

VISION & INTRODUCTION

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Can you imagine **life with Jesus**? I can.

It's the kind of life that Jesus himself describes as being as close as a branch connected to a vine (Jn 15), as personal as a sheep listening to the Shepherd's voice (Jn 10), as sacrificial as taking up your cross (Lk 9), as joyful as finding treasure buried in a field (Mt 13), as secure as building your house on a rock (Mt 7), as free as captives released from prison (Lk 4), as similar to Jesus' own life as an apprentice to a master (Jn 14). And this is just a start.

Jesus did not intend for this kind of life to be spent alone; he called out people to follow him, which in turn became his church. I can imagine that a group of people committed to this life with Jesus would make a difference: in their families, in their communities, in their schools and universities, in their neighbourhoods, in the nations. I can imagine Wellspring Anglican Church being such people.

In August 2017, our church launched the vision of "Life with Jesus, like Jesus and for Jesus". I still believe in this. But over time, I can see that this 'destination' lost some of its attraction and momentum. This wasn't on purpose, but it's the sort of thing that can happen when there is a lack of 'roads'

to get there. Strategic planning, a relatively new approach in recent months, is a 'road-building' tool, getting us to the all-important destination.

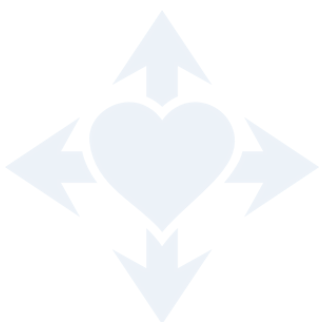
So, as you may have picked from the intro, I'm giving Wellspring the '**destination**' of **LIFE WITH JESUS**. This will of course include imitation ('like Jesus') and mission ('for Jesus'), but a new season needs new language – or at least, simpler language.

I can imagine that a group of people committed to this life with Jesus would make a difference

And what are **our 'roads' to get there**? You've heard some of these values articulated recently: LIFE WITH JESUS happens when we **BELONG, BELIEVE, GROW and SHARE**.

Through the ongoing strategic planning process, we heard these values emerging loud and clear across the board.

I can see Wellspring welcoming a full spectrum: the visitor, the disciple, the inquirer, the needy, the sceptic, the young, the old, the nations on our doorstep. Can you imagine a life with Jesus where all people **BELONG** like this?





I can see Wellspring rooted and established in being known by God as the precedent for knowing him. I can see Wellspring committed to the authority and practice of Scripture. I can see Sundays and other gatherings as times where we encounter the living God and expect to be transformed. Can you imagine a life with Jesus where all people **BELIEVE** like this?

I can see Wellspring as a community of thriving growth groups. I can see Wellspring influencing generations of children and youth in our city. I can see Wellspring being true to its name as a community of Jesus' "living water" (Jn 7), giving life to thirsty people. Can you imagine a life with Jesus where all people **GROW** like this?

I can see Wellspring reading and respecting an increasingly hostile culture, meeting it with truth spoken in love. I can see the Wellspring building as a community hub to bless and facilitate life in Sandy Bay and beyond. I can see Wellspring running back-to-back Alpha courses because evangelism is part of who we are, rather than a special event. Can you imagine a life with Jesus where all people **SHARE** like this?

The point is, if LIFE WITH JESUS is the destination, then it's going to look a bit like that – and I find that very exciting.

If any of the above is going to happen, we'll need to **set and strive for goals**: read on for a sample of these, and many more are contained in the pages of our Annual Reports. The various ministry leaders, who have each worked diligently and servantheartedly, gave some thought to what's been both great and challenging about the previous year, as well as some specific ideas about where focus could be given in the next year and years.

The past 12 months have had its difficulties, both before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. But a lot of great work has been done in recent times to clarify our present and future as a church, and by God's grace we are now in a position to embrace a new season ahead with excitement.

So this is an **invitation extended to you**. For our year ahead, will you join and...

- **Commit to a growth group**
- **Join a ministry team**
- **Partner financially**
- **Become a champion for local or global mission**
- **Initiate a completely new endeavor**



And let's enjoy this LIFE WITH JESUS.

Life with Jesus

What could life with Jesus look like in 5-10 years?

BELONG

- Every member known and valued
- A united but diverse church: multicongregational, multilingual, multigenerational
- Every newcomer connected on a pathway of integration, leading to flourishing disciple ('here's your next step')
- All people are safe in our community (in our spaces, relationships, and programs)



BELIEVE

- Expectant, transformational, inspiring Sunday worship
- Vibrant prayerfulness – regular prayer meetings numbering hundreds per week
- A culture of transformational knowledge of God's word, that consistently asks the next question of 'So what? What next?'



GROW

- All members recognising their spiritual gifting, how God's uniquely wired them, and serving in their gifting
- 90% inclusion in growth groups, with teams of passionate, supported leaders
- Excellent and self-sustaining children's and youth ministry in Hobart in 10 years' time with great transitions from children's to youth to university
- Identifying and training next-generation leaders (eg. volunteer, paid, part-time, full-time), for the church and for society,



SHARE

- Each disciple a disciple-making disciple
- Being good news (generous, just, engaged) and meeting needs for the Sandy Bay community
- Church facility as a community hub open 6am-10pm, 7 days p/week
- Global impact through international student ministry

