



"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalm 118:24

We worship and serve a great God who has offered us an abundant life through Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. We are a blessed people.

I love it when someone comes fresh into this knowledge and invites Jesus to take the reins of their life. Instantly, there is this spiritual glow and a passion for life and faith, a passion for God, a passion for His Word, a passion for learning, and a passion to tell others about their new found discovery. It is an exciting time in a person's life but then over time, what can happen is this passion can start to subside. Complacency, familiarity, adversity and negativity can set in and become passion killers that douse the flame that once shone so brightly. The word from Revelation 2:4 becomes a reality, "You have forsaken your first love."

Sadly, over time I see Christians becoming more passionate about their workplace, friendships, leisure activities and even the team they support than they are about God and His call on their lives. Some will gladly rejoice in a nail biting victory at the Adelaide Oval but find it hard to raise their voice in worship as we gather together to proclaim His awesome Name.

Paul once commended the church at Ephesus for its love for God and others, but then a new generation of followers came through who lost focus and lost their zeal for the Lord. They were a busy church but not passionate about God or the things that really mattered. I wonder what really matters to you? Will we be a church defined by our busyness or will we be defined as a people totally sold out to God and His mission?

Do you long to see people become passionate followers of Jesus Christ? Do you aspire to being one of those yourself?

As we reflect on our core values below it begs the question...

Am I passionate about *prayer*?

Am I passionate about *adventure*?

Am I passionate about *embrace*?

Am I passionate about *witness*?

Am I passionate about *generosity*?

Am I a person of *passion*?

Will you be a person of passion in 2016? Will you come alive in the Spirit and be attentive to what God is doing around us and join Him in His redemptive mission to win the lost. Give your great Creator your undivided attention and focus on His Kingdom values. Resist the temptation to wear the 'Me First' badge but instead honour the Lord and serve others.

"Never be lacking in zeal,
but keep your spiritual
fervour, serving the Lord."

Romans 12:11

Embed some 'Passion Igniters' in your life and rediscover your first love. Perhaps you need to reinvest in God's Word, live a more balanced lifestyle, abandon that bad habit, serve others as a priority, associate with some inspiring/positive people, respond to the poor/need, mentor a new Christian, find ways to creatively worship God... Whatever it is don't settle for mediocrity when Jesus offers us such fullness of life. May we all come alive in our faith in 2016 and may the passion begin to rise!



Mark Purser

VALUING OUR CORE VALUES

Our core values will dictate how we live each day and give witness to the presence of Christ in our lives and church community. May we all respond to the calling of Jesus – to be salt and light and model these values like never before.

We are a people of –

Passion - enthusiastically sold out for God

Psalm 118:24

Prayer - devoted to praying

Col 4:2-4

Adventure - taking faith driven risks

Mark 1:16-20

Embrace - reaching out to those in need

Luke 15:20

Witness - actively sharing our faith with others

1 Peter 3:15

Generosity - willing to share our resources

1 Tim 6:17-19

Vision 2016

to see people becoming passionate followers of Jesus.

Key STRATEGIC ACTIONS 2016:

- 'Ask Anything' - 5 week interactive sermon/life group series designed to discuss the big questions people have about God and faith.
- In collaboration with Baptist Churches of SA investigate the possibility of church planting in the growing outer northern corridor of Adelaide.
- Explore a partnership with 'Neighbours Community of Hope' in Davoren Park and minister to very needy people in a challenging socio economic climate.
- Complete the East wing of our building redevelopment (Youth Room and Common Room).
- Establish a 'Drop in Centre' at Pathway for new arrivals seeking asylum and friendship in Australia.
- Organise and offer short term overseas mission trips as we grow in our global connection with the lost and poor.
- Refresh our 'Impacting Lives' cards as we pray for and engage with friends/family.
- Encourage use of our 'SOAP' journals in conjunction with 2 year Bible reading plans.

MISSION:

We exist to -

- **Love** God
- **Love** people **and Tell** them about Jesus
- **Grow** and **Serve** together



Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' "

Matthew 22:37-39

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:18 – 20

BUDGET

General Fund

Our general offerings will provide the funding for all the core ministries of Clovercrest Baptist Church. We will endeavour to provide excellent programs for all ages from our children right through to our seniors. Corporate worship, mission, outreach, maintenance, staffing, ministry and community services will all be enhanced as a result of faithful giving.

Building Fund

This is the fund that relates to our current building redevelopment. We are seeking to blur the lines between church and community and to use this facility as a tool for ministry right through the week. These monies will come from direct gifts and regular contributions that sit above and beyond our weekly tithing.

Pathway Fund

The Pathway Community Centre is an incorporated organisation birthed and driven by Clovercrest Baptist Church. Pathway exists to help the disadvantaged, homeless and marginalised and delivers services each week directly to those in need.

Weekly Giving: \$ 18,879 per week

We invite you to be a 'First Fruits' giver: Consistent, Generous & Sacrificial.

"Honour the Lord with your wealth, the first fruits of all your crops." Proverbs 3:9

Methods of Giving:

Credit Card Giving – Giving cards are available for you to complete and can then be sealed for opening and processing by our Treasurer. You can indicate whether you are giving a once only amount or you can agree to a weekly, fortnightly or monthly ongoing debit. The choice is yours.

REG (Regular Electronic Giving) – For some time now, electronic giving has been available as an option and approximately 60% of our weekly giving is received electronically. Electronic giving needs to be set up by you. Our bank account details are published in the *in touch* and on our website.

Account Name: Clovercrest Baptist Church Inc. BSB: 704-922 Account No: 100014517

Building Fund: Clovercrest Baptist Church Inc. BSB 704-922 Account No: 100013517

Tax Deductible Giving – If you would like to give a tax deductible gift, consider giving to our Pathway Community Centre Inc. Tax deductible receipts are provided and your gift will make an amazing difference to what this wonderful ministry can do.

Contact our Treasurer Becc Van Roy for more details (8397 9400).