

# Greyfriars Eden Epsom Presbyterian Church

## *Our mission together 2021-2026*



*Those who are noble plan noble things and by noble things they stand.*  
Isaiah 32.8

**Our Mission:** To help people know and follow Jesus

**Our mission flows from our relationship with Jesus,**

- faithful to the scriptures,
- powered by prayer,
- discerned as a local fellowship,
- and active in service.



**Our Vision** is to be a vibrant and thriving, multigenerational and multicultural Christian church, faithfully following Jesus.

**We are committed to being a Spiritually Healthy Congregation**



Living in Love  
Growing in Faith  
Uniting in Purpose  
Devoted in Worship  
Creating Community  
Sharing in Fellowship  
Proclaiming the Gospel  
Serving with Compassion

**Historically we are part of the Reformed faith and are members of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.** As such we:

- Hold the Bible as the supreme rule for life and faith, and also adhere to the subordinate standards and governance of the PCANZ.
- Build on the faithful witness of Greyfriars church family from times past who described this church as:
  - **Christ-centred**
  - **Bible-based**
  - **Mission-oriented**
  - **People-related**

**Values we share:**

- Integrity
- Compassion
- Faith in action
- Discernment



**Our overarching strategy is to continue:**

- Developing services of worship which are life-transforming
- Promoting Christian growth and fellowship
- Encouraging mission and evangelistic outreach
- Supporting new initiatives in keeping with our mission
- Developing short and long-term goals to achieve our mission

**Growth Goals** - Our growth goals draw upon the biblical imagery of organic growth, where there is depth in the roots, strength in the trunk and fruit on the branches. A plant that ... *will take root below and bear fruit above.* (Is 37.31) This reflects our desire to see people mature as disciples and be fruitful as God's people.



# Our specific goals for Growth

## Growth in Discipleship

- Helping people to become mature followers of Jesus who can help others come to and grow in their faith
- Identifying steps people may use as indicators of increasing spiritual maturity
- Celebrating spiritual milestones and accomplishment.

## Growth in Leadership (Employed and volunteer)

- To use our resources strategically to identify, encourage, train and equip leaders to minister in key areas of church life
- Aim to further equip teams as core mission/ministry groups to strengthen our ability to achieve our mission
- Appropriately give responsibility, authority and resources to leaders and teams to enable them to achieve mission goals.



## Growth in Outreach

- Outreach (especially to the 20-40 age group)
- Getting to know our community by developing an awareness of community needs, aspirations and issues
- Staying up to date with our changing demographics
- Developing **come** and **go** outreach plans (On occasions we invite people to come to us and at other times we go to them).

## Growth in Fellowship

- Growing together in love and understanding
- Developing relationships and deepening connections with others by living out faith, serving in mission, worshipping together and meeting socially

- Deepen cultural understanding.

### **Growth in Attendance**

- Building to an average attendance of 350 adults attending our morning services
- Improve how we welcome people who visit our services and connect with people who come to church events



- To embrace an openness to change.

### **Short term aspirations from 2020 Redemptive Family workshop**

- 1) Growing disciples – through growth groups, investing in leaders
- 2) Relationships – developing relationships (Discovering Others Challenge)
- 3) Being invitational – inviting people into church life with a focus on mix-zone activities like BBQ Church, Light Party ...

### **Strategic plans and goals 2021**

The plans highlighted below are for special attention for a period of time and it does not suggest that other ministries are less important.



# 1) Mission to Children and Families

## Our goals are to:

- help children come to and grow in faith
- enhance and nurture family/community life
- see growth in attendance at all our children's events
- to attract families to our church through the good relationships our leaders have with the children and because of the quality of our events
- support parents/caregivers through relationships, education and tools for parenting
- To grow ZED as a mission for intermediate aged children and as a stepping stone towards involvement in youth group.



## To achieve this, we plan in 2021 to focus significant resources to develop and grow our children's mission.

- Resources of people and finances
- Developing a children's ministry team
- Continue to build up our holiday programmes

## Accountability will be evident/measured by:

- Time given to children's ministry
- People engaged leading & supporting children's ministry
  - Paid/Volunteers
- Variety of events focused on children, such as
  - kidzone/Sunday School
  - mainly music
  - Playgroup
  - Holiday Programmes
  - Light Party
  - White Sunday





- Messy Church
- Move – Dance and Movement class
- End of year surveys of families asking their views on the effectiveness and quality of our children's work
- Resources allocated to children's ministry in the budget and in buildings
- Growing attendance of children
- While hard to quantify we will look towards the degree to which children are engaged in and enthusiastic about this mission.



## 2) Cross-Cultural Mission

### Our goals are to:

- Improve our relationship with people from different cultural backgrounds who attend our services or church events
- Connect with people of different cultural groups in the communities of Mt Eden and Epsom
- Gain a reputation as a church where people of different cultural groups are welcome
- Help people find salvation in Christ and a spiritual home in our church
- Provide culturally inclusive environments.

**To achieve this we plan to develop cross-cultural ministries.**

This includes exploring what it means to be an *International Church* worshipping primarily in English.

- Developing a Cross-cultural ministry team
- Developing an ESOL class

**Accountability will be evident/measured by:**

- Promoting our International Growth Group. Appropriate use of languages/cultural input in our services
- Developing appropriate ways to translate sermons
- Use of languages in our advertising/brochures
- Encouraging people to learn/appreciate other cultures through fellowship at international meals
- Having signs in multiple languages
- Inter-Cultural involvement in leadership.



**3) To increasingly be an invitational mission-oriented community where:**

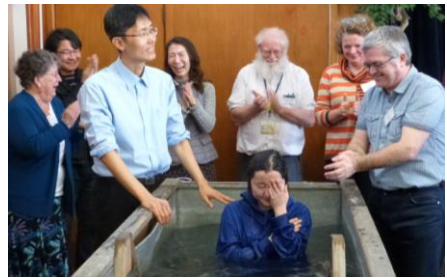
- Increase our mix-zones where faith stories are shared and spiritual conversations take place
- people come to faith in Jesus as God adds to our numbers those who are being saved
- we as a church are constantly celebrating conversions and faith decisions with joyful hearts.

**To achieve this, we will have a five-year focus on outreach and evangelism:**

- Reaching out in prayer to God to add to our number daily those who are being saved
- Dedicating ourselves to prayer to see people come to faith
- Encourage spiritual conversations at mix-zone and other events/occasions
- Become increasingly invitational
- Dedicate specific funding to outreach – mix-zone activities and resourcing our advertising team, website, facebook, signage ...
- Encouraging each other in our evangelism.

**Accountability will be measured by:**

- Celebrations of new faith encouraging the hearts of the congregations
- Increasing willingness to engage in spiritual conversations
- Increasingly having people share their testimony of recent conversions
- Having quarterly baptism services for the newly converted, and quarterly membership classes for those joining the church (2 adult baptisms 2019, 5 professions of faith 2020)
- Growth in both attendance and membership.



#### **4) Completing our Building Project as a springboard to mission on Mt Eden Road**

Our mission will be positively enhanced by having our buildings open on Mt Eden road. So, our goal is to be worshipping in our new facilities as soon as possible



- A new space in constant, obvious use on Mt Eden road will give a positive image of the church and will help to raise our profile in the community
- It will help the community to notice the vibrant life and faith of the people of the church
- Members of the church and people in the community will be able to use the facilities and refurbished church for significant events like, baptism, marriage and funerals.



**To achieve our goal of opening facilities on Mt Eden road that will help to advance the mission of our church we plan to:**

- Receive approval of our concept plans
- Secure funding through the sale of our buildings on Gardner Road
- and to advance the project to completion.

**The achievement of this goal will be evident/measured by:**

- The completion of detailed plans and the agreement of all parties to proceed
- The successful tender for building and the raising of funds to complete the project
- The date of the opening service.









## Greyfriars Staff



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For more information go to our website

**greyfriars.org.nz**

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