



Strategic Themes - 2024

As we work to advance God's mission together (proclaiming the kingdom, making Jesus known, making disciples), we will focus on the following.

CHURCH COUNCIL PRIORITIES: In this season Church Council is undertaking long term strategic planning which includes ministry, succession and financial planning.

MINISTRY PRIORITIES: Three themes were established in 2023 and will continue in 2024. Below are highlights of the updated priorities.

Foster UNITY.

Our individual commitments: Be with Jesus, Be with each other.

Our corporate goals: to clarify and elevate what unites us as the body of Christ and to listen and learn from each other's diverse stories.

Together we will:

Deepen the understanding of and engagement with our NewHope Mission – Kingdom, Jesus, Discipleship – through the **teaching ministry** of the church.

2024 Theme: More than Conquerors

- T1 2024 = 'Living in the Kingdom'
- T2 2024 = The Book of Revelation (Title TBC)
- T3 2024 = Making Disciples (Title TBC)
- T4 2024 = Great Passages from Isaiah (Title TBC)

Strengthen the capacity of **leaders** and volunteers throughout NewHope and build up the leadership cohort. Start the year with a Leaders Launch Day on 28 Jan 2024.

Family Forums. Continue to make space for safe conversations about important current issues building on our 2023 learnings. Topics are yet to be determined but might include issues such as: a continuation of the sexuality conversation, parenting & leading in today's society, family violence, mental health, homelessness.

Continue to foster **intercultural collaboration** between our English, Chinese and Farsi congregations.

Pursue a fruitful and thriving **NewHope Groups** ministry. Develop and grow the number of leaders. Invite all Group leaders into a formal covenant relationship.

Further development of **multigenerational collaborative** projects and alignment between family ministry areas such as Mainly Music, Playspace, NewHope Baptist Preschool, Kids Church, Shift Youth and Young Adults.



Strengthen IMPACT.

Our individual commitments: Become like Jesus, Love like Jesus. Be with my colleagues, our neighbours, and other churches. Make more followers.

Our corporate goals: to clarify and sharpen the focus of NewHope's core ministries, to better leverage our physical and organisational assets, to invest further in our wider societal and global focus.

Together we will:

Foster **spiritual vitality** at NewHope by continuing to elevate three key practices. (These emerged from the 2022 Appreciative Inquiry):

- *30 Minutes with Jesus* - establishing spiritual habits as disciples
- *Testimony* - retelling our God-stories to inspire faith and faithfulness
- *Prophecy* - sharing God's living words to build up the church

Continue developing our approach to '**communications** as a ministry' in line with the recommendations of the external review. Foster a climate of inspiring storytelling and clear messaging across all of our platforms and channels (e.g. social media, website, email newsletter, videos, signage, Sunday services.)

Grow the heart of NewHope people for **Global mission**.

- Grow the number of NewHope Global Partners (discernment events).
- Intergenerational Global Exposure Trip (Thailand)
- Grow Prayer engagement for NewHope Global

Continue to reposition Middle Ground **Café** to become a social enterprise under NewHope Community Care with a focus on employment skills development for vulnerable people.

Contribute to the **collaboration of local churches** through the work of the Whitehorse Churches Care.

Continue our 'Generous Together' focus as we foster healthy **stewardship** to support our mission.



Facilitate **ENGAGEMENT.**

Our individual commitments: Become a visible expression of the person and love of Christ. Become a valued partner in service to God's mission.

Our corporate goals: To clarify pathways into service, small group involvement, and stewardship. To continue engaging with members' voices.

Together we will:

Strengthen **prayer** at NewHope. Grow the number of participants in the Sunday prayer rosters. Continue to foster focused prayer meetings and events. Develop our link with 24/7 prayer.

Continue **inviting** people to follow Jesus for the first time. Provide opportunities for people to know Jesus through Alpha. Call people to be baptised.

Continue inviting people to lives of **service** through the ministries of NewHope and beyond. Help people to take next steps.

Increase engagement in our **worship** services, with a special focus on our online service (as our front door, for our shut-ins and for people travelling) and 11am worship services (as a growth opportunity for our church).

Continue to empower **young adults** to impact NewHope and the World for Jesus, through elevating young people into leadership opportunities, providing accessible next steps and fellowship opportunities.

Grow the **support** teams at NewHope in terms of size and capability, giving special attention to critical gaps such as the Production Team.