

BLOCKHOUSE BAY
COMMUNITY CHURCH

CALLING & CULTURE DREAMS & STRATEGIES

ON A MISSION WITH GOD

REAL PEOPLE



REAL LIFE

BLOCKHOUSE BAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

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OUR CALLING

As a local Christian church, we exist to serve God in our community, and have influence throughout our nation and around the world. We believe our church has a calling which explains God's purposes for us in general terms.

**WE'RE CALLED BY GOD TO BE A TANGIBLE
EXPRESSION OF JESUS TO THE WORLD,
EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT TO PROCLAIM THE
GOSPEL, RECONCILE LOST PEOPLE BACK TO
GOD, AND TRANSFORM THEM INTO FULLY
DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST.**

This calling will find expression throughout a range of different ministries in the life of the church. New ministries will develop and existing ministries will be adapted and refined to meet the changing needs of our world and the growth and expansion of our church. In these times of constant change our calling will remain the same - Jesus Christ will always be central in everything we do.

Matthew
28:18-20

OUR CULTURE

As we find ways of fulfilling God's call on our lives, we will encourage a clearly Christian culture consistent with a church who lives under the leadership of Jesus Christ.

Inspired by the phrase *Real People, Real Life* our culture will be characterised by genuine, truthful, and transparent relationships with God, ourselves, and others, and we will pursue the fullness of life God offers through faith in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit's empowering



Our culture will inspire people, encourage people, and transform people to become all they can be in Christ, and to live for God in ways that will influence our world.

Our culture is the nature and character of Blockhouse Bay Community Church - it's who we are and who we're seeking to become and is expressed though the following statements:

OUR CULTURE

- ⊙ **ACCEPTS AND VALUES PEOPLE OF ALL CULTURES, BACKGROUNDS AND AGE GROUPS**
- ⊙ **HONOURS THE BIBLE AS GOD'S WORD**
- ⊙ **INSPIRES CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS OF WORSHIP**
- ⊙ **ACTIVELY ENGAGES IN PRAYER**
- ⊙ **DEMONSTRATES CHRISTIAN CHARACTER IN ALL SPHERES OF LIFE**
- ⊙ **EQUIPS IT'S PEOPLE FOR LIFE AND MINISTRY**
- ⊙ **ENCOURAGES EVERY PERSON TO USE THEIR GIFTS AND TALENTS**
- ⊙ **PROVIDES A CONTEMPORARY EXPRESSION OF OUR FAITH**
- ⊙ **DEMONSTRATES SERVANT LEADERSHIP**
- ⊙ **STRENGTHENS THE FAMILY**
- ⊙ **PRACTICES FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP AND GENEROSITY**
- ⊙ **FACILITATES FRIENDSHIPS FOR EVERYONE**
- ⊙ **ENCOURAGES TEAM WORK**
- ⊙ **WORKS TOGETHER WITH OTHER LIKE-MINDED CHURCHES AND MINISTRIES**
- ⊙ **COMMITTS TO GLOBAL EVANGELISM**
- ⊙ **RESPECTS OUR CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE AFFILIATION**
- ⊙ **ENCOURAGES EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING**

DREAMS

On 28th August, 1963, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C., Rev Martin Luther King Jnr. began to speak to a huge crowd of people gathered for a Civil Rights march. During this speech he coined the now famous words “I have a dream” as he outlined his hopes for racial equality in the USA. His speech has been an inspiration to thousands of people around the world, both those who have fought for racial equality, and those, like myself, who have a dream about something bigger than themselves, a dream of something great that can only be possible when it comes from the heart of God.



Having been part of Blockhouse Bay Community Church for over 20 years, and in Pastoral ministry here since 1996, God has placed within my heart a dream of what our church can become and how we can fulfill our redemptive potential. The following statements capture the heart of this dream and will hopefully inspire you to join with us to fulfill God’s plan for BBCC.

I dream about...

A **large community Church** that’s international and intergenerational with hundreds of people gathering regularly committed to being real people seeking the real life Jesus offers.

I dream about...

A **high quality building** which provides for a vast range of activities and people groups, especially children and youth. This facility will be a landmark in our community which serves the people around us and maximizes our available land so wisely purchased over 30 years ago by our founding members.

I dream about...

A church that is **passionate about prayer** where every person is developing a strong prayer life, every small group committed to praying for their members, every family represented at our monthly prayer gatherings, and a network of prayer warriors covers every person, every need, and every ministry.

I dream about...

A church which is **free in it's worship expression**. Where pride, fear, doubts, and inhibitions are replaced by a passion and a hunger for God which produces a God honouring, truth inspired, heartfelt, life changing response to God in all our gatherings.

I dream about ...

A **huge local harvest** where we see people coming to Christ in significant numbers who have connected with us through our community ministries and our own personal networks.

I dream about ...

A **church with global vision** who invests significantly in Overseas Missions. This will include regular short term mission trips, the adoption of several missions projects, and a rising interest and practical concern for the world around us.

I dream about...

Being part of a **large church that is also a big family**. A place where everyone is welcomed, accepted, invited into deeper friendship, and encouraged to reach their potential in Christ.

STRATEGIES

Our Leadership Team is currently working on the following areas of ministry:

Administration

Formulate Policy and Procedures manual for key operational areas of BBCC; Rewrite Church Bylaws and distribute to all Members; Restructure AGMs to be more efficient and more future focused.

Children's Ministry

Work with our new Children's Ministry Director to get he established and begin redevelopment of the ministry; Develop Trailblazers into a Junior Youth Group with regular social activities and Sunday morning Small group; Relaunch Holiday Clubs in Term 1, 2009.

Communication

Complete a temporary upgrade of the church website; Establish a Web Design Team and begin a process of major upgrading for 2009.

Equipping

Offer targeted equipping courses which meet needs of people both within the church and our community on a regular basis (i.e. Marriage Course, Parenting course); Develop the "Small Groups Under One Roof" concept; Start a Christian Resource Centre to make resources accessible to everyone at BBCC; Develop a discipleship process which enables everyone to be involved in personal, intentional discipleship.

Outreach

Establish an Outreach team for local evangelism initiatives.

Pastoral Care

Consider ways of providing better care and support to the Group Leaders themselves.

Prayer

Establish a second monthly Prayer Meeting; Provide ongoing training and encouragement for Prayer Ministry teams.

Property

Establish a property maintenance system for our three properties; Form a property maintenance team to spearhead future R&M; Work with architect on master plan of BBCC site redevelopment

Special Events

Establish the "Global Fusion" Fundraising Dinner to support the work of overseas missions (India this year's recipients); Continue to establish the Christmas Cracker event and seek Council funding to enable expansion and greater impact of the event.

Worship Team

Establish Thursday night practices and the formulation of two specific Worship Teams.

Youth Ministry

Restructure Youth leadership, Establish a Mid week Small Group for Youth; Maintain a monthly social activity and revamp the monthly Sunday night Youth services

Global Impact

Work with the CMA to develop their Global Missions strategies; Send a short term mission team to India in 2008 with a view to maintain long term contact and financial support (see *Global Fusion* under Special Events).