

Bethel's Mission and Vision 2024-2025

Our Mission

Why we exist as a community following Jesus

Our Vision

What God has called us to build together

Our Values

How we follow Jesus together as a community on mission

Our Focus for 2024-25

*Our mission emphasis for the upcoming ministry year
"Everyday Discipleship in Community"*

OUR MISSION:

Becoming like Christ & Sharing Him with Others

OUR VISION:

To Build a *House of Belonging* in Christ for All People

OUR VALUES

- **A House of Discipleship:** Committed to growing every day in our walk with Jesus through holistic and biblical formation
- **A House of Prayer:** Moving with the Holy Spirit through a posture of prayer
- **A House of Togetherness:** Embracing life together in authentic and intentional community
- **A House of All Nations and Generations:** Celebrating and nurturing the beautiful diversity of our intergenerational and multi-ethnic family
- **A House of Mission:** Committed to reaching out with the love and Good News of Jesus Christ to our communities, to the city and to the world!

OUR "TRANSFORMATIONAL" VALUES



Our rhythms, practices and greatest uses of energy, time and influence reflect what we value. As we follow Jesus with the help of the Holy Spirit, God brings about his new creation in us, giving us new values to lead us towards transformation. In order to partner with God's slow and gracious work in us, we must commit to practices that reflect these values, determined to affirm and build upon them as often as we can for God's glory and our good.

"A House of Discipleship"

Committed to growing every day in our walk with Jesus through holistic and biblical formation

What this looks like



For everyone to commit to growth in their walk with Jesus through every season of their life. We seek to practice consistent patterns of spiritual practices including meditation on the Bible, prayer, regular Sunday worship attendance, small group involvement, and leaning into the classic "spiritual disciplines" as is fitting in their unique relationship with Christ.

Colossians 3:15-17, Matthew 28:19-20

Ministry Initiatives:

- Regular meeting community groups
- Regular teaching and offering of Spiritual Formation resources
- Participating in Discipleship track courses such as *Emotionally Healthy Discipleship, Spiritual Gifts*, etc.

“A House of Prayer”

Moving with the Holy Spirit through a posture of prayer

What this looks like



For our whole community to be shaped by an awareness of and active dependence on the Holy Spirit who produces increasing faith, humility and confidence in the authority God has given us. We will relate to every committee, team and ministry at Bethel with an identifiable rhythm of prayer—seeking to make prayer woven into every aspect of our church.

Isaiah 56:7, Psalm 63

Ministry Initiatives:

- Consistent rhythms of prayer – individually and with regularly meeting prayer groups
- Participation in days of prayer, such as Ash Wednesday
- Engage in the week of 24/7 Prayer
- Inner healing prayer

“A House of Togetherness”

Embracing life together in authentic and intentional community

What this looks like



Life in community is messy. We commit to truly and sincerely love one another with authenticity and intentionality. We offer warmth and friendship to each other, committing to gather regularly for fellowship and discipleship. Through our church life we embrace the biblical call to act as members of one another, offering care and support, studying God’s Word, pray, serve others, and think missionally—all in a Christ-Centered environment.

Romans 12:3-16

Ministry Initiatives:

- Small groups
- Fellowship around ministries and worship
- Family Meals

- Ministries designed to offer fellowship and belonging, such as Oasis

“A House of All Nations and Generations”
Celebrating and nurturing the beautiful diversity
of our intergenerational and multi-ethnic family

What this looks like



Intergenerational community: To cultivate a church culture where every adult, child and youth feels a deep commitment to their church because in it they find love, safety and a sense of belonging as one family united in Jesus Christ. If possible, ministries and gatherings will consider how to create an environment and space for every age to be welcomed and involved in the life of the community.

Psalm 78

Ministry Initiatives:

- GEMS, CADETS, Bethel Youth, Young Adults
- Church Campouts, family meals, picnics
- Prayer Card initiative, intentional mentoring
- Involvement of all ages in worship services

What this looks like



Multi-ethnic family: To build a diverse church that reflects the beauty of Christ through all races and cultures. This means more than merely tolerating one another. We will radically welcome one another, and fight against isolating into subgroups. Rather, as people united to one another in Christ, we want be transformed as we work and fellowship together.

Isaiah 56:1-8, Ephesians 4:15-16

Ministry Initiatives:

- Multi-ethnic potluck
- Involvement in worship and ministries

"A House of Mission"

Reaching out with the love and Good News of Jesus Christ
to our communities, to the city and to the world!

What this looks like



To our own communities: To have a transformational influence on the Bannerman neighbourhood. We commit to advocate for Bannerman as a community of goodness, safety and inter-connectedness, incarnating the love of Jesus Christ in partnership with our neighbours.

We also commit to unapologetically share the Good News with our neighbours, identifying each of our "personal parishes," and where every member has at least one person in their lives with whom they are journeying with toward a relationship with Jesus Christ. (*A personal parish is a group of 3-5 people for whom we pray, and care and with whom we share the Good News.*)

To the city: We will use our spiritual gifts for the service of others by volunteering and leading where it is needed. We will build and maintain strong relationships with local partners, actively participating in ways we can show God's love and share the Good News.

And to the world: We want to see the Gospel powerfully touching lives and hearts through our partnerships with the missionaries we support. We will remain committed to our strategic partnerships in Central America, Bettesu (Liberia), and other fields the Spirit may lead us to venture into that include prayer, financial support, reciprocal visits, and regular communication. We will organize mission trips to our partner sites, and will encourage and support Bethel members who choose to undertake mission projects on their own.

Luke 14:15-24, Matthew 28:18-20