



5. Outreach and Care Ministries

Department Lead: Head of Outreach and Care Ministries

Mission of the Outreach and Care Ministries

To proactively reach all sections of the community in demonstrating the love of Christ to them and contribute to an environment that makes people feel safe and secure, and helps them to grow in God's grace.

The foundation Scripture for this ministry is Matthew 25:35-37, 40 (NKJV)

"For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me." "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'"

5.1 Responsibilities of the Outreach and Care Ministries include:

a) *Evangelism Team:*

The Evangelism Team brings the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the wider community in Manchester. The tasks include street evangelism, door to door work, leafleting, and open air preaching/recitals. The Team will contribute to the annual evangelism programme for the church and ensure that God's message of salvation also reach those who may never have considered coming through the doors of our church.

The Team will also *Follow-Up* people who have been led to Christ through the ministry of our church or referred to us from other ministries. They will seek to make contact within 48 hours of a person accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour, or a referral received, and offer spiritual support and guidance and help them to become established in the faith by referring them to the New Converts or Membership Class.

b) *Pastoral Care and Support Team:*

The Pastoral Care and Support Team provides care and support to individual members of the congregation, as well as to anyone who calls upon the church for help of this kind. The Team will offer spiritual support and guidance, and ensure an environment for people to come and share in confidence and without judgment to enable them to receive God's wholeness and deep healing into their lives; and offer practical support such as:

- Visiting the housebound
- Visiting the sick at home or hospital
- Helping with some practical tasks
- Bereavement support
- Marriage mentoring and support
- Counselling service

c) *Community / Ecumenical Outreach Team:*

Develop and maintain links with other Christian denominations, and involvement in local faith-based initiatives, such as Churches Together, that help meet the needs of the community.

d) *Prayer Ministry Team*

Coordinate the mid-week prayer meetings and prayer services for special occasions.

e) ***Altar Ministry Team***

The altar ministry is open to the unhindered move of the Holy Spirit, flowing in the anointing, under the authority of the Pastor/leader of the meeting. The Team aim to facilitate the move of the Holy Spirit:

- Release God's love, healing, encouragement and deliverance to those who indicate a desire for prayer.
- Strengthen, encourage and comfort.
- Help to avoid confusion, offense or harm

They are equipped and trained to assist the officiating minister to minister to people during an altar call. The call is normally for salvation, but it may also be for healing and deliverance. Altar workers make people who come forward for ministrations feel comfortable and minister to those who give their life to Christ.

f) ***Hospitality Ministry Team***

When you come to our church, a representative from the Hospitality Ministry Team will be your first point of contact. The ministry of this team will serve all visitors and member constituents with a spirit of excellence. The aim is to help make everyone's time at our church an enjoyable, life-changing and empowering experience. Everyone must feel special irrespective of background or culture, as we "show God's love in our action and words."

The Hospitality Ministry Team consists of the following areas:

i. Greeters:

Our greeters are the first persons you are likely to come in contact with upon arrival at our church. They are positioned at the church entrance, and provide a warm welcome to everyone attending our services. Additionally, they also distribute the weekly "Programme of Service", assist with directing people to their seats, and answer any questions or enquiries visitors may have on their arrival.

ii. Ushers:

Ushers welcome everyone attending our church, and direct them to appropriate seating, whilst ensuring that appropriate seating is available. They collect the tithes and offering at the appropriate time, and control the flow of movements in and out of the Sanctuary, especially during the preaching of the Word.

They are equipped and trained to remain attentive and responsive to the needs of the worshippers, and provide assistance to not only the preacher, but to the entire congregation to function in order, harmony, love and reverence toward the Spirit of God. They strive to ensure that each person will have a pleasant experience during and after the service, and aim to facilitate an atmosphere that allows the presence and supernatural power of God to flow freely, giving the Holy Spirit complete freedom to have His Way by showing the love of God in their action and words.

iii. Catering:

Overseeing the preparation and presentation of food for consumption during social events, where catering is required, and ensuring that they are guided by food hygiene and health and safety, along with a commitment to quality and excellence in food preparation and presentation.

iv. First Aid:

Ensure that the first Aid box is suitably well stocked so that in the event of an emergency, prompt and immediate attention can be provided until other professional help is acquired, if necessary. Members of the First Aid Team are trained in the delivery of first aid and minister in a caring, compassionate and professional manner.

v. Hygiene:

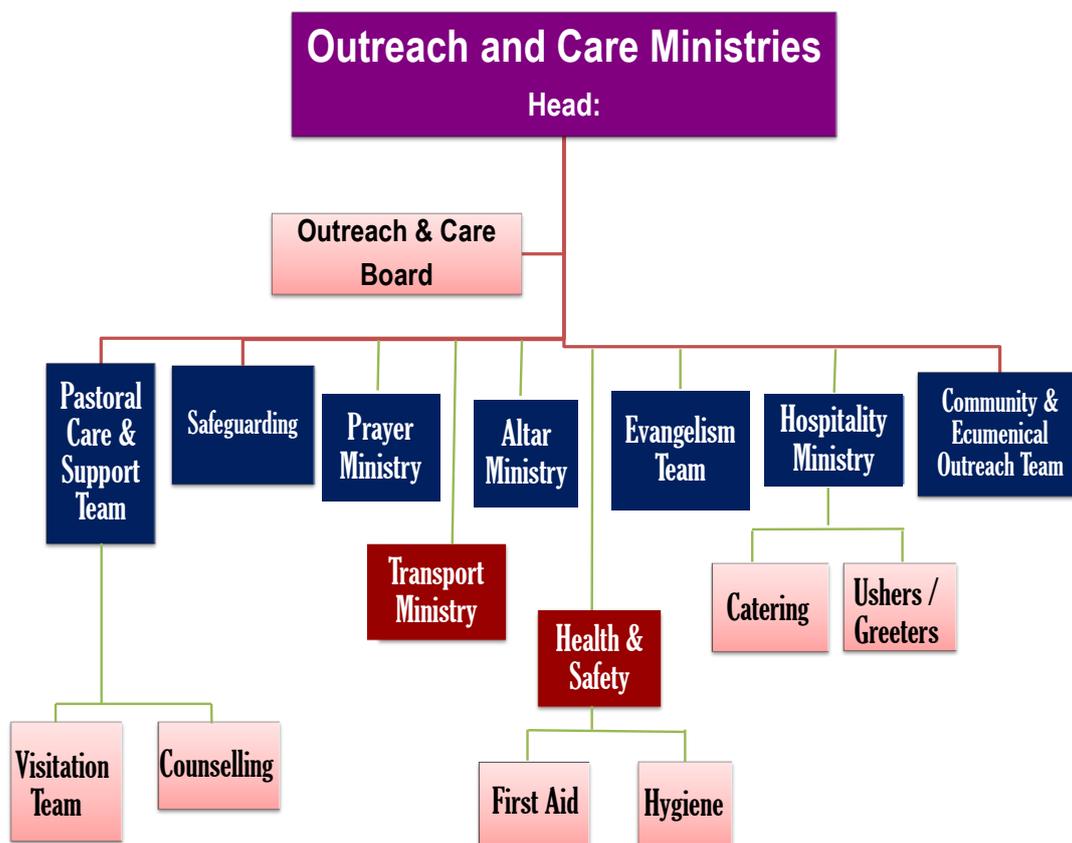
A commitment to making the physical environment for worship pleasant for our visitors is the primary aim of this ministry team. The team works to the highest quality and standard, adhering to health and safety standards at all times, in making and keeping the premises clean, tidy and hygienic for the benefit of everyone

g) Safeguarding Lead

The Safeguarding Lead will work with the leadership team to provide expertise, advice, guidance, oversight and training as well as to promote a healthy culture of safeguarding. The Safeguarding Lead will have responsibility for all safeguarding policies and procedures, and will plan and deliver safeguarding training to all members, especially those working with vulnerable adults and children, and will be responsible for liaison with the statutory authorities.

h) Transportation Ministry

Responsible for providing a safe and convenient way for seniors, youth, and physically challenged members to attend various church services and functions, including members who may have difficulty travelling by public transport, and oversee the proper use and maintenance of the Church Minibus.



6. Creative Arts Ministry

Department Lead: Head of Creative Arts Ministry

“Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.” (Psalm 150:6 KJV)

Worship and music is one of the strongest areas of the church, and must be performed under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The Creative Arts Ministry helps to facilitate an atmosphere of praise and worship in our services using all the aspects of the arts to enable the free flowing power of the Holy Spirit. This ministry provides an outlet for artistic expression of various kind and allow individuals to use their gifting to honour God and bless His people. Teams within the Creative Arts Ministry include

i. Music Ministry

Music forms a main part of the service, contemporary in style but consecrated in performance. The music must also be qualitative in instrumentation with clarity in its message. Songs are inspirational, impacting on the lives of people as they offer themselves in praise and worship to God. The music ministry is committed to stirring up believers in true worship and praise and spreading the gospel through songs.

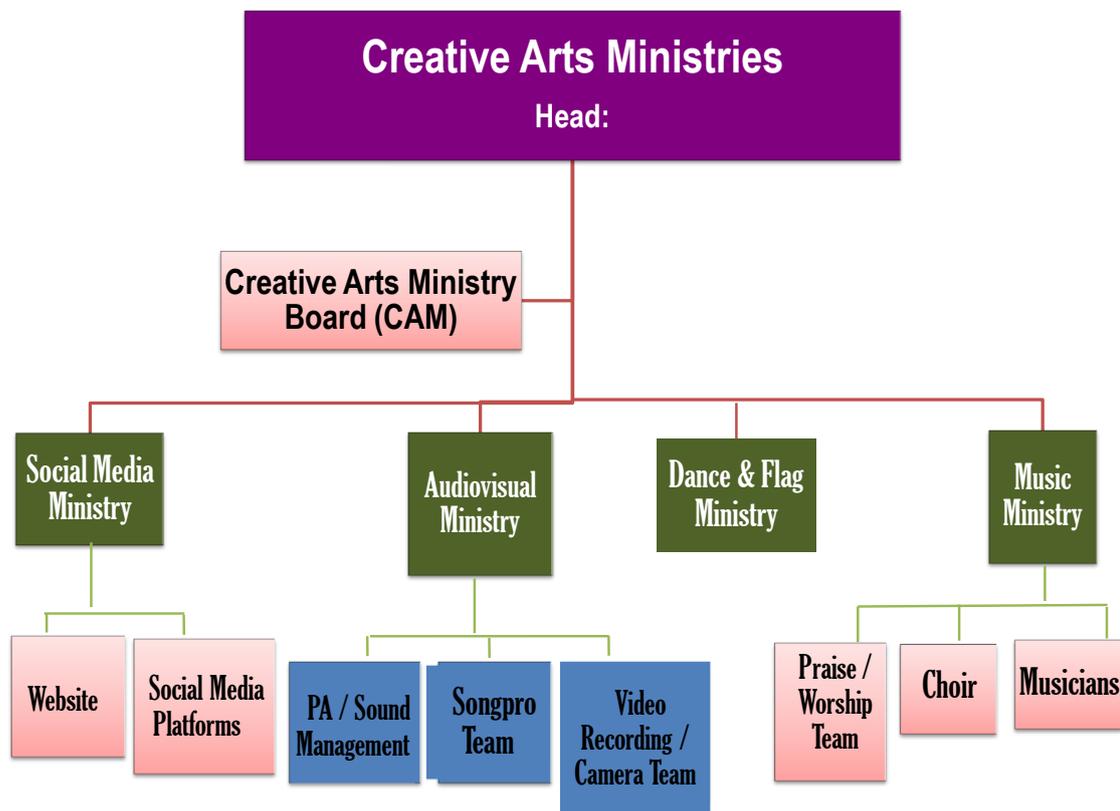
- a) **Musicians:** Support the worship team and choir with musical accompaniment during services, or other events, with an understanding of the power that music brings to change the atmosphere, especially where worship is involved. The Musicians team also brings the opportunities to encourage, facilitate and develop musical talent to service God’s Kingdom with a spirit of excellence in keeping with 2 Chronicles 34:12.
- b) **Praise and Worship Team:** to lead the congregation into praise and worship. The team helps to set a receptive mood and atmosphere before the speaker comes to the pulpit.
- c) **Choir:** to minister in songs during regular weekly services or on special occasions and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ through songs.

ii. Audio visual Ministry

To assist in the further transmission of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by providing support to the worship team and congregation with visual on screen presentation of song lyrics and Bible passages during the worship service. Equally, provide slide presentation; video presentation and other graphic imagery to enhance worship, teaching or other specified church activities. Maintain the proper functioning of the recording and sound output equipment, especially during services.

iii. Website and Social Media Ministry

To oversee the design, update and management of the church website and social media pages: Facebook and Twitter, and working closely with other ministry teams to ensure that news/events bulletins are published and removed when outdated.



7. Administration and Finance

Department Leads: Head of Administration and Head of Finance

Maintain all official church records and prepare financial reports and documents that might be required by such official bodies such as the Inland Revenue or Charity Commission, or the National Head Office, or any other recognised and relevant body. Oversee the day to day administration and financial management of the church, as directed by the Senior Pastor

Responsibilities within this ministry:

i. Church Administrator and Assistant Administrator

The work of this ministry includes dealing with correspondence on a local, district and national level. Prepare minutes and agendas for members' conference. Maintain an up to date membership list and assisting the Pastor in carrying out the administrative tasks of the church. The importance of this ministry must not be undermined.

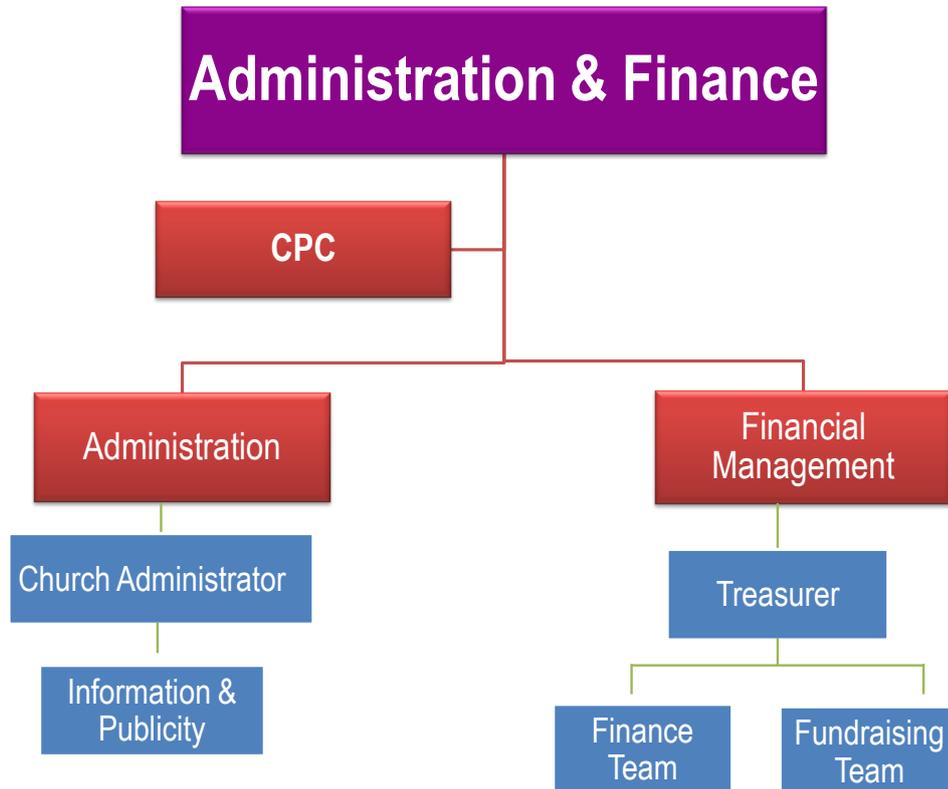
ii. Treasurer and Finance Committee:

Receive and prepare all monies for banking. Keep up to date records of all monies received and banked, including tithes. Prepare financial reports and other budgetary requirements for the Pastor's Council, members' conference, assisting departments/ministry teams with budgetary advice, and giving advice on various fundraising events/initiatives, so as to increase resources for the pursuit of the work of the church. Prepare monthly reports and financial returns for the national office, as directed.

iii. Information and Publicity

Prepare weekly bulletins, or leaflets and posters as appropriate, of services, events and activities taking place locally, district-wide and nationally that members would have an interest in attending. To ensure that these are prepared for the multimedia on screen announcements, and programme bulletins are available for handing out to members/visitors during morning service.

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31 (NIV)



8. Heritage Project

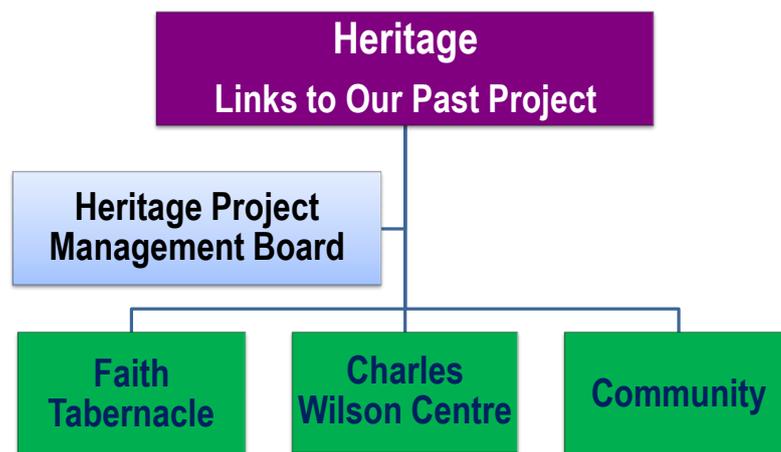
Lead: Heritage Project Manager:

Mission: To develop and manage the heritage project of Faith Tabernacle (The former St John the Evangelist Church), leading to the 150th anniversary celebrations of the church and the 50th anniversary celebrations of the New Testament Church of God in Cheetham Hill in June 2021.

Responsibilities of the Heritage Project:

- ii. ***Faith Tabernacle:***
Overseeing the full restoration of the church, via a successful HLF bid and other funding streams; developing links with local agencies and groups, including schools, colleges and the local community to participate in, and benefit from, the heritage of the church. And oversee the preparation for the 150th anniversary celebrations in June 2021.

- iv. ***New Testament Church of God in Cheetham Hill***
Oversee Project 2021: the preparation for the 50th anniversary celebrations, jointly with the 150th anniversary in June 2021.



9. Training and Discipleship Ministry

Department Lead: Head of Training and Discipleship

The mission of the Training and Discipleship Ministry:

This ministry has a twofold aim: (1) To prepare Christians to serve, by empowering and releasing them for ministry – either in their own local church or on the mission field and; (2) prepare new believers for membership and lifelong growth in the Body of Christ.

1. New Converts Programme:

a. New Converts Foundational Course:

This is a 12-week course that prepares new converts in basic Christian disciplines, practices and biblical knowledge, as well as preparing them for their water baptism.

b. Membership Class:

This is a 4-week course that prepares individuals after their water baptism, or in some cases, if they are transferred from another denomination or NTCC church, for membership into our fellowship.

c. Discipleship and Nurture

The Discipleship and Nurture programme aims to provide further Christian study and biblical knowledge for new and maturing Christians in various formats such as group sessions and one-to-one. It is ongoing and less formal and structured, in terms of a timetable and a specific programme of study. Hence, it is more flexible and responsive to individual needs and aspirations as they endeavour to become more rooted in Christian disciplines, practices and Bible knowledge.

2. Ministry Empowerment Programme

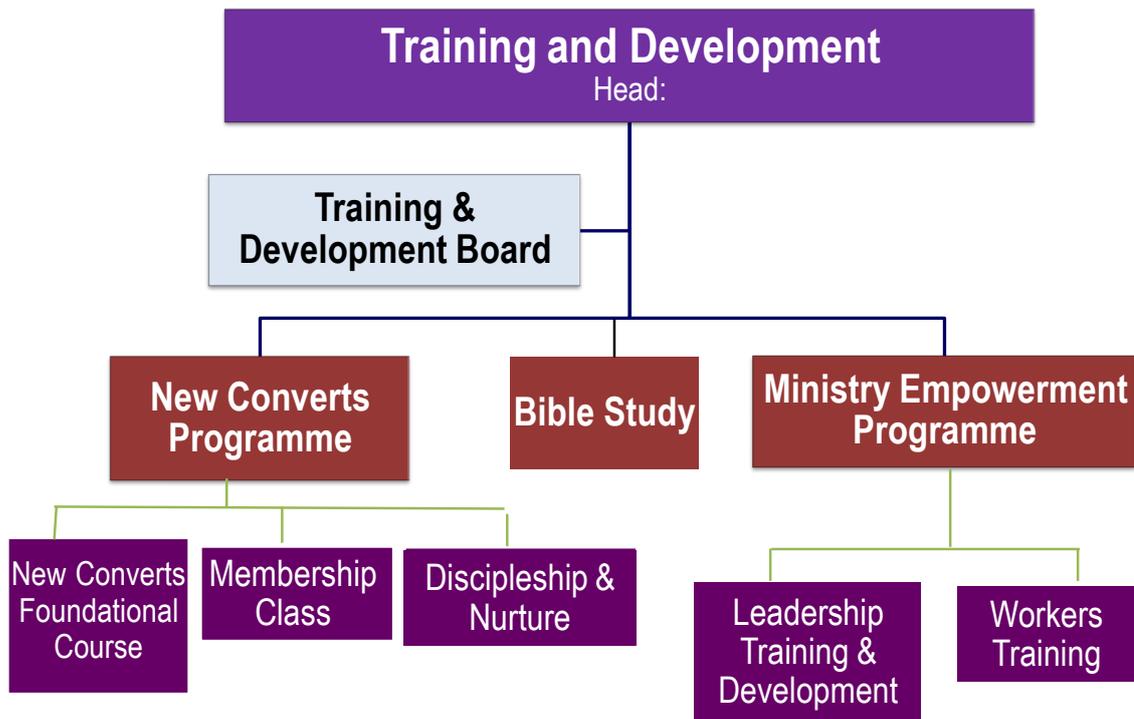
The aim of this ministry is to train people to reach their full potential in Christ and excel in every dimension of their lives. The programme aims to equip them with knowledge, skills and attitudes to be fruitful in ministry and successful in life via workers seminars, leadership seminars, and through links with external programme providers such as the courses currently provided by the national Leadership Training Centre in Northampton.

a. Workers Training

Aims to develop practical skills of all workers in every area of ministry, challenging them to excel in all they do and ensuring that they continue to receive training in order to enable them to function to the glory of God in their ministry.

b. Leadership Training and Development

Help leaders and those with leadership potential identify their specific calling, and provide appropriate training on leadership skills and development for all heads of ministries, enabling them to fulfil their potential and function to the glory of God.



“If we must dream, dream **BIG** that only God can bring it to pass.”

I am watching over my Word to perform it (Jeremiah 1:12)

9. Priorities for 2017-2021

1. Action Plan for the Mission and Vision Strategy developed and implemented
2. Develop and implement a prayer strategy for the church.
3. Move a larger building (Faith Tabernacle) and secure the retention of our current property to maintain our existing programme of activities, and enable greater numerical and spiritual growth to take place.
4. Successful implementation of the current HLF grant funding
5. Develop a successful HLF bid, along with resources from other funding streams for Project 2021 - the 150th and 50th anniversary celebrations in 2021.
6. Ministry and leadership structure and portfolios fully implemented, including putting in place an administration and finance team.
7. A church with signs and wonders following.
8. Evangelism Strategy developed and implemented
9. Evangelism / Mission: hold one Evangelism Outreach event every year
10. Double in membership by December 2019, and a numerical growth of at least 25 percent each year thereafter.
11. Spiritual growth of members: a Holy Ghost filled church: Every member baptised in the Holy Spirit, or actively seeking the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
12. Identify our calling and '*set forth*' for ministry those called to serve.
13. Robust leadership training and personal development programme – local, district and national, and ensure active and increased participation of individual members.
14. Develop a welcoming culture / ensure a 'cultural fit.
15. Safeguarding policy fully implemented throughout all ministries
16. Teaching and Bible study fully embedded, with increased attendance
17. Numerical and spiritual growth of musicians and worship team to ensure a good Worship experience for everyone attending our services
18. Youth programme and Sunday school fully established: recruit more youth workers, teachers and increase number of Sunday school classes.
19. Development/coordination of church website and social media
20. Fundraising Strategy developed and implemented
21. Actively pursue the **spirit of excellence**.
22. A church in the community, for the community: being relevant to the needs and aspirations of the community without compromise; moving forward together to win our community for Christ.

10. Accountability

Accountability demonstrates our willingness to be transparent in all that we do. It is a system for evaluating and affirming the progress of our vision, and allows members to receive feedback from those in leadership. We will do this through:

1. Monthly Meetings of the Church and Pastors' Council
2. Members conference
 - a. *Approval of all major disbursements*
 - b. *Confirming ministry appointments*
 - c. *'Setting forth' applicants for ministry*
 - d. *Other*
3. Department's Boards / or meetings
4. Report from heads of Department to members' conference
5. Pastor's report
6. Administrative & Financial reports – to the Church and Pastor's Council and Members
7. HLF monitoring reports

11. Our Mission & Vision Statements in a Nutshell

We will become relevant to the needs of the community and grow larger, numerically and spiritually, through:

- God-centred worship
- Pursuing ministry orientation of all members
- Evangelism/missions to win the lost for Christ
- United in Fellowship
- Discipleship towards Christ-like maturity

Our Vision:

1. Show God's love in our actions and words.
2. Bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the unchurched.
3. Prepare our youth for godly leadership and ministry
4. Attain Christ-like maturity through discipleship.
5. Empower and release people for ministry
6. God-centred worship, so that His glory fills our church
7. Become relevant to the needs of the community, and grow larger, numerically and spiritually.
8. Healing and deliverance is evident in our church
9. Live by prayer and fasting; and preach the Word without compromise – *until all have heard.*