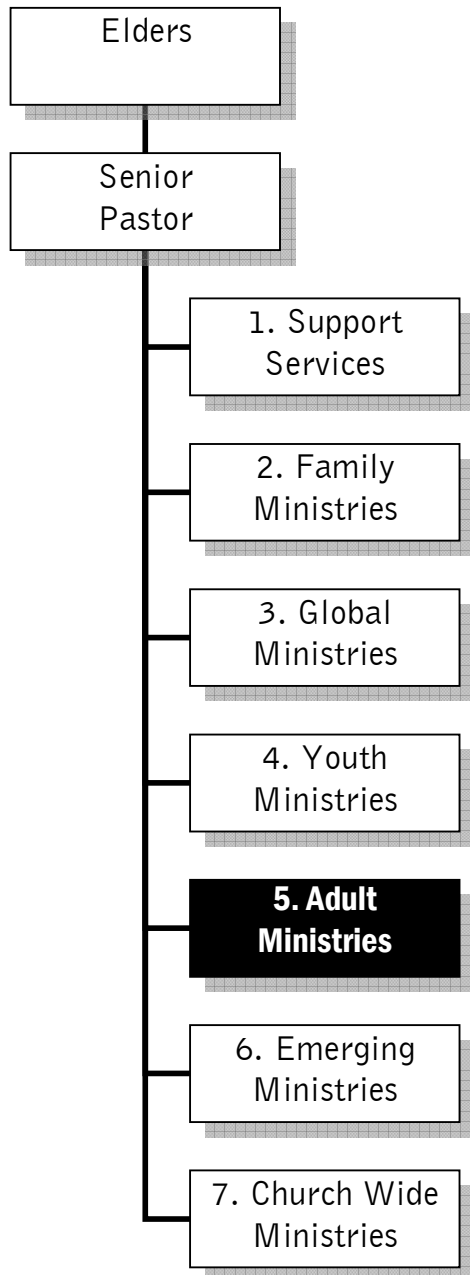


Contents



Adult Ministries

Adult Ministries

HBC's purpose statement is "Growing Passionate Followers of Jesus". Last year at the Vision Banquet we introduced a set of core values that unpacked this purpose statement. These core values have provided a conceptual framework for the Adult Ministries during 2005/6. We strive to achieve balance across all 8 core values, strengthening weak areas and optimally utilising our strengths.

This year

In last year's report, we outlined the three core values that were growth areas for Adult Ministries: prayer inspired risk taking, every member mission and embracing the neglected. It has been encouraging to see how God has developed each of these three areas.

Prayer Inspired Risk Taking

The prayer ministry initiated by Boyd Henderson and Peter Bruce has been eagerly embraced by the Adult congregations (as it has by all of the church!) It is encouraging to see the growth of new prayer groups, including a faithful group who meet every Saturday at 6:30am. (I didn't even realise there was a 6:30am on Saturday mornings!) The connection between the prayer life of the church and the risks we take as a body needs more development, but initial signs are that this connection is growing (e.g. the 24 hour prayer event being tied in with the Rob Harley missions event). Prayer during and after the morning services continues to be a growth area for us. We are seeing around 5-7 people on average respond for prayer after each 10:30 service. Not quite at the 5% rate we were hoping for (which would be 8-10 people), but a significant improvement on previous years. Deryck and his team have some fine stories to tell of how God has been using them to work in people's lives. The weekend focusing on teaching, training and experiencing the "power" gifts was planned for May but needed to be delayed. We are looking forward to Roy Warren being with us in mid-November.

Every Member Mission

Good progress has been made in this area. We have seen an increase from 1 to 3 alpha courses. We held a significant and extremely well-produced outreach night, with nearly 100 people bringing their "unchurched" friends to hear Rob Harley. It has been encouraging to see people putting the core value of Every Member Mission into action through these mechanisms. There was one goal in this area that we did not achieve, though. Despite some significant discussions,

we did not manage to start any new special interest groups focused on outreach. We will continue to work on this over the next year.

Embracing the Neglected

Significant growth occurred in this area during 2006. We had a highly successful event at the conclusion of the "Becoming a Growing Passionate Follower of Jesus" campaign, where over 150 of us went to Hay Park school. Leveraging off this success, Pastor Ravi has begun developing mechanisms to reach out to our community, beginning initially with a ministry to prisoners and their families. (See the "Emerging Ministries" report for more details).

Each of the three key functions in Adult Ministries (1st Service, 2nd Service, and Small Groups) has contributed to growing, maintaining and strengthening our core values.

1st Service

Peter Muys and his team have continued leading the 1st service with significant character and competence. They are doing an awesome job, and we are deeply indebted to them. It has been encouraging over the year to see the demographic range of this service broaden, so that it has now being seen as a viable "alternative" to the 10:30 service for younger generations. This service leverages off the creative components of the 2nd service as well, when applicable.

2nd Service

The 2nd service benefits from an incredibly proficient and committed worship team, led by Greg Sands. Greg does a great job developing a "cultivation" culture within this team, with new leaders and players always being brought to the fore. Maryanne and her team have used dance to spur the congregation to worship on regular occasions. We haven't managed to create drama and multimedia teams for this service as we hoped, but several one-off dramas have been utilised and also add significantly to the worship experience. Another feature of this year has been the incredible testimonies we have heard. The revival of Alice White from being near to death and the regeneration of Keith Bedford's eyes are two examples that stand out, for which we give glory to God. One thing that has been really evident this year is the strong correlation between the pre-service prayer meeting and the after service ministry component. If the pre-service prayer meeting is well attended, then (for some reason) the after service ministry team seem to be very busy and effective. We have seen an increasing number of new families with teenage and younger children join this service in the last 3 months (since the calling of Craig as our pastor responsible for youth). We believe this bodes well for the future growth

of this service beyond the plateau stage we have been in for the last couple of years.

Small Groups

The proliferation of small groups that occurred with the 40 Days of Purpose program in 2005 meant that it was no longer practical for one or two people to care for all of the home groups. Marion Henderson, who has ably taken over the small group coordinator role this year, has developed a system where there are 5 clusters each with 4-5 home groups in them. Each cluster has a leader who is responsible for the home groups in that cluster. This new home group management approach has taken a while to get going, but towards the end of the year seems to have kicked in and started working effectively.

Summary

Statistically speaking, adult ministries this year has been stable. Like last year we have seen a handful of conversions (~6) and baptisms (8), a small increase on last year (~3 conversions and 7 baptisms). The number of new members (17) has decreased slightly from 2004/5 (22). Service attendance has remained static (65 in 2005/6 vs 70 in 2004/5 for the first service, 179 in 2005/6 vs 179 in 2004/5 for the second service). Note that the goal we set was for second service attendance to rise to 200 this year, and we have not seen this predicted growth. The number of small groups has risen slightly from 20 to 22, predominantly through the GPFJ program at the beginning of the year, but this is offset by a slightly smaller average small group size. We retain around 65%-70% of our adults in a small group.

In last year's report we set some challenging stretch goals for 2006. Some have been achieved, and for this we thank God. Many we fell tantalisingly close to achieving. Some we have not achieved, but have worked around their lack in other ways (e.g. the creation of creative ministry teams). Only one goal (2nd service congregation growth) had seen no progress by August, but we have seen some improvement in this area since then.

| <i>Area</i> | <i>Goal</i> | <i>Result and Explanation</i> |
|-------------|---|--|
| Evangelism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would like to see 10 conversions, 10 baptisms and 20 new members (Key Goal) • The creation of 2 new "special interest" groups • Three alpha courses with at least 15 people in each | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly Achieved (7 conversions, 8 baptisms and 17 new members) • Not achieved (discussions held, but no new groups formed) • Nearly achieved (3 courses with 15, 12 and 9 people) |

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint a leader for this area | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not achieved |
| 1 st Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain average attendance of 70 • Increase prayer focus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly achieved (average attendance of 65) • Achieved (but would like to see a further increase, particularly within the service and in small groups) |
| 2 nd Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow average attendance from 179 to 200 • Increase prayer focus, particularly words of encouragement, prophecy and challenge • Creation of drama and multimedia teams • Average 5% responsiveness rate across the year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not achieved (have seen some improvement since August) • Achieved (for after service, but would like to see a further increase within the the service) • Not achieved (but maintained a steady stream of quality creative ministry items anyway!) • Nearly achieved (averaged 5-7 responses each week, as opposed to 8-10) |
| Small Groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attain 70% of congregation in small groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly achieved (we maintained 65% to 70% of the adult congregations in small groups) |

Next Year

Following the overall direction of the church, the main goal for the adult ministries next year is to encourage and facilitate adults to become boiling point Christians – Christians with a fire in their bellies about their relationship with Jesus. We believe this will happen as we commit to the eight spiritual disciplines mentioned in an earlier report.

To achieve this goal we will begin our year with a series on “Living at Boiling Point” in February. (Other sermon series planned include missions week just before Easter, an expository series on the gospel of John, a series on what the Bible says about Heaven and Hell, a campaign in term 3 on supernatural living with the working title “Living the Great Adventure” and several others). We will be developing programs for individuals and small groups that will enable us to facilitate and train them in the disciplines needed to become boiling point Christians.

Overall, our key goal in adult ministries is to see 10 conversions, 10 baptisms and 20 new members in 2007. This "key goal" is the same as for the last two years, and it has been encouraging over that period to see us inch closer and closer towards achieving it. We will be praying and working hard so that we can put "Achieved" (and not just "Nearly Achieved") beside this key goal in 2007's Annual report. In addition we will be adopting a further key goal this year of seeing 40% of our adult congregation committing to a journey to develop the "boiling point" disciplines in their own lives, and 25% achieving that goal.

Evangelism

We will retain the three-levelled approach to evangelism adopted in 2005/6 – individuals, groups and the entire congregation. First, individuals will be challenged to reach out to their friends and neighbours with the love of Jesus. (The boiling point strategy has this as one of its key disciplines.) In terms of a measurable goal, we are aiming to see 150 people from our congregations bringing their friends and neighbours along to an evangelistic event in our church some time this year. Second, we are continuing the goal of developing "special interest" groups within the church. These are groups that are focused around some activity or interest, but have as a central reason for their existence the desire to grow faith sharing relationships. The youth and young adult ministries are adopting a similar goal, and so we will be partnering with them to achieve the creation of 5 new special interest groups. Third, we will run two adult targeted outreach events during the year. (One being a return visit from Rob Harley) All in all, we expect these initiatives will provide us with another step up in the area of evangelism, with the end result of at least 3 alpha courses and one journeys course, each with 20 or more participants.

1st Service

Over the course of the year a tentative vision for the direction of the 1st Service has been forming. This service has become an increasingly viable option for all the demographic groups in our church – particularly empty nesters and young couples with no children. Sometimes, despite the lack of a family ministries program, even families with young children are coming along to the service! There seems to be less "attachment" to a particular service than a few years ago. People from other services often choose to attend the 8:45 service because they relate to its gentle, softer style, because the time suits them and because they enjoy the cross-generational relationships that can be developed there. We believe that continuing along this same trajectory, with Peter Muys and his team leading quiet, intensely God-centred worship and with us leveraging off the 2nd Service in terms of appropriate creativity – dramas, dances, multimedia

etc. – will see us reach a goal of 75 people attending this service on average over the course of this year. We also note that there is still significant room for us to increase the place for prayer in this service – both planned and spontaneous. We will be adopting this as a renewed goal for 2007.

2nd Service

The 2nd Service has been wonderful this year, but we believe some revisions are necessary to keep its trajectory headed in the right direction. We are aware that a number of young adults are looking for more “meat” than an @7 service can provide, but find the transition to the 10:30 service jarring. We want to make the transition from the @7 service to the 10:30 service as natural as possible. So three key changes are planned for next year. First, we will be exploring the involvement of some of the previous youth band members in the leadership of our worship team with Greg Sands. Ideally, we are aiming for a team led approach, which we believe will enable us to craft a God honouring service each Sunday which is full of energy and vibrancy. Second, we will be shortening the services, upping their intensity and energy levels (and aiming to consistently start them on time)! Third, we will be strongly encouraging involvement in the pre-service prayer meeting, to see the numbers involved and the intensity of this prayer time grow. Our dream is to see people experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit in the pre-service prayer meeting, and then to have that impetus and power simply move across into the service at 10:30. We are aiming for at least 20-30 people to be involved in the pre service prayer meeting each Sunday by the end of the year. With these changes, we believe that increasing average attendance over the year from 179 to 200 is achievable.

Small Groups

Experiencing genuine Christian community in a small group is a key discipline for reaching “boiling point”. So we will be making significant effort to ensure not just that people are in a small group, but that each of the small groups are functioning effectively. We believe the cluster approach has the potential to enable growth not just in the size and number of the home groups, but more importantly in their quality. A mid-year campaign should assist with small group generation as well. A key aspect of our small group growth strategy this year is the creation of a small group “Boiling Point” program, which will facilitate and train people within small groups to help “heat” the others in the small group to boiling point. We would like to see 70% of our adult congregation in a small group of some kind, with at least 5 groups (25%) successfully implementing the small group “Boiling Point” program.

| <i>Area</i> | <i>Goal</i> |
|-------------|---|
| Key Goals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would like to see 10 conversions, 10 baptisms and 20 |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| | <p>new members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would like to see 40% of our congregation join the boiling point program, and 25% actively engaged in all of the disciplines by the end of the year |
| Evangelism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 150 people bringing their friends and colleagues to an HBC evangelistic event • The creation of 5 new “special interest” groups (in partnership with the youth and young adult ministries) • Three alpha courses and one Journeys course with at least 20 people in each • Two adult-targeted Evangelistic Events |
| 1 st Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase average attendance to 75 • Increase prayer focus within and following the service |
| 2 nd Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow average attendance from 179 to 200 • Increase number of people at pre-service prayer meetings to 20-30 by the end of the year • Set up new artistic structure and make it work well • Increase the energy level and vibrancy in the service • Average 5% responsiveness rate across the year |
| Small Groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attain 70% of congregation in small groups • Have 5 groups (25%) of our small groups involved in the small group boiling point program |

Summary

We have a great deal to be thankful for at HBC – not least the awesome bunch of adult ministry leaders who continue to work hard and pray lots to grow this ministry area. Thank you to all of them. And on behalf of them I would like to thank the adult congregations of HBC, for responding so willingly and encouragingly to our efforts to allow God to touch your lives. It is a privilege to serve you.

Greg Liston

(on behalf of the adult ministry leaders)

Hillsborough Hospital Report

Each month the local churches take it in turn to hold a Christian Service for the residents at Hillsborough Hospital. The faithful team from Hillsborough Baptist Church run the worship on the second Sunday of each month except January.

The service starts at 9.30am with some well-known and much loved hymns. It is obvious seeing the foot tapping and lip movements of the residents that although the flesh is weak, the spirit is willing and there is a definite response from those present. After a reading from scripture a short address is given and we close with another hymn and a benediction. The whole service takes about half an hour.

I wish to pay tribute and express thanks to the wonderful team of speakers, singers, accompanists and setter-uppers. Inspirational messages were given by Bob Mutton, Wayne McKenzie, David Youngson, Walter Lang, Zena Wrigley and David Kilgour. Our singers this year have included Les and Betty Brooks, Val Cammell, Daphne Duncumb, Nina Elliott, Marg Morely, , Bob Mutton, Angela Rainford, Betty Rimmer, Muriel Robinson and David and Joyce Youngson ably accompanied on the piano by Marian Kilgour and Joyce Youngson. I also appreciate Graeme Cammell's help with the sound system.

I wish to pay a sincere tribute to David Youngson for his faithfulness over many years as the organizer of the Hillsborough Hospital Services and the wonderful way he was able to close the services with a challenge to all listeners. Our sympathy and love goes out to Joyce and the family in their sad loss.

A special feature this year has been the quiet and caring way Carol Blight has come along to spend time before and after the service speaking to and praying with the residents as they are brought out of their rooms. After the service we take time to speak with those gathered, offering prayer or just holding their hand to convey God's love for them. It is encouraging when people come to the Lord and we can see the changes in them month by month.

If God lays it upon your heart to join the team of singers, accompanists or speakers we would love you to join us. If you could help even once in a while or even on a casual basis, please speak to one of us. All of us are getting older and when illness strikes or someone is away it is a blessing to have extra folk to call on.

David Kilgour

(Convenor)

Good Companions

Our Good Companions group of older and wiser men and women meet each month in the side hall to be entertained and informed by a wide range of speakers. We then enjoy a finger food lunch together and chat over a cuppa.

This year we have benefited from speakers covering a variety of topics. We learned more about life in Africa from Jenny Jones then some of Rick Velvin's experiences living in New Guinea and flying with Missionary Aviation Fellowship. Berris Anderson spoke of her experiences living in South Africa and we thank Keith Bedford for talking to us about developing forensic research. In May, Sherie Muys told us what it's like to live and study in a foreign country. In July we held our annual luncheon at Valentines. In August, Margaret Walker shared some experiences as a 'travel insurance nurse' and we are grateful to Johannes Balzer from Interserve for sharing with us in September. In October Alice Oborn entertained us with stories from living in England as an 'Animal Aunt!' As a group, we are looking forward to our annual Christmas Party to be catered by Beth Henderson where we will be well fed and entertained.

We were all saddened recently, by the passing away of David Youngson and of Jean Grindrod. Their contribution and sense of fun and will be greatly missed by our group and our hearts go out to their families.

The addition of new people through the year is encouraging and numbers attending have averaged 35 to 40.

As always we want to sincerely thank our committee, Graeme and Margaret Davidson, Margaret Skeates, Cath Williams, Clarrie and Dorothy Wilson, Flora Clarkson, Ron and Cynthia Butler and our lovely assistant, Lorraine Muys. Their support with setting up and the planning of extra outings, remembering birthdays and anniversaries and looking after the many practical details needed for each meeting, are very much appreciated

Finally, Malcolm and I wish to acknowledge each member of The Good Companions; for being great friends to each other for so many years and thank you also for being great friends to us.

Della Hart McAllister