

# Vision 2010





# From the Senior Minister

Dear Friends,

It was a great honour and privilege to accept the position as the Senior Minister at St George North in January 2008. One of the reasons I accepted the position at St George North is because of Vision 2010. St George North has a direction and goals that we work towards together under God. These goals have been worked out by the people of the church through careful study of the Scriptures. Vision 2010 is not an imposed vision, instead it was worked out by the people of St George North.

However, we are now nearly at the year 2010. The majority of our current church members (including the Senior Minister!) were not in our church when Vision 2010, our ten-year strategic plan, was launched. The time is now coming to move forward in the light of Vision 2010 and take new opportunities. The Ministry Coalition is now beginning to think to the future and ask 'Where to next?' for St George North.

Vision 2010 was launched in October 1999 and arose out of the combined work of our Ministry Coalition and most of our church members from the former Parish of Carlton. Together we decided on the way forward. In December 2003 our members from the former Provisional Parish of Bexley and Bexley North were offered partnership in our mission in an amalgamation. Since then the new church of St George North has been blessed by the direction, guidance and vision that our ten-year plan provides.

Vision 2010 details why we exist as a church, what we dream of becoming, our guiding principles or values, and our core strategies. St George North is characterised by the fact that we are one parish with multiple locations: Carlton Public School, St George Bank Auditorium, Christ Church Bexley, Holy Trinity Bexley North, and St James' Carlton. These congregations, and any new

congregations we plant in the future, share a common leadership team and financial resources. In addition, each congregation can only exist with the prayer and support of the members of the other congregations. Through our various congregations and the dozens of ministries related to those gatherings we will continue to be a church that brings people into God's kingdom, builds members towards Christian maturity and sends believers into the world as Christ's soldiers and servants.

We have tremendous opportunities and challenges ahead. Hundreds of thousands of people within a short drive of our congregations still do not know Jesus. We will continue to work hard to reach them.

Having appropriate and well-maintained buildings to facilitate our ministry remains a significant challenge. Our largest congregation cannot facilitate its ministry in any one of our properties. The Ministry Coalition has been working diligently on solving our property dilemma for many years, but has not yet arrived at an adequate solution. This year the ministry coalition decided to make a significant change to Vision 2010. Now, nine years in, the dream of one large multifunction church complex has not come to fruition and, moreover, this dream no longer reflects the direction of our parish. Instead, we desire to grow ministries based at our centres in Carlton, Bexley North, Bexley and Kogarah (Church in the Bank). The Ministry Coalition is now working on a plan for what needs to be done to improve our properties so that all our congregations can enjoy purpose built facilities all through the week.

Please pray regularly for our church: your fellow members, ministries and staff. Pray for our building up through the teaching of God's word, the salvation of others and for God's name to be glorified in the St George area and beyond.

Vision 2010 is just a document, nothing more and nothing less. However, its power comes from people who are willing to join together and commit to the values it espouses. It exhorts us all to give glory to God and be a blessing to many. I pray that you will throw your lives behind it as we serve God together at St George North.



*Phil Colgan*

September 2008

# Background



In 1999, a team of fifteen people representing the diversity of St James' Anglican Church Carlton, met over a period of 10 months to work out before God what the future of St James should be. That team was our church's first Ministry Coalition. A process of consultation gave most of the St James' members the opportunity for feedback.

Vision 2010 is the result of the combined work of our Ministry Coalition and most of our church members. Together we have decided the way forward.

The original Vision 2010 document bore these inscriptions:

**“We the members of St James' Ministry Coalition heartily endorse Vision 2010 for the edification of the people of St James and to the glory of God.”**

Late in 2003 the Parish Council of Christ Church Bexley and Holy Trinity Bexley North were offered partnership with St James. Both Parish Councils voted unanimously to amalgamate from 1 December 2003. On February 2004 the Ministry Coalition decided that 'St James' Vision 2010' would now be 'St. George North's Vision 2010'.

Vision 2010 is now the 10 year plan for the new, larger parish.

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**Not to us, O LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory,  
because of your love and faithfulness.**

PSALM 115:1

# Mission Statement



**We exist to:**

**Bring** people into God's kingdom,

**Build** members towards Christian maturity, and

**Send** believers into the world  
as Christ's soldiers and servants

**... all for the glory of God.**

# Vision Statement



## **We dream of...**

**An outreaching church that actively seeks to share Jesus with people of all nations in the St George District and beyond.**

Our members will have a strong desire to reach people who do not attend church and to see St George North Anglican Church keep growing in numbers, so that many others can be rescued from God's imminent condemnation.

**A community of 1500 adults and children won for Christ.**

We dream of large and small church gatherings. We dream of 5 new congregations, 60 evening smallgroups, 20 day-time smallgroups, and 10 children's and youth groups. Our vision is to have ministries which target all age groups supported by 12 strategically deployed full-time equivalent staff.

**A church where the Bible is the primary and ultimate source of authority in matters of faith.**

St George North will be known in the community as a church where the Bible is taught faithfully. Large numbers of people will flock to hear God speak—by his Spirit, through the Bible—the impact of which will change many lives.

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The goal of this vision is to bring glory to God by presenting Jesus Christ with as many Christ-like disciples as possible when he returns...

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### **A church where every member is a minister.**

Our members, as trained mobilized soldiers and servants of Christ, will be living their lives around what God is currently doing in the world rather than attempting to fit God into what they are doing. Our members will be having a daily time with God through prayer and Bible reading, belong to an evening smallgroup or a day-time smallgroup, and be giving at least ten percent of their income to St George North.

### **St George North being known as a loving and caring community.**

Practical help and structured support will be extended to all members.

### **Planting and equipping churches both locally and around the world.**

We dream of our church members generously supporting evangelical missions with their prayers, time and financial gifts. We will have deployed 20 people into career Christian ministry. We dream of being a teaching church to help other churches and their leaders as they too serve Christ.

# Core Values



**We value...**

## **Vital Relationships with Jesus**

We value genuine commitment to Christ, built through Bible reading, prayer and weekly participation in church. We value radical living, as those who are now owned by Jesus Christ—we do his bidding, we do not ask him to do ours. We value integrity and Christ-like character. We mean what we say, we say what we mean and we live what we preach. We value Christ-centred worship, and value the Holy Spirit's work in pointing us to Christ and forming us into Christ's image. We are committed to financially supporting Christ's work with at least ten percent of our incomes. (1 Cor 7:23, Eph 4:22, Heb 12:1-3)

## **Authoritative Bible Teaching**

We value Biblical preaching and teaching, for the Bible alone is God's inspired, infallible and inerrant means of speaking to humanity, and the message of Christ is God's way of saving people and transforming lives. We value reading the Bible in its own context. We value Biblical authority over reason, experience and tradition. (2 Tim 3:16, Luke 24:27, Gal 1:8, Eph 1:10)

## **Leadership and Excellence**

We delegate leadership and we entrust leaders with the authority to do what needs to be done. We do not vote on everything. We expect leaders to lead and followers to follow. We do not start ministries unless we have the leaders to run them. We value innovation, creativity, risk-taking and

continuous learning. There is freedom to fail. We value the ministry and leadership of both men and women under Biblical guidelines. Our model of leadership is Christ, who laid down his life for his people. We value professional ministers equipping members for ministry through teaching and preaching the Bible, through modeling and through training. We value excellence in all areas of ministry—working to please God, not people. We value the active commitment of all our leaders to a St George North smallgroup. (1 Tim 4:13-14, Eph 4:11-12, Heb 13:17, 1 Tim 2, Titus 2, 2 Tim 2:2, Col 3:23, John 10:15)

## **Unconditional, Loving Relationships**

We value every member of St George North being cared for by other members of St George North. We value a loving community in which we put others first. We value active membership of small groups as a vital means of developing relationships and Christian growth, and to provide opportunities for ministry. Small groups constantly seek to serve St George North's Mission. (1 John 4:7-12, James 2:14-17)

## **Evangelism and Outward Focus**

Saving people from Hell matters to God, so it matters to us. We value an outward focus in all that we do and commit a disproportionate amount of our time and resources to reaching people for Christ. We value the participation of all members in the process of evangelism. We value cultural relevance. We accept people as they are and urge them to make Jesus their Lord. (Matt 28:16-20, Luke 15, Rom 5:8, 1 Cor 9:19-23)

## **Servanthood and Teamwork**

We value our unity in Christ and so we work together as one team to fulfil St George North's Mission. Conflict must be resolved quickly and in a godly manner. We do not tolerate contention. We value the ministry gifts of all our members as we work together to fulfil our Mission. We choose to work, study, play, celebrate life and be involved in other ministries at times that do not conflict with our Mission. We support St George North's Mission with our prayers, our time, and our money with the same dedication to our goals as elite athletes have to theirs. (1 Cor 7:29-31, John 17:20-21, Rom 12:3-11)

# Core Strategies



## **We promote...**

**S**trong church gatherings and small groups

**T**raining and equipping for leaders

**R**egular personal and group prayer

**A**uthentic ownership of mission & vision by every church member

**T**argeted specific affinity and ethnic groups

**E**vangelism through a spoken witness

**G**rowth through life-changing Biblical teaching

**I**nvestment of financial resources into gospel ministry

**E**very member ministry

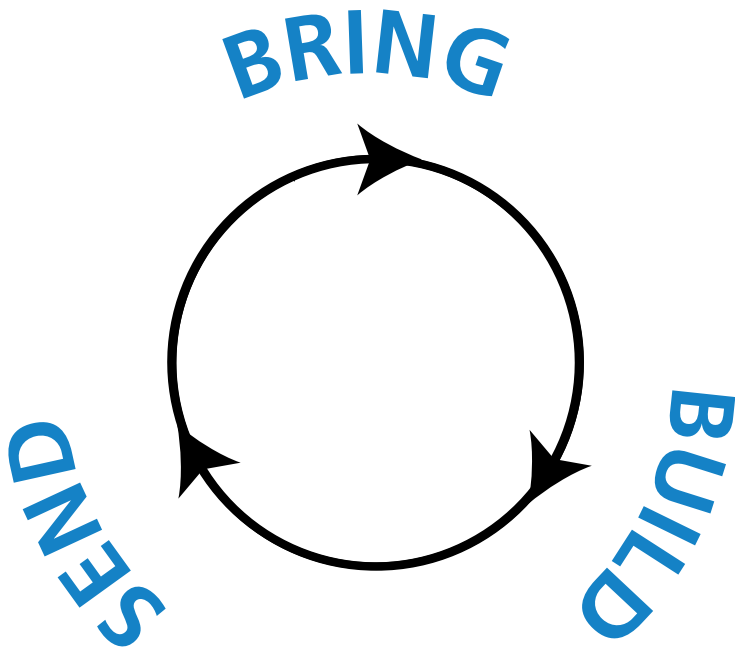
**S**tructured care and support ministries

# Congregations



- Christ Church Bexley** ..... **8.30 a.m. Prayer Book Service**  
cnr Albyn and Dunmore Streets, Bexley Traditional service.
- Carlton Public School** ..... **10.00 a.m. St George North @ 10**  
Cameron Street, Bexley Contemporary service with Kids Club for the children and creche for babies and toddlers.
- Holy Trinity Bexley North**..... **10.30 a.m. St George North @ 10.30**  
372 Bexley Road, Bexley North Contemporary service with Kids Club for the children and creche for babies and toddlers.  
(parking in Carrisbrook Avenue)
- St James Carlton** ..... **5.00 p.m. St George North @ 5**  
cnr Henry and Percival Streets, Carlton Contemporary service for all ages (with creche).
- St George Bank Auditorium** ..... **7.00 p.m. Church in the Bank**  
St George Bank, For youth, young adults and  
Montgomery St, Kogarah the young at heart.

# Mission Statement Diagram



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Build members towards Christian maturity, and  
Send believers into the world as Christ's soldiers and servants  
... all for the glory of God.