
PARTNERSHIP BOOKLET

Here at Subi Church, our core values are based upon three C's:

- 1) **Communion** with God
- 2) **Community** with Others
- 3) **Commission** to the World

Our heart at Subi Church is to foster a deep **communion** between believers with God. Part of that communion involves a deep involvement in **community** with others. It also involves understanding that we as believers are **commissioned** by Jesus into the world as his witnesses.

In this booklet, you will find how these core values translate into our ministries here at Subi Church. We pray that as you seek partnership with us that these core values will become a part of your lives as it has in our church.

Communion with God

In our communion with God, it is necessary to start with proper theological foundations. It is from these foundations that all our ministries here at Subi Church are based upon.

What We Believe – Statement of Faith

God

We believe in one God in three persons: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is the Sovereign Lord, Creator and Sustainer of the universe, who Himself is without beginning or end.

Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is the unique Son of God who being fully God, took on the role of a servant as a man in order to become the mediator between ourselves and the Father.

Gospel

We believe that Jesus was crucified, buried and raised bodily on the third day, substantiating His claims as the Messiah and making provision for the forgiveness of sins based upon His perfect sacrifice for our sakes.

Bible

We believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God. God's Word exists as our sole authority for faith and practice, being without error and accurate in its original record and relevant in its application to our daily lives.

People

We believe that people, both male and female, are created in God's own image and therefore matter to God, as spiritual beings. All people possess personality, moral discernment, and the capacity to know the

Creator God. Sin, however, is a barrier to our relationship with God and impairs our capacity to know Him and lead God honouring lives apart from Jesus Christ.

Salvation

We believe that no one can obtain forgiveness of sins apart from a personal commitment to Jesus and His payment for sin on the cross. Leading a good life cannot gain God's grace but it is only through Christ's goodness that we are made right with the Father.

Holy Spirit

We believe that all who have received Christ are united into one body through the Holy Spirit. Upon receiving Christ by faith, we receive the Holy Spirit, who acts to seal us in the family of God and to empower us toward Christlike character and loving service to one another.

End Times

We believe the return of Jesus Christ could happen any time. He will come to gather up those who love Him, and judge all evil, restoring all of creation and establishing His Kingdom.

Baptism and the Lord's Supper

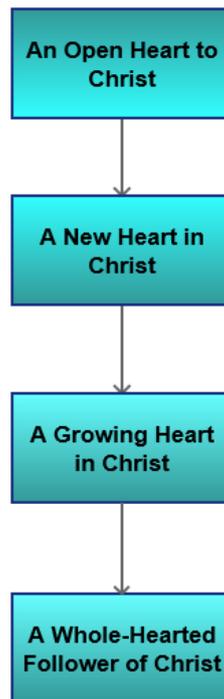
At Subi Church, the sacraments of the Lord's Supper and baptism are important to our church gathering. A sacrament is a practice whereby the grace and promise of God is confirmed again through visual means to the believers who are present.

- 1) We remember His substitutionary death and bodily resurrection in the sharing of the Lord's Supper weekly, which signifies the redemptive work of Christ accomplished at the cross.
- 2) We baptise individuals by full immersion who publicly professes faith in Christ as an act of identifying with Christ's death, burial and resurrection.

Spiritual Growth

We recognise that when it comes to spiritual maturity, everyone is at a different stage. It is our prayer and our desire that a person will grow in their spiritual maturity through our ministries here at Subi Church. We wish to serve those who possess faith in Christ, while at the same time welcoming those who are open to seeking and knowing Christ.

Stages of Spiritual Maturity



An Open Heart to Christ

This is where a person is open to seeking knowledge and understanding about what it means to follow Christ. We welcome anyone who might be at this point of their lives to our church. We have ministries, such as the Alpha course, and resources that will help them understand the Gospel message and also to connect them to a community of believers.

A New Heart in Christ

A person who is a new heart in Christ is a person who has recently put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. We also have a number of different ministries to allow people at this stage of their spiritual maturity to grow in their faith and also to serve at Subi Church.

A Growing Heart in Christ

This is a stage where the believer has been attending church regularly and has been growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. We believe that it is vital that their spiritual growth does not stop here, but instead they will continue their growth by serving and learning at a greater capacity, especially in the areas of leadership. At Subi Church, we desire to help Christians grow into mature, godly Christian leaders, both at home and in the church. To that end, we have different ministries such as small groups or different courses that help with their discipleship.

A Whole-Hearted Follower of Christ

This is a stage where we desire everyone to be. Those who are at this stage of spiritual maturity will be serving God in varying capacities in the ministries of Subi Church. These areas include serving as a small group leader, discipling others in the church or regular prayer. Their thoughts, worldview and lives will be characterised by godliness and wisdom, always seeking to glorify God in all that they do. It is our prayer and our goal at Subi Church to help every believer to reach this stage of spiritual maturity.

Subi Church desires to help believers grow into whole-hearted followers of Christ and to present everyone fully mature in Christ (Colossians 1:28). That is our vision for ministry, and all our ministries have that goal as their objective, achieved through various means. However, this cannot be done solely on an individual level. We believe that a believer needs to grow spiritually within a context of a community of faith.

Community with Others

When we put our faith in Christ, God also calls us into his family of believers. We are not meant to live the Christian life alone. At Subi Church, one of our core values is **community** with others. Community is more than just people getting to know each other and spending time together. We believe that community is – as described in Hebrews 10:24 – a group of people who “spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another [in their faith]”. In short, the goal of a community of faith is “to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18).

So, at Subi Church, there are two major ways that we seek to achieve that goal. We consider both of these to be an integral part of life here at Subi Church. The first is our weekly church gathering on the weekend. The second is our small group ministry.

Weekly Church Gatherings

We have our weekly church gatherings, where the whole church gathers together to worship our God. In these gatherings, we will sing songs of praise to our God, and also to listen to God speak to us through our weekly bible-based sermons. As part of the Churches of Christ, we place a strong emphasis on the Lord’s Supper by having it weekly.

These weekly gatherings are important as they bring together our multi-cultural and multi-national church family together, to worship God as one. This is a small glimpse of what we read in Revelation 7:9 – “After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.” In our weekly gatherings, we are also reminded of God’s grace and the message of the Gospel. It provides a platform for Christians to serve God by serving his people.

Small Groups

Being part of a small group is also an integral part of our church life. In small groups, the three core values are lived out and emphasised in a way that is not possible with a large weekly gathering.

Small groups give Christians the opportunity to develop more intimate and closer friendships with a smaller group of Christians. In small group, helping each other to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” can take place in a much more personal and smaller setting, and give each Christian a place where they can receive emotional and spiritual support. It is a place where Christians are able to pray for one another on a more personal level.

There are also opportunities to do the work of evangelism in small group. Sometimes, the unchurched may prefer a small, more intimate setting as an introduction to the Christian faith. Small groups can and will provide that platform. It is also a place where members of the group may feel more comfortable to invite their friends to join in their meetings.

It is an important and vital ministry to the spiritual growth of a Christian, and we strongly encourage any person who attends Subi Church to join a small group.

Both these ministries form an important part of our spiritual life here at Subi Church. As you consider partnership with us, we pray that you will fully involve yourself in these two ministries.

Discipleship

Aside from our weekly church gathering and our small group ministries, we also provide opportunities for those who are looking for one-on-one discipleship. Discipleship is a relationship between two Christians for the purpose of fostering growth in grace in both of them. At the heart of discipleship is what Paul mentioned at 1 Corinthians 11:1 – “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ”.

Rather than making this into another formal program that Christians have to join, we desire to create a culture of discipleship within the life of the church. We desire discipleship to be an interwoven part of the life of every member here at Subi Church.

Commission to the World

Just as how Jesus commissioned his disciples to make disciples and proclaim the great Gospel message to all nations (Matthew 28:18-20), we recognise that as Christians, we are commissioned by Jesus bring the message of the Gospel to the world. To this end, Subi Church has a focus on missions, both local and international.

Local Missions

Many of our ministries here at Subi have a focus on missions and evangelism. Programs such as Alpha are run throughout the year, with a focus on getting those who have an open heart to Christ to learn about Jesus in a non-threatening environment. We also run a weekly playgroup, a ministry for mothers of pre-schoolers and also provide counselling for pre-marriage and marriage. All these ministries are run with the view of serving the wider community and to give Christians a platform to build close relationships with those who have an open heart to Christ.

International Missions

Subi Church also sends out missionaries and teams to different parts of the world as part of our commitment to global missions. We dedicate 15% of our weekly offering to missions. We partner with various mission organisations to aid us in sending missionaries out to the mission field. Currently, we have a few long-term missionaries serving in Uganda, Cambodia and also Thailand. We also organise a number of short-term mission trips to different countries every year, including Kenya and Papua New Guinea.

Partnerships

We recognise that we are able to achieve more for God if we partner with like-minded organisations. So, we have formed partnerships with groups and organisations both internationally and locally in Perth. Here is a list of the some of the organisations that we have partnered with: (as of 2015)

<u>Local and International</u>	<u>International</u>	<u>Local</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Mission Partners • R.O.P.E. • Pioneers • Jews for Jesus • Alpha 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese Churches • Githgoro New Vision Baptist • Leadership Vista • Mauritian Churches • Appel Ministries • Ridgeway Baptist • MECOC – PNG • Pioneers (The Boland Family) • Kenya Youth Future Program • Marurui School, Kenya • WEC – Iraq (Glenys Blackett) • WEC – Thailand (The Liaw Family) • Operation Mobilisation USA – Rachel Page 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh Start • Churches of Christ Conference WA • City Bible Forum • Subiaco Primary School • Overseas Christian Fellowship (OCF) • Korean Presbyterian Church • Freedom in Christ • Christian Religious Education • Youth with a Mission (YWAM) • Arrow Leadership • Kimberley Arial Missions

It is our vision that through these partnerships with other organisations will reach more people with the Gospel news of Jesus Christ, fulfilling our **commission** to the world as disciples of Christ.

Partnership

It is our hope and prayer that you will read this booklet carefully and prayerfully as you consider partnering with us. We invite you to join us in partnership to advance the ministry of Jesus in Perth and also abroad. As mentioned in “Community with Others”, when we put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ, God calls us into a family of believers. We pray that you will see and consider Subi Church to be your family of believers.

As partners of Subi Church, we are committed to helping you “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18), so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ (Colossians 1:28). We will contact you for an interview with one of the pastors. This interview is primarily for you to get to know the pastors and for them to get to know you better.

Appendix

Elders' Board

<u>Name</u>
Joseph Tan (chairman)
Stuart Beattie
Rod Cousins
Rohan du Heaume
Gordon Genat
Jonathan Liaw

Ministry and Staff Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>Ministry Position</u>
Ben Johnston	Senior Pastor
David Skirving	Associate Pastor – Young Adults, Discipleship and Evangelism
Chin Wee Ang	Associate Pastor – Subi Equip and Small Groups
Tracey Johnston	Connect Ministry
Amanda Tan	Executive Director
Tracey Malzer	Administration & Senior Pastor P.A.
Christina Wong	Finance
Deborah Tan	Worship Coordinator
Jacqui Burgess	Youth Ministry Director