

Titmuss Avenue Baptist Church: Vision 2022

Why vision?

As a church we need a clear idea of our purpose both now and in the future so that we are moving in the right direction. The following document explains where we, as a leadership, want to be in 10 years time. This is not a prediction or a rigid plan set in stone that cannot be changed. It is, however, an attempt to set out what we as a church want to look like in 2022 so helping us to pray, labour and prioritise to that end.

'Titmuss Avenue Baptist Church' is not a building, social gathering nor a series of meetings but a community of people God has saved and brought together. We exist to serve God where He has placed us and to strengthen each other. In all we do we seek to worship Christ - seven days a week, not just one.

Vision Statement: by 2022 . . .

*We see TABC as a multi-ethnic community of 'disciple-making disciples' of Christ and a living signpost to God's kingdom in Thamesmead, seen in **Christ Centred Leadership, Committed Discipleship, Comprehensive Mission, Compassionate Church Culture and Community Action.***

(a) Christ Centred Leadership: a multi-ethnic and diverse leadership with a clear sense of mission and identity that

- i. is prayerful, provides clear and engaging teaching, and overall pastoral care, identifies gifts and equips the congregation, hands-on involvement in evangelism, discipleship and service.
- ii. develops future leaders (e.g. apprentices, training placements, additional paid ministry if possible)

(b) Committed Discipleship: a central focus on growing together in following Christ in all areas of life and in leading others to Him, using various means and structures to attain this (relevant teaching, promotion/development of relevant courses, mentoring).

(c) Comprehensive Mission: a well taught, mature community that is praying, evangelistic, caring and active in mission through an "Acts 1:8" mission strategy: "You will be my witnesses in . . ."

- i. 'Jerusalem' (the local area) – seeking growth of TABC through multiplying house groups and other evangelistic endeavours, aiming to plant one or more self-supporting congregations (e.g. West Thamesmead/Royal Arsenal, North/South Thamesmead) and/or helping to revive a church in our area.
- ii. 'Judea' (the rest of London/Kent/UK) – support of nearby churches with gifts and people in ways that lead to more established and growing congregations; supporting people in (and sending people into) UK based mission situations or church plants.
- iii. 'Samaria' (the 'harder to reach' people groups nearby) – engagement with local ethnic communities in SE London e.g. focussed mission work among Muslim or Sikh community.
- iv. 'Ends of the earth' (the world) – active interest, knowledge and support of world mission involving regular prayer, significant giving, promoting and encouraging short-term mission opportunities, support of long term mission partners.

(d) Compassionate Church Culture: a lively, pastoral, open fellowship with evangelistic zeal that has

- i. culturally relevant church meetings where God's presence is known and all are truly welcome, with mature acceptance of eclectic musical styles, meaningful and engaging songs and liturgy, faithful word ministry and appropriate means to express e.g. joy, contemplation, repentance etc.
- ii. Ministry structures that are appropriate, flexible and adaptable according to the congregation's and community's needs (e.g. children, youth, elderly, internationals etc.).

(e) Community Action: a caring group working constructively when appropriate with other agencies or groups to meet local social needs e.g. English teaching, care for those with addictions, support for those with disabilities or the elderly, homework clubs, marriage courses, hosting and/or supporting local educational & vocational schemes and community improvement (rubbish clearance, DIY etc.).

*By God's abundant and enabling grace, may TABC truly be a church that is growing, caring and sharing.
Colossians 1v9-14*

TABC Vision 2022

We intend by God's help to become a fellowship of people who follow Jesus who are...

Growing in love for God and in Christ-like character

Caring for one another and for the local community

Sharing the good news of Christ's life, death and resurrection

We intend to do this through...



(1) **Christ Centred Leadership:** We aim to encourage and raise up servant hearted leaders to equip the church



(2) **Committed Discipleship:** We aim to develop a growing likeness to Christ and to use the gifts he gives us



(3) **Comprehensive Mission:** We aim to proclaim Jesus as Lord through supporting local, marginal, national and global mission



(4) **Compassionate Church Culture:** We aim to be a diverse community demonstrating God's love towards one another



(5) **Community Action:** We aim to use the resources and opportunities God gives us to meet local social needs