



Making Disciples
Impacting Nations

**IPSWICH INTERNATIONAL CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT 2015**



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PASTOR HAROLD AFFLU'S REPORT

Overview

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support and service within the body here at IIC. We simply would not be able to function without all of your hard work and hours that you put in. We are grateful to God for your growing love and generosity as we seek to see His Kingdom established here through us.

We have taught on Covenant and Kingdom which is the central theme throughout the entirety of Scripture. We are invited into covenant relationship with the Father and called to live out a lifestyle that speaks of and causes the heavenly Kingdom to come on earth.

As many of you will be aware we have had a real drive to sort out our membership. In connection with this we have developed a church app which will have multiple functions including storing and updating your own information as well as facilitating targeted meetings/events to be sent to relevant individuals.

We have been encouraged by the continued relationship that we have with other local churches, especially Burlington Baptist, St Matthews and Ipswich Community Church. This continues to develop stronger bonds between us through joint services and relationships amongst the leaderships.

During the year, I have taken up a missional focus by becoming part of the Chaplaincy Team in Ipswich Hospital. Mission is at the heart of what we are seeking to do. Throughout the year I have personally had the privilege of ministering internationally in Romania and Ghana. We as a church believe in being passionately mission minded. A further aspect of this is the deeper connections we have made with Elim Missions and are looking at supporting existing missionaries and also planting IIC partner churches across the globe.

More recently, as part of this I have had a fresh revelation of Christ. This is of key importance as walking in the fullness of our identity in Christ is our main focus of discipleship.

As we have progressed throughout the year we have been working hard on a plan for growth. This caused us to re-evaluate our leadership structure to help us create the framework for the future.

In conjunction with this we have been working hard behind the scenes on our first campus at Whitehouse. As many of you are aware Pastor David and Stacey will be leading this venture whilst remaining part of the leadership at barrack corner. We thank God for His faithfulness and look forward to the development of further campuses in the future.

Highlights

As usual we started our year off with the Daniel Fast. This year we focused on Covenant and Kingdom. It was great to have so many participate during this time. I would especially like to mention how encouraging it was that the children were involved. Out of our time of prayer and fasting the Father ministered powerfully and we saw the birthing of Relational Cells which continue to thrive and grow. Relational cells are a great environment to build meaningful relationships with others within the fellowship.

In addition to all the wonderful ministry we have had from those within the fellowship and those from outside the fellowship, we want to especially note the two special visits of the General Superintendent Rev. John Glass. His time with us was a real blessing and especially poignant in our centenary year and his final year as the leader of Elim.

One of the major highlights for me this year was our first Family Camp. There was a jovial atmosphere with everyone joining in the fun and games as well as helping out with the cleaning and clearing up. It was a great opportunity for people to spend real family time together fellowshiping and getting to know one another. We were blessed to have Nigel

and Rachel Tween with us throughout the weekend and were really encouraged by their ministry. We are already planning to repeat Family Camp again next year.

Challenges / Needs

One of our frustrations has been that we have been unable to complete the project for Discipleship 102 before the AGM. We have done a lot of the work but still need to work through the filming of testimonies and the editing of the material. We look to have this completed before Easter.

Future Plans

As we continue to build a discipling culture we will be developing missional cells which have a clear focus on reaching specific people groups, interest areas. This is all part of our three dimensional discipleship as we live in relationship with the Father (Up), one another (In) and those who do not yet know God (Out). Our desire is to see a move of God throughout Suffolk as we follow the leading of the Spirit and we all play our part.

Throughout the coming year we will continue to develop our Discipleship Stream. We have already worked through Discipleship 101 and are well on the way with Discipleship 102 (Our vision and values). We already have plans for Discipleship 103 (Identity and Freedom in Christ). We are aiming to start a leadership stream in the autumn of next year.

We are blessed to have a Romanian speaking fellowship and a Portuguese speaking cell. Our vision is to reach different language groups, we are excited by the existing groups we have and look forward to ways of greater integration and participation (interpretation facilities). As these develop we will look to intentionally reach other people groups in Ipswich.

In the coming months, we will be refurbishing our buildings including redecorating and works to be done on our toilet block. Specific timescales will be announced. Please bear with us related to any inconvenience that may be caused.

We will be re-introducing a monthly bulletin/news sheet. This will also be made available via email. We will also look to have a fuller church magazine twice a year. Other forms of media engagement which can help spread what we are doing will be pursued.

Next year, Burlington Baptist we will be joining us as we do the Daniel Fast. This is part of our ongoing relationship which will lead us to collaborate in mission together.

As we seek to grow and develop we are trusting God for increased revenue for His kingdom work to continue to extend through us. As part of our missional focus Pastor David and myself, are travelling to Chile to teach leaders and plant a church. We believe this will be the first of many.

Notes

We have included at the back of this AGM report the new leadership structure which was presented again during the services on the 1st November 2015.

PASTOR DAVID BAKER'S REPORT

Overview

Over the past year there have been so many changes and exciting developments. It is always a blessing to kick off the year with the Daniel Fast and the Discipleship Conference. We have seen the emergence of Relational Cells which continue to develop and grow. We encourage you to participate in these to build meaningful relationships.

I have been involved in heading up the team to film the Discipleship 102 material. We had a very successful time filming the vision sections. Further work is needed for its completion – Pastor Wale has taken over this.

Over the last couple of months I have been accepted as a Trustee within CYM and I continue my work as a chaplain at Suffolk New College and University Campus Suffolk. In September, I attended a Fresher's Fayre for the new intake of students – which brought about some good conversations.

Throughout the year, I have been working behind the scenes on the new Whitehouse lease/project.

Highlights

Stacey and I have loved leading the 18-30's Relational Cell Group for the majority of this year but in light of our impending involvement in the new campus in the Whitehouse area we have handed this on to Jemima.

I would like to congratulate all the team who put on our local Youth Gathering.

Having our first family camp was amazing! It was a great time of teaching, fellowship and having a chance to chat about life with people for a longer period of time.

Challenges / Needs

As overseer of the Youth Department – it has been a difficult time with numerous of the teaching staff having health or other situations which meant that they had to step back for a time in leading the Youth. This put extra strain on Carl and Helen Herbert. We thank God, that more recently health has been improved and more members been added to the team. But we could always do with more workers who believe in young people and invest in their future by serving.

Due to the development and the work in sorting out the Whitehouse Project and the change this means for my role, I have not been able to complete Bible notes for the young people as intended.

Future Plans

We will be working within the Whitehouse Area and have already got a core team together. If you would like to know more about Whitehouse and the way we are approaching reaching the area I would love to have a conversation with you.

We have looked into and are pursuing a project with TLG (Transforming Lives for Good). They work within Primary Schools involved in Mentoring young children who are facing a variety of challenges. We would really appreciate your prayer support for this project.

PASTOR WALE ADEFUYE'S REPORT

Overview

We continue to be intentional in strengthening the building of an effective discipleship culture here at IIC. As a result of this, we chose the theme of covenant and kingdom to focus on this year. This was reflected in our making it the focus of the Daniel Fast in January. A major development from this year's Daniel Fast was the birthing of more Relational Cells. Many of the groups which met during the Fast to pray, continued after the Fast as Relational Cells. They meet every other week to learn, pray, share, care and support one another.

Highlights

The Discipleship 101 programme is beginning to gain momentum. As an essential tool for Followers of Christ, it covers basic foundational subjects in five exciting sessions. Discipleship 101, which was originally designed to be used in a one-to-one setting, has since been adapted for use in groups as well.

We have been going through Discipleship 101 in our Relational Cells, many have completed this now. In addition to this, in the last few weeks, many brothers and sisters have taken advantage of special classes to go through the course. These special classes are held on Sunday 9:30 - 10:30hrs & 13:15- 14:15hrs and Monday 11:00- 12:00hrs. We intend to continue these classes and we would encourage those who have not started the course to join in.

We should maintain the momentum that we have generated in the last few weeks. Everyone is strongly encouraged to participate and complete Discipleship 101. For those who have recently become Christians, it is a strong foundation, whilst for those who have been on the journey much longer, it is a helpful refresher and a tool to disciple others.

Our Church has recently adopted a powerful database application to help the office in its communication and organisation. We are now able to keep everyone abreast of what is happening within our community of faith by email and text messages.

Challenges / Needs

A follow-on course, Discipleship 102, is still a work in progress. It is a video with an accompanying workbook that highlights our five-fold vision and values. We have filmed the teaching segments and are awaiting the filming of the testimonies which will accompany the teaching.

Future Plans

We continue to develop our 'Discipleship Stream' and have already got Discipleship 103 (Identity and Freedom in Christ) in the pipeline. We will hope to have this completed by autumn of next year. In addition to this, we are looking ahead to develop a 'Leadership Stream'.

Notes

In the coming weeks/months we will be creating ways in which you can update your personal details. Please be patient with us and ensure your details are accurate, as this will aide effective communication.

DENEST AKINTAJU, TREASURER

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am pleased to report the figures for the year of October 2014 to September 2015 for Ipswich International Church.

Finance is essential to the fulfilment of the five-fold vision of IIC, without which all that we desire to see cannot be achieved.

In the past year, we set out to allocate 10% of our income to missional work both locally and internationally. Although, as you see from the figures this was not reached. We have set funds aside for the development of the campus at Whitehouse as part of our missional focus. This is not reflected in the current figures as at this point no finance has been used. In addition to this we have also sent some money to Elim Missions at HQ to fund a mission to Chile early next year, which our pastors will be involved in.

We have also supported our brethren and families in need from time to time in fulfilment of the vision of being contagiously generous.

As at September 30, 2015 our savings had a balance of £42,538 and mortgage balance stands at £237,972.55.

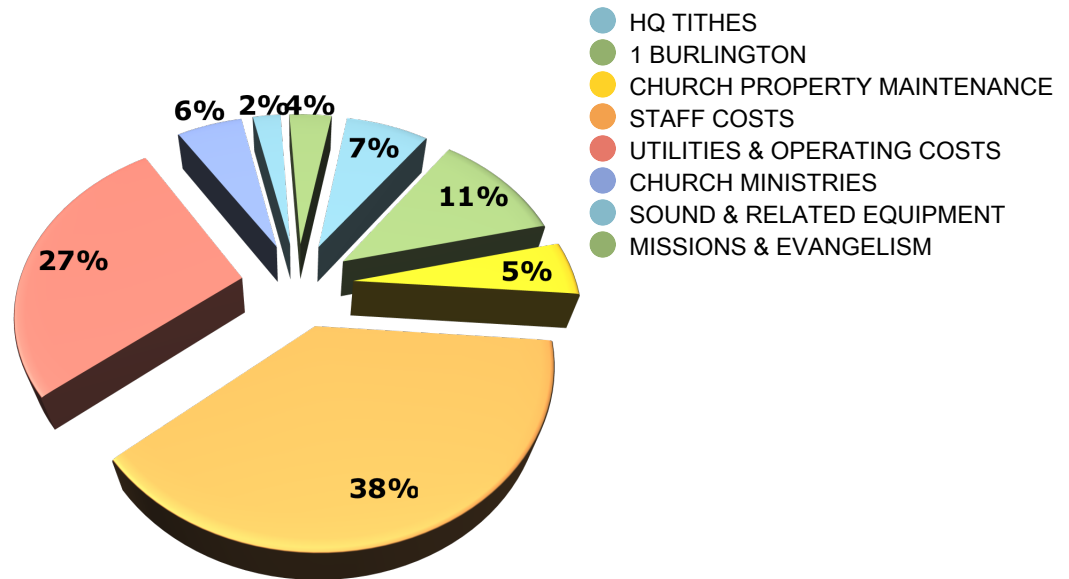
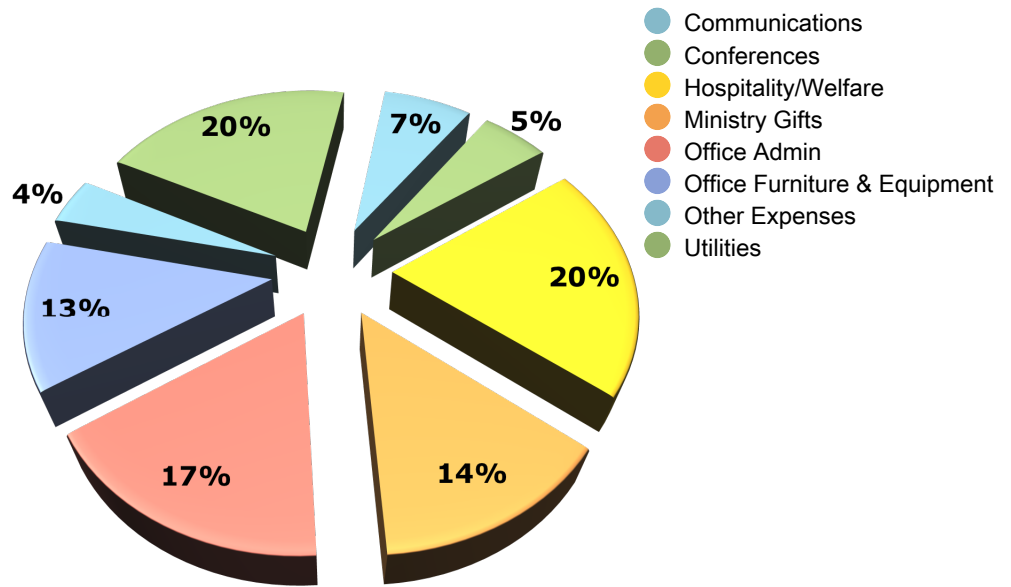
The figures show that we have spent more than we received in tithes and offerings. The deficit of about £22,000 can be accounted for as we have paid a lump sum of £10,000 to reduce the balance of our mortgage. In addition to this, we have allocated funds for the new Whitehouse Campus. The figures also, do not reflect that we have recently received a gift aid rebate of £17,666.30.

A summary of the figures is as follows:

	Actuals	Budget
INCOME		
Tithes & Offerings	210,760	200,000
Gift Aid Refund	29,222	37,000
	239,982	237,000
EXPENSES		
Total	261,991	261,000

Summary of Total expenses (Total: £261,991)

Analysis of Utilities and Operating Costs (Total: £70,541)



We look forward to the year ahead with expectation of what the Lord will do. We trust the Lord that he will bless his people tremendously and as we can bring tithes and offerings into his storehouse faithfully we can better fulfil our five-fold vision.

I encourage us all to continue to remain faithful to the Lord in finances so that we can step into the fullness of what the Lord has for us. May his blessings and peace continue to abound towards us.

Denest Akintaju

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Overview

The role of the Building Team is 3 fold:

1. Routine maintenance & repairs
2. Supervision of contract work
3. Projects

The core team consists of:

John Fisher
Richard Baker
Clement Ojdiran
Godfrey Tetteh
Keith Hawes
Ian Piggott
Marshall Badza

Highlights

Work is ongoing to improve decoration of 1 Burlington.

Repair of kitchen area

Renovation of upper rooms

Challenges Needs

Inspection by Insurance company expected in next few weeks. H&S documentation being updated/improved in readiness.

This year has been particularly challenging with regards to progressing various “projects”

(damp proofing of existing toilet block, feasibility study of new toilet block, double glazing and central heating for offices.)

Future Plans

Re-decorating Sanctuary.

Improved heating for office area of church.

Renovation of existing toilets.

Additional toilet facilities (suitable for disabled use).

Decorating of sanctuary including repair of walls.

Refreshment area in Sanctuary.

Notes

Many thanks to everyone who has helped during the year.

John Fisher

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Overview

This year saw a change in leadership as Julia Badza has become leader of Sunday School. Julia is a gifted and inspired teacher, who has a heart for the children and knows how to relate the word of God to their everyday lives. I felt it was time for me to hand over as Leader, as myself and David venture into new areas of ministry. It has been a pleasure to serve in the children's ministry and watch particularly the children in my class grow in confidence and skills as well as in their faith in God.

This year I have really noticed that the depth of the relationship between the teachers has grown and the depth of relationship between the children has grown. Sunday school is a happy place where the children feel safe and have fun.

At the beginning of the year we started using new materials called "Go Teach". Working through the bible, we focus on key stories, highlighting key truths and relate it to their everyday lives in a way they can understand. I believe this has been valuable and has really helped focus our teaching.

At the start of the year we joined the church in their 21 days of prayer and fasting, I believe each year we do this, the children learn a lot about how to talk to God and have relationship with Him. The things I read in their little workbooks blessed my heart – as I could see they had consistently read the passages and daily prayed with their parents at home, they were so pleased to bring their completed booklets to church on Sunday. They even shared during this time their hearts desires and it encouraged me to know that even at 5, they desire to serve God and God is showing them what they can do for him.

Throughout the year I have seen them flourish and enjoy, particularly the worship times which was one of my desires and I prayed that the children would engage with church life and be able to express themselves in our services. I believe the church enables this and that this is now evident. This has been helped by their contributions through games in family services and children's choir which is an anointed ministry led by Vicky and Freddy.

I thank God for the team we have who are dedicated and give of themselves serving and loving the children. Another highlight was Family camp. The children had a great time together. It was such a special time. In one of the sessions, the children went away and prayed and then wrote or drew what they felt God was saying to them. I was blown away by what they shared. I love hearing them speak about Jesus. *Out of the mouths of Babes, the Lord has ordained praise!*

Highlights

Seeing the children flourish and grow in God. Enjoying using the materials on a Sunday. The team growing together and working together so well. Family camp.

Challenges / Needs

More workers to help with Children's Choir,
More workers to help on Sunday- particularly with our younger classes aged 5-7.

Future Plans

More training and recruitment of adults and young people for the ministry.
An apprentice certificate for 16-18's that can prove volunteering commitment.
A Sunday School trip for children and perhaps parents.

Stacey Baker and Julia Badza

YOUTH WORK

Overview

We are blessed to have many young people as part of the body here at IIC.

Earlier this year we took a group to Letton Hall, again a great opportunity to get to know them, have fun and build relationships.

For most of the year we have continued with our Sunday morning group and our mid-week sessions.

We recently took a group of 30 young people to The Gathering in Coventry. There was a mixture of Christian and non-Christian friends. We had an amazing time and saw 5 young people commit their lives to God and 2 re-commitments. We are thankful to God for His faithfulness and the church for their support.

Highlights

One of the highlights this year has been the two events that were run with the youth by Sally Piggott and Ian Tearle. The first was 'Revived' this was an evening of street dance, put together by Josemar, Hannah Jolley and the young people. This was an opportunity to invite unsaved friends who may have an interest in dance to introduce them to church. The second was 'Gathering 100' which was part of the Serious4God's initiative for Elim's Centenary Celebrations.

Challenges / Needs

As always, with so many young people in the church, we are always in need of helpers. We struggled from the middle of the year with limited help to run our Sunday sessions. This led to us having to concentrate on teaching the year 7 and 8 on a Sunday and the older group remaining in the service. We have now started back with the older group.

We have just had a break from our mid-week meetings until we have more support.

Future Plans

We believe it is time to seek God for his will for the youth of the church. We are now starting to get some more people willing to teach and we plan to resume some mid-week activities soon.

Notes

As always I would like to thank everyone who supports the youth. Special thanks this year to Ian Tearle and Sally Piggott and all those who were involved in putting The Gathering together in July.

Carl and Helen Herbert

WORSHIP TEAM

Overview

We took over the leadership of the worship team, in the beginning of January this year. Since taking over this role, we have implemented various different structures. One of them being introducing a probation period of three months for all newcomers, and reviewing their time before being able to minister on a Sunday. We feel The Lords heart for the team at this time is for us all to be walking in unity and love with one another. So, we have been emphasising the importance of our gathering every week. Rather than just practicing for Sundays every week we are coming together to pray, worship, fellowship and learn new songs. We have a new method of communicating as a team and we do this through a program called worship planning. All members are required to participate in this. We are in the process of writing a welcome pack also for newcomers. We are still working alongside Steve and Velveta Thompson and Lolu as our overseer. We have felt led by the Holy Spirit this year to also start up a children's choir. This has been a great blessing and the children appear to really enjoy it.

Highlights

The greatest highlight has been seeing the presence of God manifest in our times of worship. Also, seeing the team grow and improve, witnessing the unity grow within the team is a great blessing. Communication is being well received via worship planning and most people have an understanding of how to use it now.

Challenges / Needs

The team has been changing. We have had a few people leave but also a few new people want to join. Time keeping and commitment has been a challenge in the team, as we feel the Lord is calling us up higher in the way in which we serve, we have been challenging the team members to take the worship team seriously and to communicate when not able to attend or going to be late.

Future Plans

Next year we are planning a workshop where anyone in the church who is interested in the worship team can come along. We will be working more in consultation with Steve and Vel to develop further training within the team. We would like to see an even deeper unity and love within the team and even greater freedom in our worship. To achieve this we are joining together the existing teams of worship, sound and media under one umbrella – worship.

Freddy and Vicky Madikgetla

SOUND AND MEDIA

Overview

Throughout the last year we have been constantly learning from Sunday services and all other events undertaken as part of the Church outreach. As we have gained experience of using the equipment, we have identified improvements required that would make sound and vision better all round.

We have faced technical challenges particularly this year with ageing equipment. However we have added improved lighting and new rigging systems, these are investments that will last us into the future.

Our team has reduced drastically, but this has not hampered our ability to produce high quality events. New members in the form of young people are coming through, but we still need more qualified individuals to operate computer, sound and lighting equipment. To develop the team further, Curtis recognises training and development of the team will be necessary as well as adding new members. He has already started mentoring some individuals. All these things will improve and enlarge our capacity for the work needed.

Highlights

Following a successful "Celebration of Gospel" night in 2014, we hosted a dance event in May performed by a number of our young people in preparation for the Gathering 100 celebration. This event kick started our lighting improvements.

Our own Gathering 100 saw the instalment of lighting rigs and staging, and we hosted a well organised event in which we had visiting band 'The Moment' and a visiting speaker.

Challenges / Needs

Our ageing equipment is proving a challenge to maintain. Our video production needs a complete overhaul to bring it into the digital age, we are currently using equipment reliant on a 20 year old analog system. This system makes it difficult to share our service recordings digitally.

We need individuals who have a basic understanding of computer, light and sound equipment with limited amount of input from myself and Curtis. We require a number of items of equipment and hardware which we will make provision for in the coming year. The link below indicates an 'example' (not necessarily the specific) of the equipment required. This list is on Amazon <http://iic.io/1H> (financial contributions welcome).

Future Plans

We are making headway on building a new media suite and relocating the sound desk to the back of the church under the balcony. This will give us an opportunity to refresh and update some much needed equipment to help us maintain and improve on our sound and media output.

Some fundamental aspects of our systems that need addressing for most effective working are:

- Detailed job specification
- Clear policies and procedures to be followed by anyone using the equipment
- Identifying strengths of individuals
- Roles and responsibilities

Much of this requires further discussion, but we would like to create a model/method for best practice.

Notes

The new desk will allow us to have six seats allowing provision for just one person to operate every area i.e. Live Sound Mixing, Sound Monitoring/Recording, Visual Management i.e. PowerPoints, Live Video Projection Management, Film Post Production i.e. Video Monitoring/Recording, Camera Handling.

Ian Tearle, Curtis Blanc

CARE TEAM

Overview

The care team consist of 15 members of the church. We work alongside the pastors and wider leadership including the relational cells. We facilitate meeting the needs of individuals, hospital visits, going to court, taking prayer requests and visiting people in their homes. On Sundays we wear our badges to ensure we are identifiable by visitors and members. We greet and welcome people especially visitors. After church we try and do one on one sessions and pray with people. As a team we have a meeting once a month in order to keep everyone abreast with what's going on.

Highlights

A request was made for the care team to pray for a family member (a young mother) who was not a believer and was very ill in hospital. She had recently had a baby and suffered a heart attack. While in hospital she went into a coma. The care team prayed and were in constant prayer for this young woman. Having heard the hospital was trying to get her out of the coma but to no avail, we continued to pray and one of the team members went into the hospital to pray for her. We received a phone call to hear she had come out of the coma, she recognised her family and baby and is making a positive recovery. The family were appreciative of the team and recognised the power of prayer. This is a highlight of the many testimonies that we get.

Challenges / Needs

We are always looking for new people to join the team especially as the church is growing and we want to ensure all the care needs are met within the church.

Future Plans

We the care team aim to work alongside the pastors and their vision of the church to seek to build God's kingdom as God leads us on this journey together.

Wendy Allen

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Overview

The men's fellowship has been operating on a bi-monthly basis where we meet for a breakfast and share priceless testimonies of where God has been intimately working through the lives of the men in his church. In this time we have had the addition of Stanley to the leadership team which has been fantastic.

Highlights

Every time the men meet, without fail we are blessed by the way God is working in their lives. It is so clear that God can work in the extraordinary, and the ordinary circumstances of our lives. It never fails to amaze me how God uses challenges and trials to sharpen us and develop our skills in his kingdom works. We are so very blessed with the way the men of IIC are prepared to share the public and private relationship they have with God. This is essential as we all need to realise we are all going through similar challenges, and its ok to share these issues in a trusting environment. As we do this, the men sharpen one another, encouraging each other as they accept that we all will fail from time to time. However, we can be so much more in Jesus Christ who wants us to be spiritual warriors, discipling one another, with joy and even fun. God is never boring and the young men can learn this from the mature Christians we are so grateful to have come along.

We have recently had our annual over 25's vs under 25's football game where the granddads (over 25's) won for the third year running (8-3) demonstrating a lesson in humility, although we are blessed with some very exciting and talented young footballers. In October we hosted the Linvoy Primus evening which was a great opportunity to evangelise and share with non-Christians and young Christians alike.

Challenges / Needs

As with any group, new blood in leadership is always something we look to develop. We have a great core group who attend each meeting. However, I am very conscious there are many men in our church who we don't see who we'd love to share with. We are aware we have a unique number of men and for which we are grateful. However, I pray more of our men can come together and fellowship as one, standing together, for then God really moves. I would take this opportunity for any new or old men of our church to come along to the Christmas men's fellowship meal, you would be most welcome. It is a time where we can relax and share. This is where most of Gods work takes place and while enjoying good company we explore our faith in God and develop our understanding of our God together.

Future Plans

As mentioned earlier, we have welcomed Stanley into the leadership role of the men's fellowship. Along with Alan Roper and myself, I feel the variety of skills we have together are most encouraging as each leader brings their own experiences and knowledge in Jesus. This may bring a different look to the men's fellowship in the New Year. The focus will be on the men continually growing together, challenging and sharing as one. More information will be available in the New Year.

Notes

I would like to personally thank the leadership team as they have been a blessing to work with and demonstrate the true meaning behind what it means, to be a brother in Christ. I pray all the men of our church look to stand together, pushing forward in their journeys with God, as a body leaving no-one behind and always looking for opportunities to show one what it means to be part of our men's fellowship, our church, our purpose in life.

Dan Jolley

ASPIRE LADIES

Overview

All glory to God for the privilege to serve God's people by organising events and activities for the women in the church and in the community. We ended 2014 with a Christmas Dinner that was hosted and organised in our premises by our team of loyal women. Our theme for 2015 was focused on "our roles and role models in God's covenant and kingdom". Topics were chosen and taught by our own able IIC ladies speakers. .i.e. Mrs Kajoba, Mrs Sulba Yedekar and myself. There was a question and answers session with past and present pastor's wives and our guest speaker Pastor Ann Simpson Philipson. In addition to this our International Women's day was supported by and patronised by diverse cultures within IIC.

General participation and attendances were better for the conference as compared to the workshop and seminars. Participants enjoyed and reported of the blessings and benefits of these meetings in building their Christian faith. A good number of ladies continued in their own search of the scriptures on the subject matter.

The rhythm for our meetings seems to be working well especially for our in-house events. Some of our outdoor events have been thwarted by bad weather which has affected attendance. One to one meetings with different women for different reasons were planned and focused on discipling, mentoring and solving problems in place of the Monday group during the week.

Our social meetings have involved a variety of celebrations including birthdays, marriages, baby shower, child dedications, and international guest speakers. We have also mourned with those who have been bereaved.

Highlights

The bond of unity among us as believers from different cultures and languages has increased. We have enjoyed fellowship in prayer, house fellowships, bible discussion and working together in various teams over food with love and fun. Numbers for our informal meetings have seen increased attendance. We had a joint programmed hosted by IIC with the World Vision International called "EMBRACE" featuring Lara Martin and other musicians celebrating and raising funds for disadvantaged children.

Our final conference of the year, focused on the celebration of women as part of Elim's Centenary Year. This was well organised and patronised by our competent team and speakers respectively. The Lord has done great things for us by healing and setting us free to be His women with great love for Him and for one another.

Challenges / Needs

Language translations is one of the challenges we are dealing with currently. Especially in meetings where there are significant numbers, needing language translation in our joint meetings. If you have translation skills please can you speak to me to aide effective communication and discipleship (i.e. Romanian, Portuguese Iranian).

Future Plans

- Strong Network with other Christian women's groups across Ipswich.
- Developing and discipling young women for the call of God on their life.
- Encouraging mother's to be involved with our Sunday Crèche
- Develop a parent/toddler group during the week

Notes

Thanks for those who have given generously of their time and finance to the work. Special thanks to Matt Long and the entire sound and media, communication and worship teams.

Florence Afflu

OASIS CENTRE - ESOL PROJECT

Overview

This year, 2014-2015, has been a year of growth for the OASIS CENTRE, and in particular for the English Language Project. We have enrolled over 100 people who want to learn English and integrate into our community. We have a holistic approach with a listening ear, help and advice where requested and bridges being built.

EXPANSION

After several meetings with Ipswich Borough Council, Suffolk Community Foundation, Suffolk Health Watch, and Children's Centres, we have been requested to expand our project and co-operate with both "The Children's Centres" in Ipswich and also "Suffolk Healthwatch". The aim of this expansion is to help with statistics and advice to new people in our community.

INTERNATIONAL CAFE

Our International Café has also expanded with numbers to the extent that room is at a premium. There is also excellent Cultural integration and social inclusion takes place in this space. New friends are made and children are welcomed with parents.

At our last count, we had approximately 28 nationalities attending on a weekly basis.

VOLUNTEERS

We have an amazing team, both teachers, classroom assistants and volunteers, although at this present time, we desperately need café volunteers to help at lunchtimes between 11 am and 1.30 pm before the afternoon classes begin.

God is moving, blessing, and expanding in many many ways, and He is being glorified. More information on how this is happening can be given on a one to one basis.

Highlights

Our highlights this year have been:

- a) The sheer amount of people,
- b) Our Awards Ceremony which took place on 9th July where certificates were awarded to our students after which a delicious strawberry cream tea was served and enjoyed by all. The merry atmosphere and buzz that ensued was commented upon by our students who enjoyed the experience,
- c) The attendance of Town Councillors who presented the certificates.

This has given us recognition by the local government who have complimented us on our "professionalism" as a church who are interested and caring enough to involve ourselves in the local community. Well done and thank you everyone who has contributed to this project.

Challenges / Needs

Our challenges are **"STAFF"**, **"SPACE"**, **"FINANCE"**. We are limited by all three. We feel that God has great plans for our church in the community. An amazing full time work within our town could be accomplished if more of the above were provided.

Future Plans

Discussions are being held currently to see how we can expand even more. If anyone is interested in volunteering, teaching, providing more space or finance, please let us know.

Maureen Huntly

EVENTS

Overview

From October 2014- October 2015 I have specifically functioned in the capacity of IIC Events Coordinator.

Throughout the year, we have hosted events focused both internally (for the church body) and externally (outreach/community events). These play an important part in the church programme. Within a year, IIC events have significantly improved. The past year has been very rewarding in many ways, but not without its challenges.

Events as an area in IIC covers a very broad spectrum. Therefore, at various times members of our team organise different events which contribute to the overall dynamic within the church. e.g. The Christmas Concert- led by Esther Pemberton, the youth 'Revived' and 'The Gathering' - led by Ian Tearle and Sally Piggott.

Highlights

Some of the highlights for this year's events includes: (but are not limited to)

- Celebration of Gospel Concert 2014
- Reaching the King
- Watchnight Service
- Discipleship Conference
- True Gospel Singers Concert (Easter Saturday)
- The Gathering and Revived
- Family Camp and Big Day Out

This month we will be hosting the Celebration of Gospel Concert for the second consecutive year. This year it features special guest gospel choir – Revelation Avenue – along with other local gospel artists. The Celebration of Gospel Concert attracts a lot of visitors, both Christian and Non-Christian, which in turn could bring many opportunities to the church.

Challenges / Needs

As the church continues to develop and expand, we constantly discover the importance of keeping our technical equipment up to date. We have many great ideas but we sometimes lack the 'manpower' to execute these ideas effectively. Volunteers make a huge difference in the smooth running of events. We are continually looking to grow our volunteer teams. If you are interested in joining our events team please contact the office and leave a message with Sharon, myself or any of the pastors.

Future Plans

Within the next year, we are trusting God that we will be able to do more events that complement the church's fivefold vision. We are looking forward to new volunteers joining our team and making more steps towards excellence for the glory of God.

Petranella Noreiga

CHURCH OFFICE

Overview

I took over the role of interim Office Manager in June of this year. Prior to this Glen had put systems in place in order to ensure the office ran effectively. I have discovered the office is the hub of the church meaning it is central to communications in this fellowship. For example, getting notices out to the church on a Sunday, informing departmental leaders of meetings and relaying messages to pastors. The office is key to community organisations using our building and is a direct contact for members of the community. The pastors also derive support from the office be it administrative or ensuring systems are in place for the effective running of the church as an organisation.

Since I have taken on the role of running the office, I have been instrumental in getting the Health and Safety updated and ensuring records are kept to show accountability and transparency. I aim to get things done in a timely manner; this is paramount as we to continue to strive for excellence.

Highlights

- Setting up a signing in system to follow safety protocol
- Conducting risk assessments and complying with Health and Safety guidelines
- Invoicing community groups in a timely manner and showing good stewardship

Challenges / Needs

The main challenge is effective communication. Often times several emails have to be sent out and/ or followed up by telephone calls to ascertain information has been received or noted. This challenge is more pronounced as people in key positions are volunteers and have other commitments. It would be helpful if recipients check their emails (it may have gone to spam) at least once a week and respond to confirm receipt of communication from the office.

Another challenge is undertaking other non-administrative duties as a result of a lack of volunteers.

- Other volunteers to cover the reception
- Skilled volunteers that will be able to offer their services to the church in a range of capacities
- Volunteers are needed to clear the church building

Future Plans

For systems to be in place that underpin the fellowship's push for excellence as a kingdom minded church reaching up, in and out.

- An organisational chart that will clearly state functions and roles of key personnel
- Following up things quickly and effectively

Notes

In order to ensure excellence is more than just a rhetoric there needs to be an awareness that the office is instrumental in facilitating this.

Sharon Murray-Sakumai

WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE?

A way of organising and managing the church that allows us to:

- Achieve our mission by delivering the five fold vision
- Make the most of our people and other resources
- Equipping and releasing people for discipleship and mission
- A flexible structure that allows for growth but still consistent with national Elim governance.

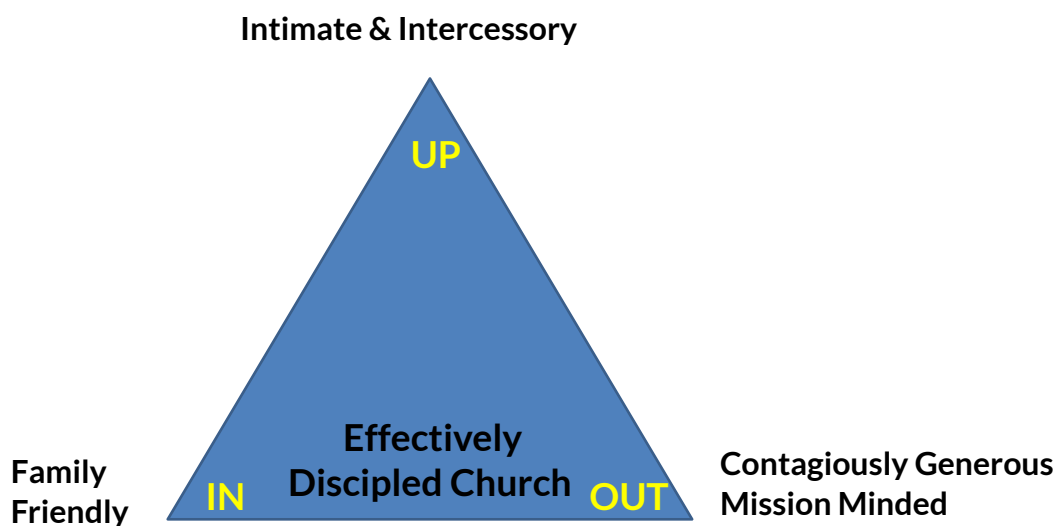
RECAP ON THE IIC VISION

Mission Statement -
Making Disciples, Impacting Nations

Fivefold Vision – a Church that is:

- Family Friendly
- Effectively Discipled
- Contagiously Generous
- Passionately Mission Minded
- Intimate and Intercessory

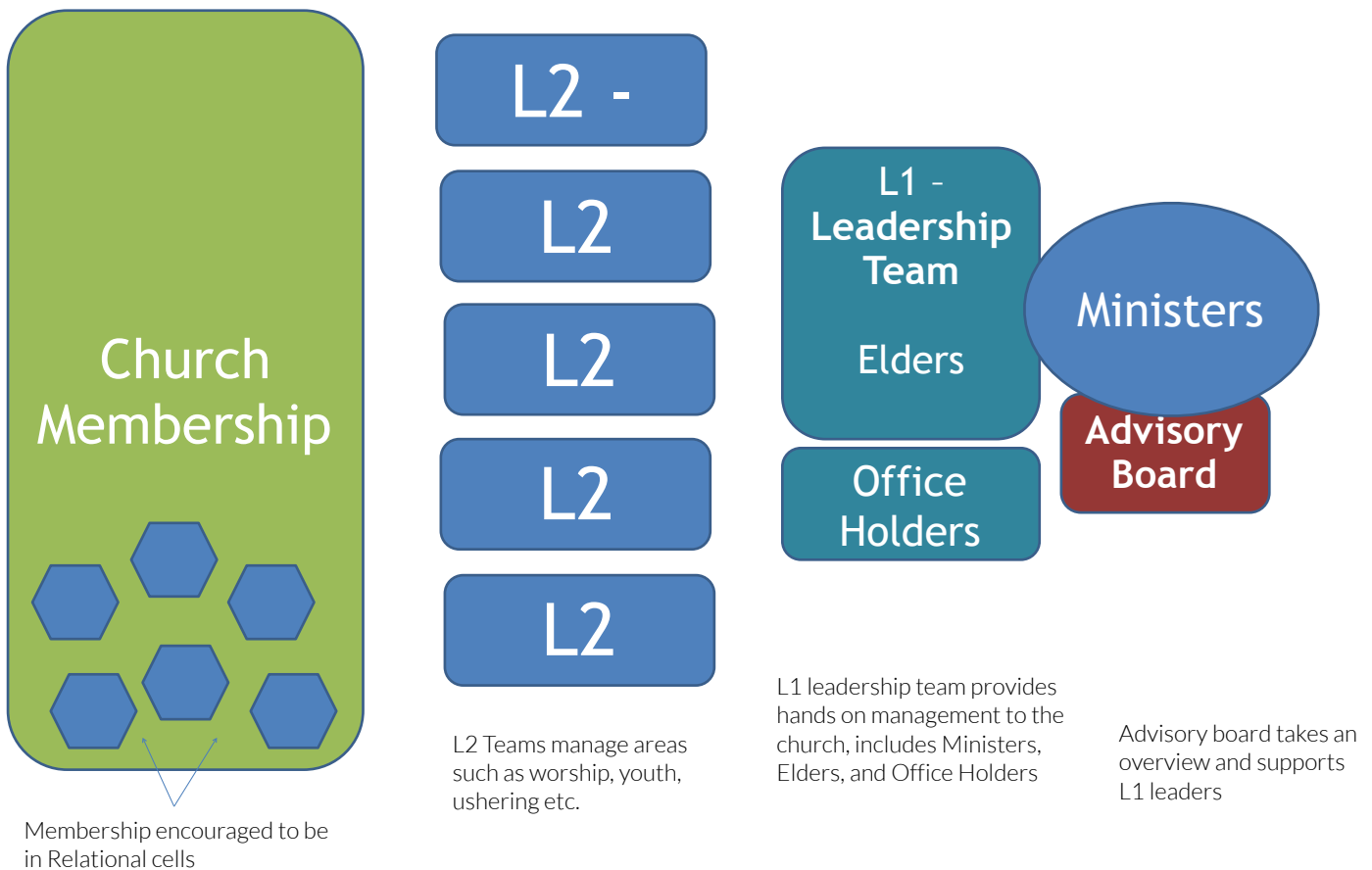
UP / IN / OUT, AND THE FIVE FOLD VISION



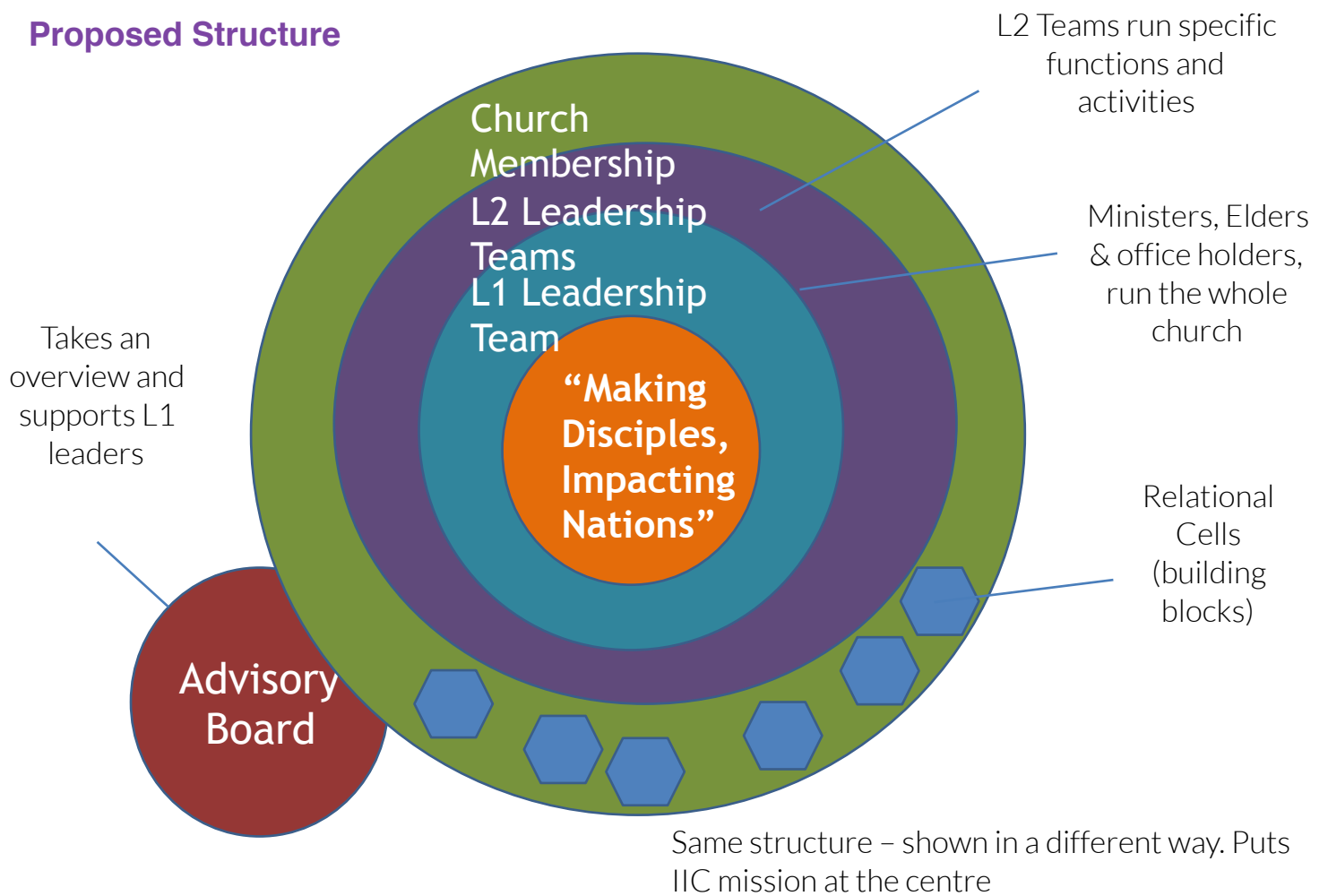
Principles for Church Governance & Organisation

- Ensure all that we do contributes to the UP/IN/OUT roles, [1] the mission, and the five fold vision.
- Leadership reconfigured to provide
 - Overview and support of L1 leadership (Advisory Board),
 - Oversight, vision and strategic direction of the church (L1 Leadership Team)
 - Functional Support & Finance (Office holders)
 - Leadership of specific functions (L2 Leadership Teams)
- Relational cells as the building blocks for the church

Proposed Structure



Proposed Structure



Members of the L1 Leadership Team; ministers, elders, and office holders.

- Pastor Harold Afflu
- Pastor David Baker
- Pastor Wale Adefuye
- Philip Ogunniyi (requires affirmation)
- Denest Akintaju, Church Treasurer, (requires affirmation)
- Gavin Bultitude, Functional Support, (requires affirmation)

Members of the Advisory Board

- Nigel Tween (Chair of the Advisory Board)
- Steve Thompson
- June Bennet
- Maureen Huntly
- Geoff Hawley
- Pastor Harold Afflu
- Pastor David Baker

We are one body

- In complying with the Elim governance document only those nominated for eldership or office holders need to be affirmed by the church.
- We value everyone who serves in all capacities.
- Together we are the church, we are all responsible for delivering the mission and vision of IIC.
- There is a role for everybody, and all are called to contribute according to their gifts and talents.
- We are one body.

What happens now?

- Two weeks for church members to raise objections, if any. These must be received in writing to the Senior Minister not later than 13th November 2015.
- AGM on the 22nd of November to formally affirm new L1 leadership team members and office holders, and the new leadership structure.
- All church members are encouraged to participate in this decision, others may attend and observe.
- Service will finish at 12.15 and AGM start at 12.30.