

Southcity Partnership



If you have any queries regarding this document or require more information please do not hesitate to contact us on: klee@southcity.org.au or ring 9330 8306 during business hours

Dear friend

Thank you for your interest in Southcity Partnership. This document is to introduce you to the concept of Partnership at Southcity Church and to go through the 'why' of Partnership. This document will also explain what the vision of Southcity Church is, so you can be better informed as to what you are partnering with.

Partnership will provide you with a sense of belonging as you join with us in fulfilling the great destiny that God has for Southcity. This church was planted in April 2004 by Perth Christian Life Centre, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and driven by the vision of Pastor David Storer.

Under the leadership of Ps David, we were asked to be the Senior Pastors of this new church and to lead a small group of committed people to be planted out of Perth CLC. We have seen God's amazing grace come upon this new pioneering work to see it be everything that the church is today.

However, the journey has only JUST begun. If you're reading this document, YOU have the potential to be part of writing Southcity's history with us. Regardless of where you've come from or what your background is, if you have decided to call Southcity Church your spiritual home and are over 18 years of age, you can contribute to facilitating the vision of this exciting church and being part of shaping its future by partnering with us.

After reading this document, should you wish to apply for Partnership, you will need to fill in our Southcity Partnership Application form. This will indicate to us your commitment to the vision of this church and to the leadership of Southcity. This letter will also be an indication of our commitment as your leaders to pastoring you and to ensuring that you reach your fullest potential in God, and become all that He has called you to be.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to the vision of your local church.

Yours in Christ,

Ken and Chrissy Lee
Senior Pastors
Southcity Church

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Our Vision

To REACH our CITY with the gospel and to INFLUENCE the present and future generations to be disciples of Christ.

To 'reach' means to succeed in having an effect on, to thrust out or extend in order to connect and communicate with.

To 'influence' means having the power to affect the nature, development, or condition of; to modify a person's course or ultimate destiny.

Our vision is to build a multi-cultural local church that is contemporary and relevant with a Pentecostal emphasis that reaches our city with the gospel and has influence in every sphere of life in our community. Our church is in WA's biggest city shire with just under 100,000 people that call the City of Melville their home. Of this number, only over 500 people call themselves Pentecostal Christians (2005 Census)! As you can see, the 'harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few' (Luke 10:2) and God is calling His local church to rise up and be His vehicle of choice to reach a lost world.

We believe that Southcity Church is the kind of local church that God uses to be His representatives on this earth. We believe that we are called to be His ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20) to a community in such desperate need of hearing the message of hope that we carry on our lips.

With this in mind, we are going to build a local church that has a strong emphasis in ministry to the local community. This is why Southcity will always be a church that invests resources into ministry to children and to youth. We will also be a church that has a strong emphasis on ministry in Connect Groups as well as affinity groups such as men's and women's ministry.

Our vision also includes having church services that have inspirational, practical and relevant messages, powerful altar-ministry, contemporary and vibrant music, great hospitality and a warm and friendly atmosphere. We have a strong emphasis on bible-based preaching, uplifting praise and passionate worship. We will always endeavour to make sure that our décor is modern and excellent, our pastoral care sincere and caring, and our leadership visionary but also warm and friendly. We believe that by God's grace, Southcity Church will be a church that will meet the needs of the people of the City of Perth.

Our Culture

What is culture?

Culture is the way of life, especially the general customs and beliefs, of a particular group of people at a particular time (Cambridge Dictionary). The predominating attitudes and behavior that characterize the functioning of a group or organization (The American Heritage ® Dictionary of the English Language).

The Southcity Culture

In simple terms, our culture defines 'who' we are. These are 10 attributes of our church that define our culture.

- **We are a PRAYING church** – we are a church that commits each step of our journey to prayer, earnestly seeking God for His direction and His purposes. (2 Chr 7:14, 1 Thes 5:17, 1 Tim 2:1, 1 Tim 2:8)
- **We are a FAITH-FILLED church** – we are a church that exercises faith in everything we do. We will not be filled with negativity and cynicism but instead be responsive and faith-filled in everything that we do. (Matt 8:12, Matt 9:22, Matt 21:21, 1 Cor 16:13, 2 Cor 5:7)
- **We are a SPIRIT-FILLED church** – we are a church that freely operates in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We are a church that believes that God is a miracle working God. We are a church that believes in speaking in tongues as evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. (James 5:14, James 5:16, Matt 3:11, Acts 4:31, Acts 8:17, 1 Cor 12:4-11)
- **We are a RELATIONAL church** – we are a church that does people well! We are a church where our visitors and guests are honoured people. We have an emphasis on great hospitality and always have a culture of friendliness and warmth. (John 15:17, Romans 12:10, Romans 13:8-10, Matt 22:39, John 13:34-35)
- **We are a SERVING church** – we are a church that contributes and serves with the gifts that God has given us, as well as do the things that 'no one wants to do' because this is OUR church and if nobody

does the jobs that 'no one wants to do', we all suffer. (1 Chr 26:12, Acts 6:1-7, Mark 10:43-45, John 21:10-13, John 13:5-8)

- **We are a GENEROUS church** – we believe in the biblical principle of tithing one tenth of all our income, and giving generous offerings to other endeavours of the church. We are also a church that is generous with our time, our talents and our resources, where generosity is a lifestyle. (1 Kings 10:12, 1 Cor 8:1-7, Prov 11:24-25, Mal 3:8-10, Prov 22:9)
- **We are a RELEVANT church** – we are a church that preaches messages that you can take home immediately and apply. We are a church that believes in staying contemporary and relevant in order to reach our community effectively. (1 Cor 9:21-23)
- **We are an EVANGELISTIC church** – we are a church that places an emphasis on preaching the gospel to the unsaved and to reaching our community with the message of hope. Our services will always be appropriate for people to bring an unsaved friend without feeling uneasy about what their friend is being exposed to. (Matt 24:14, Mark 13:10, Mark 16:20, Acts 15:35)
- **We are an EXCELLENT church** – we are a church that is committed to doing everything in an excellent manner, from our décor to our hospitality, from our music to our presentation, from our ministry to others to our ministry to the lost, we will always do our best and represent Christ in a manner that is befitting to represent the King of Kings. (Psalm 16:3, Daniel 5:12-14, Daniel 6:3, 2 Cor 5:20)
- **We are a LEGACY-LEAVING church** – we are a church that is committed to the future generations. We will invest in our youth and children and be committed to raising up, mentoring and discipling tomorrow's leaders of our church. We will be a church where the older will partner with the younger in a manner that is supportive as the present generation works tirelessly to pass the baton of facilitating this vision to tomorrow's partners of SouthCity. (2 Timothy 2:2, 2 Kings 2:1-4, 1 Chr 22:5)

What we believe/Our articles of Faith

These articles of faith of Southcity Church, are given as a basis for belief, fellowship and ministry. This is not a summary of the complete revelation of biblical truth, only that it covers our present need and objective towards building “partnership”

1. The Inspired Word of God

We believe that the Old and New Testaments are the Inspired Word of God. In these Testaments we find the complete revelation of God’s will for the salvation of men, and the divine and final authority for the Christian faith and lifestyle.

2. One God in Three Persons.

We believe in one God, creator of all things, who is infinitely perfect and eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. That Jesus Christ is true God and true man, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary. He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and is now at the right hand of the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

3. The Fall and Salvation of Man

We believe that all people were created in the image of God but fell into sin and are therefore lost, and it is only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit that salvation and spiritual life can be obtained. We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only grounds for justification and salvation.

4. The Holy Spirit.

We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify Jesus Christ. During this age He indwells, guides, instructs, and empowers those who believe for Godly living and service. We believe the baptism of the Holy Spirit is received by faith to those who believe. We believe in the 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit as stated in 1 Cor 12:7-10 and the ministry gifts of Christ as recorded in Eph 4:11-13 and their relevance and the cruciality of their operation in the local church. Inclusive in this, is our belief in the manifestation of the speaking in tongues as the Holy Spirit gives utterance.

5. Divine Healing

We believe that healing of the body is part of the blessings of both the Old and New Covenant, as is stated in Exodus 15:26, Isaiah 53:5. We also believe that all believers have the authority to lay hands on the sick and pray the prayer of faith as instructed in James 5:14-15.

6. The Church

We believe that there is one true Church universal, comprised of all those who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. We believe that this body of believers gather themselves together for worship, prayer,

teaching of the Word, fellowship, service and the observance of Water Baptism and Communion.

7. **The Second Coming of Christ.**

As stated in the bible, we believe that no man can know when the second coming of Christ will be. However, we do believe that this second coming is imminent and we are to prepare our hearts for the second coming of Christ (James 5:8).

8. **The Devil and Eternal Judgement**

We believe in the personality of the Devil, who by his influence brought about the downfall of man, and now seeks to destroy the faith of every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that the Devil and his angels and whosoever is not found written in the book of life shall be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake of fire, which is the second death.

9. **The Redemptive work of Christ and the Salvation of Man**

We believe that God sent His son Jesus Christ to die for our sins, whose death and resurrection atones the sins of mankind. Salvation is then received through repentance to God and faith in Jesus Christ as the Saviour. There is no other way to God except through faith in Jesus Christ.

Why Partnership?

The Bible shows us that there are TWO types of partnerships. The first type is union with Christ and His body at conversion (1 Cor 12:12-13, Eph 2:13-22, 4:3-6, Col 1:13-22). We can enter into this partnership by repenting of our sins and confessing that Jesus Christ died for our sins.

The second type of partnership is shown where the Bible also urges 'members' to continue growing by becoming 'participating members' or partners in a specific local assembly (Rom 12:4-8, 1 Cor 12:25-31, 14:12, 14:26, 1 Tim 3:14-15, Heb 10:24-25).

As a Southcity Partner there are both responsibilities and privileges. Sometimes we fall into the regretful attitude of wanting 'the Church' to do more for us. But WE are the Church. If the Church isn't doing something then WE are the ones not doing it, and WE are the only ones who can make it different. Too often we slip into a consumer mentality. We 'shop' for services we think are important. We are not however, the shoppers at a spiritual convenience store, we are the proprietors. Stocking the shelves is our responsibility. 'Meeting needs' is what WE do for others. Partnership means a certain level of ownership.

Three Reasons for Partnership

1. It is biblical
2. It is valuable to the leaders in identifying those who can be counted on to sustain and build the ministries of the church.
3. It benefits the individual, providing a sense of belonging, identity and unified purpose.

What does Partnership mean for me?

Partnership means that you are 'putting your hand up' to be counted on to support the vision of Southcity Church, contribute to its growth and success as well as commit yourself to serving here. The strength of a church is not found in how many people attend the Sunday morning service, but it is found in the number of its partners. Well-informed decisions about the future direction of the church can only be made when it is known how many people in the church are partners. In a nutshell, partnership means commitment to the church and with commitment comes responsibilities as well as benefits that fringe attenders and visitors will not have.

Responsibilities of Partnership

1. To grasp the vision of our church (Prov 29:18, Hab 2:2-3), as outlined in the first pages of this document.
2. To protect the unity of our church (Rom 14:19, 1 Pet 1:22, Heb 13:17)
3. To serve the ministry of our church (Phil 3:13-14, Eph 4:11-12)
4. To support the testimony of our church (Heb 10:25, Phil 1:27)
5. To resource the ministry of our church (1 Cor 16:2, Lev 27:30) through the giving of one tenth of our income as well as free-will offerings.

Privileges of Partnership

1. A sense of ownership (Eph 2:19, Rom 12:5)
2. It provides a spiritual family (Gal 6:1, Heb 12:24-25)
3. To discover your purpose and place in the body (1 Cor 12:11, 1 Cor 12:18, 1 Peter 4:10)
4. It will place you under the spiritual protection of Godly leaders (Heb 13:17)
5. It gives you the accountability you need to grow (Eph 5:21)

Being a Southcity partner means that you are committed to supporting the leaders of the church and other partners. As such, you will be treated like someone that Southcity can count on. You will be the first to be notified of major changes and decisions that are being undertaken, as well as asked from time to time for feedback and suggestions. Your thoughts, suggestions and contributions matter to us!

Where to from here?

When you have read through this Partnership Document, you may have some queries regarding the whole concept of Partnership. You may email Ps Ken on klee@southcity.org.au or call the Southcity office on 9330 8306 during business hours. However, if you have read the document and do not have any questions but are keen to take the next step and apply for Partnership, there are Partnership Application forms available for you to fill out. Once you have filled out this form, please send it to:

Southcity Church
PO Box 1536
Applecross WA 6953

Once your application has been received, your name and details will be put on our Partnership Register.

This entire process of learning about Partnership and applying formally to be a Southcity partner is only just the BEGINNING of a very exciting time for you. You will be part of creating history at SouthCity and partnering with other people just like yourself to build a great church that will reach and influence multitudes for years to come. Thank you for taking time to read this document and for taking an interest in Southcity Partnership.

We pray God's greatest blessing on you and your family.