

THE ASSOCIATION OF Christian Family Centre Churches

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WHO WE ARE

Our Unique Identity

The Association of Christian Family Centre Churches *has been raised up by God to express our Evangelical/Pentecostal beliefs and ministry* with a set of core values and a purposeful ministry strategy that *fits squarely within the main stream of historic Christian belief and practice*; and which we believe is very appealing and relevant to late 20th Century/early 21st Century culture and its various social needs.

Our Biblical Foundation

As with other churches, we accept and rely on the absolute authority of the Bible as God's Word, and we express normally accepted *Biblically-based Christian beliefs, values, ethics and behaviour*; and hold an attitude of friendship and cooperation with other Christian denominations.

Our Christ-Centred Worldview

Our view of the Christian life is that it should be *centred around a personal relationship with Jesus Christ* and therefore will be loving, joyful, supportive and productive *in all of its expressions*.

We fully identify in the finished work of Christ on the Cross and of Christ's victorious resurrection on our behalf and in the life and destiny-changing reality of Christ indwelling us through the person of the Holy Spirit.

We place our trust in the doing and dying of Christ on our behalf and depend on Christ's living presence to initially save us and to continually sustain us in our Christian walk.

Our Passion For All People

We affirm that Jesus Christ can *transform all people by His love and grace* and that He will always enrich peoples lives, enabling them to fully develop their creative potential and to live with meaning and purpose.

OUR CORE VALUES

Our Core Values guide all of our ministry expressions and describe *who we are* and *what we stand for*. They are fundamental to *our personal lives* and our understanding of *how our church should function*.

In all things we pursue **Authenticity, Integrity, Dignity, Proactivity, Stability and Excellence.**

AUTHENTICITY – *We seek to maintain an authentic and growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ.*

We outwork this by intelligibly expressing both our individual and corporate worship and witness of Jesus Christ in the good order and control that the Scriptures prescribe; and by serving Jesus in a manner that is creative, relevant and contemporary, while always remaining true to our Biblical foundations.

INTEGRITY – *We seek to be people who adhere to the highest levels of integrity in our ministry and witness of Jesus Christ.*

We outwork this by accurately presenting the entire message of the Bible by called, gifted and anointed teachers; by living Christ-like lives of moral uprightness; by outworking Christ's miraculous ministry in a manner that is always glorifying to God, in the interests and welfare of people, and conducted with great sensitivity to the needs of those present; by diligently and responsibly overseeing our financial operations; and by maintaining clearly defined levels of accountability and cooperation throughout the relational, ministry and organisational life of our church.

DIGNITY – *We uphold the value and worth of all people as special creations of God and for whom Jesus Christ died on the Cross.*

We outwork this by creating a safe and supportive environment where people can experience the true love, acceptance, forgiveness and peace of Jesus Christ; and by sharing about Christ's love and salvation with people by our respectful words and consistent lifestyle.

PROACTIVITY – *We seek to use initiative and to be creative in our obedience to and dependence on Jesus Christ.*

We outwork this by desiring and expecting Christ to work miracles through us; by operating in the supernatural empowerment of God's Spirit with the various free gifts that he gives (1 Corinthians 12:7-11); and by innovative and expansive thinking, and a dynamic and daring faith that undergirds everything we do for Jesus Christ.

STABILITY – *We seek to reflect balance and common sense in every expression of our faith in Jesus Christ.*

We outwork this by releasing called, gifted and anointed leaders who will stay focused on our Purpose; by being committed to practically applied Biblical teaching and preaching that is Gospel centred and Grace pervading; and by following a genuinely real-to-life, Christ centred Pentecostal spirituality in our ministry and daily life.

EXCELLENCE – *We pursue excellence by responsibly doing our very best in everything we do for Jesus Christ and by modelling the servant leadership example of Jesus Christ.*

We outwork this ideal in all aspects of our public gatherings; in our ministry of God's Word; in our church facilities; in our personal work ethics; in our family life; in our engaging with the cultural, social, economic and civic affairs of our nation; and in our spiritual impact on our community.

OUR CORPORATE PURPOSE

OUR VISION – Why We Exist.

OUR VISION is to plant Bible-based, culturally-relevant and contemporary local churches that will give a credible witness to the person of Jesus Christ and outwork the miraculous ministry of Jesus Christ.

AN EXPANDED VERSION - *Our Vision* under the leading of the Holy Spirit is to *directly plant* CFC Churches, and *help facilitate the planting* of local churches by our CRC denominational family, or like minded movements *in every community in Australia and whenever feasible throughout the world.*

... Our deepest desire is to plant Bible-based, Cross-centred, Christ-exalting, Holy Spirit-dependent, culturally-relevant and contemporary local churches that will give a *credible witness* to the person of Jesus Christ and *effectively outwork the miraculous ministry of Jesus Christ.*

OUR MISSION – What We Do.

OUR MISSION is to reach lost people with the miracle-working Gospel of Jesus Christ, as we send out well trained and spiritually empowered men and women, who are clearly called and commissioned by Jesus Christ to proclaim the Gospel and to plant and lead reproducing interdependent local churches.

OUR LOCAL CHURCHES' PURPOSE

OUR VISION – Why We Exist.

Our vision is to be a Biblically-functioning Christian community (Acts 2:42-47) that seeks to wholeheartedly outwork Jesus' Great Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40) and Jesus' Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-20; Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:8).

OUR MISSION – What We Do.

Our **mission** is to attract people to Jesus Christ, incorporate them into church **membership**, develop them in Christ-like **maturity**, and empower them to be *fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ*, with a meaningful **ministry** in the church and a life of **mission** in the world for the glory of God.

OUR 7-FOLD MINISTRY STRATEGY – How We Do It.

We will vigorously and with full dependence on God (Colossians 1:29, Philippians 2:13) seek to fulfill our vision, mission and faith targets by continually outworking a seven-fold ministry strategy.

To EVANGELISE the unchurched community *through* communicating the Good News about Jesus Christ and helping people receive Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord.

... *We will outwork* evangelism by all appropriate means, such as personal witnessing, public meetings, the printed page, the mass media and modern technology and in such manner and terms as are currently effective.

To CELEBRATE God's presence *by* exalting Jesus Christ in all of our worship and outreach services *and* helping people, through the ministry of God's Word and God's Holy Spirit, to express their faith, obedience, love and loyalty to Christ.

... *We will base* our ministry of God's Word upon the widely accepted Protestant Evangelical-Pentecostal doctrines as specified in the Association's Declaration of Faith.

To INCORPORATE new believers into our local church family *by* encouraging and helping them to relationally connect with the community life of our growing congregation.

... *We will endeavour* to align ourselves with the New Testament pattern of church life as exemplified by the first church, described in the Book of Acts and New Testament letters.

To DISCIPLE Christians and bring them to maturity *by* teaching them to prayerfully apply God's Word to their daily lives.

... *We will provide* Christian education courses and discipling programmes for all age groups and for all stages of Christian growth and development; and will cooperatively work within the Association to encourage training of church planters and Christian leaders for active full-time ministry service in Australia and abroad.

To EQUIP and empower Christ's followers to serve others *and thereby* become a part of the ministry core of our church.

... *We aim* to release in and through our church the full operation of the divinely bestowed ministry gifts that Christ graciously imparts to people, with all their creativity, skills and talents, as defined in

Ephesians 4:11, Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:27-31 and I Peter 4:10-11.

To PLANT new churches *with* the Christian Family Centre's unique core values, purpose, and ministry style whenever and wherever the Lord opens the door for us.

... *We will establish* local churches within the Association of Christian Family Centre Churches that are self-ministering, self-financing, self-governing and self-propagating in every respect, except in those areas that come under the ministry responsibility of the Association.

... *We want to follow* the New Testament pattern of reproducing, autonomous, interdependent local churches that are linked together in loving and accountable relationships and who with unity of purpose will wholeheartedly outwork the Association's Core Values, Purposes and Faith Targets.

To be WORLD Christians *by* praying, giving, supporting and sending people to reach the nations for Jesus Christ.

... *We will support* missionary enterprise in other nations with a view to establishing indigenous local churches and Christian ministries.

... *We will make* a significant presentation to the church and take up a missionary offering at least once per calendar month.