

Visioning Process 202_

What sort of a future does God have for _____ Baptist Church?

1. Form a visioning team (about 5 people) who will manage and promote the process in between congregational meetings
2. Visioning team prepare
 - Gather, compile and publish background and community info: church profile, history, Church Health Assessment Tool, NCLS, community connections pack or local ABS stats, historical church attendance and ministry history, establishing need for change, ideas for direction of change: congregational life-cycle, demographics / church stats, resources, opportunities
 - Plan Church Visioning Meetings about 1 month apart to allow the Visioning Team to gather the info, draft a statement, distribute, gather feedback and develop ready for affirmation hopefully at the following meeting. Not too much longer though to avoid losing momentum.
 - Consider how to best facilitate engagement with all members (ages, genders, CALD). Promote church involvement in the process.
 - Plan & prepare for strategies that may run parallel to forums: Prayer strategy, Communications, Visioning Wall, Eyes Wide Open Community Prayer Walk, ...
3. Church Visioning Forum 1 – Forming a Purpose Statement (commence values) [2hrs, eg. Sun [date], 12 – 2pm]
 - intro, definitions & overview of process
 - biblical – ideas usually straightforward, but we need to formulate our own clear statement
 - invite input to incorporate into draft purpose statement by visioning team
 - commence values, eg. top 9
4. Visioning Team draft Purpose Statement [eg. [date], 7.15 – 8.45pm]
 - based on outcome of meeting 1
 - for distribution, feedback, further development & hopefully confirmation at next CVF
5. Church Visioning Forum 2 – Forming our Values Statement (commence vision) [2hrs, eg. Sun [date], 12 – 2pm]
 - consider affirming proposed purpose statement
 - re-examine and clarify values from last meeting – perhaps use ‘flag’ activity to prioritise
 - can we clarify / articulate unhelpful values in a helpful way too? eg. too safe, anti-excellence
 - also question of aspirational vs. realised values
 - first go at thinking about the future... eg. 5 years time – your future, the church’s future, pairs... fours... feed-back – aim is to get expectations more than ideals at this stage
 - then dream – what would you love it to be? – small groups then look for common ground
6. Visioning Team draft Values Statement [eg. [date], 7.15 – 8.45pm]
 - for distribution, feedback and hopefully confirmation at next church visioning meeting
7. Church Visioning Forum 3 – Forming our Vision Statement [2hrs, eg. Sunday [date], 12 – 2pm]
 - consider affirming values statement
 - maybe SWOTs of ideas from last time
 - maybe start to formulate draft of vision statement to be developed by visioning team
8. Visioning Team draft Vision Statement for distribution, feedback & further development [eg. [date], 7.15 – 8.45pm]
 - This process may or may not require further church meetings.
 - Finally, we will gather to affirm our shared vision for the future of our church.
9. Wrap-up
 - Church Meeting to vote / affirm
 - celebratory lunch / dinner perhaps
10. Ongoing
 - strategic plan developed and implemented
 - Leadership Team develop strategies for their ministry area