

Forest New Life Church



Our Vision

Building a visible and compelling Jesus-centred community

FOREST
NewLife CHURCH

www.forestnewlife.org.uk

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

We believe in.....

- 1.The one true God who lives eternally in three persons - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- 2.The love, grace and sovereignty of God in creating, sustaining, ruling, redeeming and judging the world.
- 3.The divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God - fully trustworthy for faith and conduct.
- 4.The dignity of all people, made male and female in God's image to love, be holy and care for creation, yet corrupted by sin, which incurs wrath and judgement.
- 5.The incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ - born of the virgin Mary; truly divine and truly human, yet without sin.
- 6.The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross; dying in our place, paying the price of sin and defeating evil, so reconciling us with God.
- 7.The bodily resurrection of Christ, the first fruits of our resurrection; His ascension to the Father, and His reign and mediation as the only Saviour of the world.
- 8.The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ.
- 9.The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness.
- 10.The Church, the body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers - given life by the Spirit and endowed with the Spirit's gifts to worship God and proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love.
11. The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to fulfil the purposes of God, who will raise all people to judgement, bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal condemnation to the lost, and establish a new heaven and new earth.
12. We are persuaded that all gifts of the Spirit - the charismata - are to be encouraged in the church today with leaders weighing, maintaining orderliness and ensuring biblical communication of truth for the building up and outreach of God's people. We welcome the Word and the Spirit in all our meetings.

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““ *Where there
is no vision
the people
will run wild*””

Proverbs 29:18

THE VISION

To develop an anointed vision that is easy to communicate, inspiring to follow and desired by all members to be a part of and willingly take ownership of.

To develop a spiritual community that is not built on methods and programmes, but on the study of scripture, biblical fellowship, prayer and the sharing of the power of the gospel.

There is no better place to start than the example of the First Community of Believers outlined in Acts 2:42-47.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

LEADERSHIP

To build a Biblical and anointed leadership team that is devoted to the Lord, to one another, and who are united in vision, purpose and gifting for the preparing of the local community of believers (who are under their care) for the works of service. Ephesians 4:12

To build a leadership team that are dedicated to whatever it takes to enable the fellowship to mature in their faith through teaching, serving, caring and leading by example.

To build a leadership team who intuitively understand and practice the principle of 'servant - leadership', which is not self serving, but priorities the needs of those who are being served. John 13:12-17

TEACHING

To be a centre of Biblical excellence for instruction, teaching, training and equipping.

To provide dynamic Bible teaching that has a clear application which is life transforming.

To enable every member to understand the purpose and uses of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit so that they can deploy them effectively within the life of the local fellowship and their in daily life.

To encourage and equip regular personal study of God's word to deepen their relationship with the Lord.

To equip every fellowship member for discipleship, service and outreach.

To effectively develop and train Leaders for Life Groups, Pastoral Team, Prayer Ministry, Worship Team and Youth Ministry.

““ *Being part of
something that is
significant is vital
and necessary* ””

FELLOWSHIP

Services:

To provide an uplifting and encouraging environment where our worship, adoration and Biblical instruction is anointed and glorifying to God.

To provide a spiritual setting where people can be restored, healed, refreshed and equipped in the power of the Holy Spirit for their daily living.

To provide opportunities where nonbelievers and spiritual enquirers can take a journey of discovery to a place where they recognise the need for forgiveness of sins, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and desire to become a part of the local community of believers.

To facilitate a range of different styles of worship that uplifts and resonates with all ages and traditions, without compromising and diluting the core beliefs of our faith.

Daily Living:

To build a loving, serving, Christ centred family of believers who know that they are loved and belong.

To build a caring team of believers who are equipped to meet the pastoral needs of the local fellowship.

To maintain a loving environment where meaningful, spiritual, emotional and practical support is provided throughout the fellowship, which has the capacity and heart to respond to the needs of all.

To imagine being part of a people, where everyday is like a Sunday, so when we meet one another in the streets or supermarkets, in a cafe or library, we are being church. Whatever we are doing and wherever we are, we are taking Church with us. It is a Church without walls!

COMMUNITY

Community Groups:

To encourage every member to be a part of a small group that provides a safe, loving and inclusive environment where individuals can grow, mature and share meaningful fellowship in the Lord.

To develop small groups that are able and equipped to interact with their immediate community in a genuine and tangible manner.

To encourage an atmosphere of hospitality and friendship throughout the fellowship, that builds relationships and provides an informal support network, so that they experience the true power of being loved and belonging to Christ.

To develop initiatives that will assist us as a church to engage with the local community, and convey that we believe we still have a relevant and significant role to play.

“*My house
shall be called
a house of
prayer for all
the nations*”

Isaiah 56:7

PRAYER

To equip, encourage and teach the Church in the kind of Prayer that is Spirit led and life transforming.

To actively promote that prayer must be a central part of both our personal and corporate worship experience.

To be a people who seek the heart of God, not because we want Him to bless our man made plans, but so that we may be a people who are prepared to move when He speaks and guides, through His word and the anointing of His Holy Spirit.

To ensure that every member grasps and understands that prayer is not just a side activity of the Church, but the spring from which everything flows.

To develop strategic, intercessory prayer teams that will cover every aspect of Church life.

To actively encourage and support Forest-wide, Inter-church prayer initiatives.

OUTREACH

To develop relevant strategies for sharing the Gospel with the community in a practical and genuine fashion.

To develop the necessary resources and back-up facilities that will instil confidence in members of the fellowship to reach-out to the local community.

To instil the importance of developing true, caring friendships and not to just see people as another individual to get into the church. Jesus loved people for who they were.

To inspire everyone to share the good news of Jesus from their own personal experience, in a way that is as natural as it is to take another breath.

To focus on and encourage the practical and spiritual support for missional outreach.

To develop and maintain strategic partnerships with mission organisations that are associated with those in the Church.

The Gospel
is God's lifeline
to a lost and
dying world!



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life in the forest through life in christ

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