



Lifestreams
Christian Church
SOUTH PERTH
A Christ Centred Community

Lifestreams Christian Church Membership Information



VISION

Who we want to be!

“A Christ Centred Community
Passionately Committed to
Transforming Our World”

MISSION

How we get there!

“Helping People Find
and Follow Christ”



OUR COMMUNITY

Our values serve as the foundation for the building of a healthy Christ Centred Community. We believe that God's Kingdom and Church will grow automatically as these values are lived out. These values are constant, passionate, Biblical and distinctive beliefs that influence:

- our shape
- our decision making
- our risks, goals and priorities.

We believe they have been given to us uniquely as a mandate for living out the purposes of Christ together.

Methods are many; Values and Principles are few. Methods may change; but Values and Principles never do!



OUR VALUES

Authentic Relationship With Jesus

Joshua 1:8, Matthew 16:18–19,
2 Corinthians 8:7b, John 16:24,
1 Timothy 4:7b–8, Romans 12:1–2

We see a Church whose people are dependant on and filled by the Holy Spirit; who exercise spiritual disciplines, love the Word of God and Prayer so they live Christ-like lives.

Loving Christ Centred Relationships

Matthew 22:37–39, Romans 12:10,
13:8–9, 1 Corinthians 13,
2 Thessalonians 1:3

We see a Church that is so full of compassion that people are drawn from all situations in life into a loving, accepting community that inspires hope and faith in Christ.

Relational Christ Centred Evangelism

Luke 7:34, John 6:65, Acts 5:42,
Acts 8:4, Galatians 2:20

We see a Church committed to Spirit-led evangelism resulting in relationships of loving integrity; where Christ is shared through our lives and words.

A Life of Simplicity and Generosity

Matthew 10:8b, Matthew 11:28b–30 (Message), Luke 5:36–39 & 9:23ff, Romans 12:1–2, Acts 2:44–45, 2 Corinthians 3:17; 9:6ff

We see a Church committed to a lifestyle of Christ-like freedom and simplicity; therefore the way we live and worship is designed to enhance and empower sacrificial, generous living.

Every Christ Follower Actively Involved in Ministry

Romans 12:3–8, 1 Corinthians 12:7–27

We see a Church of people who reflect the life of Christ as they love and serve the Church, the community, the world; especially the poor and marginalised.

Inspiring Community Celebration

Nehemiah 8:10, Ecclesiastes 3:4, 2 Corinthians 1:3–5, Colossians 3:23, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Revelation 4–5

We see community worship that passionately exalts Christ, ushers in the tangible presence of God, inspiring hope and faith.

Belonging Through Small Groups

Ephesians 4:1b, 1 Thessalonians 2:8, Colossians 3:12–17

We see a Church committed to connecting in accountable, authentic and relational small groups. These groups intentionally engage in the Word and prayer. These groups are dynamic, intimate and reproductive by nature and are constantly open to embracing new people.

Christ Centred Servant Leadership

Romans 12:8, Galatians 5:16 & 25b; 2 Timothy 2:2, Ephesians 5:18

We see a Church that is committed to raising, training, empowering and releasing generations of Christ-like servant leaders. This will be reflected in all ministries of the Church.

Unity of the Body of Christ

Matthew 28:18–20, John 17, Psalm 133, Ephesians 4:3–7

We see a Church so Kingdom minded that we will count the cost and pay whatever the price to see the Church move together in the accomplishment of its mission. We will strive for unity while embracing diversity.

A Church of Kingdom Influence

Mark 4:28, Matthew 28:18–20, Acts 1:8, Acts 2:42–47, Acts 5:42, Acts 16:5

We see a regional Church of such size and Kingdom influence that it impacts the City of South Perth, Western Australia, the nation of Australia and the World. It is a Church so healthy and full of the Holy Spirit that it will grow spiritually and numerically.



OUR BELIEFS

ABOUT ESSENTIAL BELIEFS - WE HAVE UNITY...

ABOUT NON-ESSENTIAL BELIEFS - WE HAVE LIBERTY...

ABOUT ALL OUR BELIEFS - WE SHOW LOVE...

OUR CENTRE IS CHRIST; OUR BOOK IS THE BIBLE

John 14:6, Acts 4:13, Philippians 2:5–11, Colossians 1:15–20, Colossians 2:16–17, 1 John 1:1–4, Revelation 1:8

The centrality of Christ is fundamental to Christian faith and doctrine. The Bible is primarily God's revelation to people in written form, which finds its fulfilment in Christ. Christ is God's ultimate revelation to people and our Christian faith is all about our relationship with God through Christ.

CHRISTIANS ONLY, BUT NOT THE ONLY CHRISTIANS

We are committed to being known simply as Christians like the early followers of Christ (Acts 11:26). We recognise that we are one part of the universal Church of Jesus Christ, that He loved and gave Himself for (Ephesians 5:25b). It is our desire to commit ourselves to the unity of God's people as Jesus prayed and longed for (John 17:13-23).

ESSENTIAL BELIEFS

About God

Genesis 1:26–27, Genesis 3:22, Psalm 90:2, Matthew 28:19, 1 Peter 1:2, 2 Corinthians 13:14

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He eternally exists in three (3) persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

About Jesus Christ

Matthew 1:22–23, Isaiah 9:6, John 1:1–5, John 14:10–30, Hebrews 4:14–15, 1 Corinthians 15:3–4, Romans 1:3–4, Acts 1:9–11, 1 Timothy 6:14–15, Titus 2:13

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He rose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again some day to earth to reign as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

About the Holy Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:17, John 16:7–13,
John 14:16–17, Acts 1:8,
1 Corinthians 2:12, 1 Corinthians 3:16,
Ephesians 1:13, Galatians 5:25,
Ephesians 5:18

The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives believers spiritual gifts when they are saved. As Christians we are to live under His control daily.

About the Bible

2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20–21,
2 Timothy 1:13, Psalm 119:105,
Psalm 12:6, Proverbs 30:5

The Bible is God's Word to us. Human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit wrote it. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because God inspires it, it is the truth without any mixture of error.

About Human Beings

Genesis 1:27, Psalm 8:3–6, Isaiah 53:6a,
Romans 3:23, Isaiah 59:1–2

People are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God - called 'sin'. This attitude separates people from God and causes many problems in life.

About Salvation

Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8–9,
John 14:6, John 1:12, Titus 3:5,
Galatians 3:26, Romans 5:1,
John 10:29, 2 Timothy 1:12,
Hebrews 7:25, Hebrews 10:10–14,
1 Peter 1:3–5

Salvation is God's free gift to us but we must accept it. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we turn from our self-ruled life to Jesus in faith we are saved. Eternal life begins the moment a person receives Jesus Christ into their life by faith and this faith will be evidenced through the believer's obedient life. Salvation is sustained through the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian.

People Were Created to Exist Forever

John 3:16, 1 John 2:25, 1 John 5:11–13,
Romans 6:23, Revelation 20:15,
Matthew 18:8, Matthew 25:41–46

We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in unison with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence

OUR EVANGELISM STRATEGY

Our simple strategy to reaching people for Christ

Bridge Building

As followers of Christ, we are committed to building relationships of integrity with people in our world who don't know the Lord.

Sharing One's Own Story

Out of a relationship of integrity, believers have opportunities to share their own story of embracing faith in Jesus.

Opportunities to get Together in Community

The community of Lifestreams Christian Church meets together in a variety of ways. At all times, people who know Jesus and those on a path of discovering Jesus are welcome!

Prayer

Each Christian recognises the necessity of praying for their non-Christian friends.



OUR DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGY

Our simple strategy to help people grow towards maturity in Christ

Church Life

Every Disciple of Christ is encouraged to be committed to Christian Community.

Hebrews 10: 25 - Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Life Groups

Every Disciple of Christ is encouraged to grow in their Christian walk by sharing their spiritual journey in some form of Life Group.

Deeper Life

Every Disciple of Christ is encouraged to be devoted to hearing and responding to Christ through prayer and regular reflection on the Word of God (the Bible) using the Lifestreams Journal as a tool. As well as accessing Discipleship training through “Deeper” - our Lifestreams discipleship courses.

Life Mission

Every Disciple of Christ who is a part of the Lifestreams Christian Church community is encouraged to discover, develop and exercise some form of Christian service in the church and community. Responding to all people they encounter, in ways that enable people to recognise Christ's love helping them to find and follow Him.

OUR LEADERSHIP

The leadership of Lifestreams Christian Church is first of all:

Christ-Centred

As a Church, we desire to reflect the priority of Christ in all we do and how we do it. No decision is ever made that would knowingly contradict any of Christ's teaching. Together we endeavour to discern through the leading of the Holy Spirit what God is saying to us as a Church.

Team Dynamic

There are five groups of people who lead the ministry of Lifestreams Christian Church.

These teams are:

Servant Leadership Team

These people are Christ-like, gifted people who are called and appointed by the Church to provide oversight and governance of the Church.

Senior Ministry Team

These people are our Senior Ministry Staff. They are Christ-like, gifted and trained people who are called and appointed by the Church to provide ministry leadership and oversight.

Ministry Staff

These people are called and appointed on the basis of their maturity, Christ-like character, experience and spiritual giftedness.

Appointed, Capable, Trustworthy Servants (ACTS)

This team of Christ-like people volunteer their marketplace expertise and service for the Church when required.

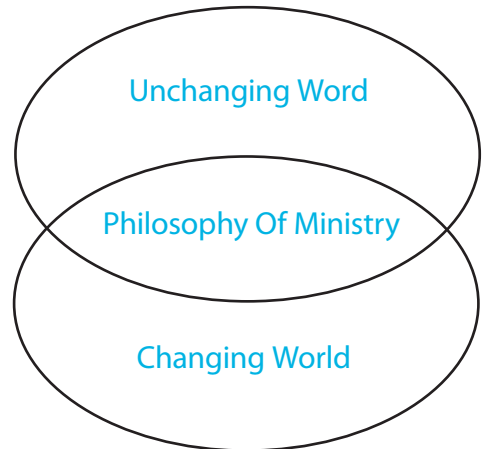
Shepherding Elders

These are Christ-like, gifted people who are called and affirmed by the Church to provide prayer and pastoral care for the Church.

OUR APPROACH TO MINISTRY

Our philosophy of ministry is very simple. We take the unchanging Word of God and constantly seek to apply it to an ever-changing world. This overlap creates our fluid philosophy of ministry.

We are committed to functional, flexible and fluid structures that enable Lifestreams Christian Church to follow the leading of God's Spirit John 3:8.



Lifestreams Christian Church

Membership

THE CHURCH'S PURPOSE

Jesus created the Church following His resurrection to continue His mission of saving the world from sin and death. Jesus outlined the church's purpose in 'The Great Commission' captured in the Gospel Mark 16:15-16

"He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." Matthew 28:10b-12 NIV.

The Bible also describes the Church as the Bride of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2) whom Jesus loves and gave Himself for (Ephesians 5:25). The Church is His Body (Romans 12:5, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, Ephesians 3:6 & 5:23, Colossians 1:18 & 1:24) through whom He speaks and acts, by which He fills everything with His presence (Ephesians 1:23).

It is through the Church that Jesus brings the principalities and powers into submission (Ephesians 1:22-23). Christians are therefore urged not to neglect gathering together (Hebrews 10:24-25).

THE CHRIST FOLLOWER AND THE LOCAL CHURCH

The Church is to help people to know Christ and to grow towards Christ likeness (spiritual maturity). Being a follower of Jesus (discipleship) is an interactive process which requires commitment and consistency.

The Church is united when we are gathered and when we are apart. The Church at all times is bound together by Christ. This means that a Christ-follower is someone who is willing to:

- Commit to active participation in relationships within the Church that results in a desire to serve one another and to meet needs according to the gifts that God gives to every believer.
- Commit to the weekly gathering of the Church (Sunday Worship) and to small groups.



MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE THE MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS?

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP?

Lifestreams Christian Church offers two forms of Membership: Active Membership and General Membership.

Active Membership:

There are eight (8) key characteristics that we encourage all active members of Lifestreams Christian Church to embody.

A Lifestreams Christian Church Active Member:

- Knows they are a child of God (Conversion - John 3:1-7).
- Is committed to give verbal witness to their faith (Confession - Romans 10:9-10).
- Understands that their relationship and walk with Christ is central to everything, shaped by a regular commitment to reading the Word and Prayer. (Christ-like Character - Galatians 5:22-25, 2 Peter 3:18).
- Is involved with other believers in an area of ministry (Congregation - Romans 12:4-8).
- Is committed to meeting with the wider Lifestreams Christian Church family in our Community Worship gatherings at least every two (2) weeks on average over a year (Celebration - Hebrews 10:24-25).
- Is actively committed to the stewardship of their whole life; their time, gifts and money (Contribution - Philippians 4:11-19).

- Is actively committed and submitted to the Vision, Mission and Values as prayerfully shaped by the leadership of Lifestreams Christian Church (Commitment - Acts 2:42-47).
- Belongs to a small group of other believers. There are many different opportunities for meeting in small groups (for example, Life Groups). We encourage gatherings of small groups wherever and whenever. Believers can meet for mutual encouragement, accountability and support (Acts 2:46).

General Membership:

There are times when, for all kinds of reasons (like work or long term illness) people may not be able to regularly attend Lifestreams Christian Church worship services and be actively involved in a small group. People in these situations are welcome to be committed to Lifestreams Christian Church as General Members.

Anyone who openly confesses faith in Christ Jesus is welcome to become a General Member. General Members are people who identify with the vision, mission and values of Lifestreams Christian Church. General Members attend worship and prayer gatherings, small groups and ministry activities when they can.

General Members are able to engage with most aspects of the Lifestreams Christian Church community. However, because General Members are unable to be regularly present with the Church community they are not able to hold leadership positions or vote at Lifestreams Christian Church congregational meetings.

General Membership for Under 18's

We believe that it is important that young people are listened to and considered in all of our decision making process and, as far as possible, the leadership of Lifestreams Christian Church is committed to doing so. The Lifestreams Christian Church voting process is for people who have reached the age of 18. We encourage our young people to look forward to this opportunity and in the mean time pray that the men and women of Lifestreams Christian Church rely on God in all things.

WHY BECOME AN ACTIVE MEMBER?

There is great spiritual value in making a commitment to community. When we commit to being an Active Member, we say to one another, "I will not easily leave". Commitment fosters community. What we cannot do alone, we can accomplish through Christ together.

The primary reason to become an Active Member is to identify with the characteristics of Biblical maturity and commitment to the Mission and future of Lifestreams Christian Church. Active Members are our vision owners or "stakeholders". They are the people who play an active part in what we believe God has called us to shape together.

WHEN CAN I BECOME AN ACTIVE MEMBER?

You can become an Active Member when you have a relationship with Jesus Christ and are expressing your commitment to Him and to Lifestreams Christian Church. Please refer to our eight (8) key characteristics for a Lifestreams Christian Church Active Member.

ARE MINISTRY LEADERS REQUIRED TO BE ACTIVE MEMBERS?

Yes, it is essential that all of our volunteer leaders and staff are Active Members. One of the key roles of leaders is to model the Vision, Mission and Core Values of Lifestreams Christian Church.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM AN ACTIVE MEMBER BUT MY SITUATION CHANGES AND I CAN NO LONGER REGULARLY ATTEND OR BE INVOLVED IN A SMALL GROUP OR ACTIVE MINISTRY?

Our Pastoral Care Team are committed to providing regular care and contact for people who are a part of the Lifestreams Christian Church community. We understand that there are times when life situations change (work, illness, travel etc).

For the period that people are unable to fulfil their commitment as an Active Member, people will be transferred to our General Membership. In such cases, people can return to Active Membership at any time by contacting a member of our Lifestreams Christian Church Ministry Team.

DO I HAVE TO BE BAPTISED TO BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER?

Lifestreams Christian Church recognises that there are differing theologies with regards to baptism (including infant baptism). In the New Testament, it was people who confessed faith in Christ who were baptised and this is the basis of our practise at Lifestreams Christian Church. Please collect a "Baptism" Truth for Living pamphlet from the pamphlet racks in the foyer, or you can download a copy from our website www.lifestreamscc.com.

Baptism is not a requirement for Active Membership at Lifestreams Christian Church but we strongly encourage you to consider Believer's Baptism if you have not already done so.

I'M A NEW CHRISTIAN... CAN I BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER?

Absolutely! Spiritual formation is a life-long, whole of life process. Active Members are committed to ongoing spiritual formation. They have fixed their eyes on Jesus, the "author and perfector" of their faith.



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DOES BECOMING AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF LIFESTREAMS CHRISTIAN CHURCH MEAN THAT I HAVE TO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY TO THE CHURCH?

Lifestreams Christian Church does not exclude people from becoming Active Members on the basis of what they may financially contribute to the work and mission of Lifestreams Christian Church. However, we do affirm that people who are seeking to live in a Christ-like way will reflect the generous nature of God.

We believe that giving financially is an outward expression of gratitude to God. Giving affirms our commitment to steward everything God has given. Our financial gifts are used to fund the work and ministry of Lifestreams Christian Church.

Lifestreams Christian Church is committed to being a people who seek to give beyond the local work and ministry. We are committed to reflecting the generous heart of God in our support of our Christ to Cosmos (C2C), building projects and in our financial gifts to the poor and marginalized (love offerings).

The New Testament speaks about generosity and we see that part of our response to God is to be generous.

NEW TO LIFESTREAMS CHRISTIAN CHURCH?

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you personally in order to hear about your journey with Christ. We'd love to talk to you about becoming an Active Member or a General Member of Lifestreams Christian Church.

Lifestreams Christian Church Membership Information

The Senior Ministry Team of LifeStreams Christian Church



John Bond
Senior Minister



Tania Watson
Ministry Integration Minister



Rod Thom
Senior Youth & Young Adults Minister



Daron Crothers
Worship, Prayer & Missions Minister



David Stanford
Community Minister



Irene Farmer
Ministry Facilitator
(PA for Senior Minister)

Lifestreams Christian Church Membership Application

- I have committed my life to Jesus Christ and have trusted Him for salvation.
- I accept that the Bible is the Word of God and the basis for my Christian life.
- I have read "Lifestreams Christian Church Membership Information" and I affirm the Vision, Mission and Values of Lifestreams Christian Church.
- I desire to be an Active Member of Lifestreams Christian Church.
- OR
- I desire to be a General Member of Lifestreams Christian Church.

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ P/Code: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Work): _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____





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