

## **Rector's Report 2021**

On the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 I commenced ministry at Penshurst Anglican Church. I was keen for what lay ahead. What I didn't realise that a COVID outbreak would limit what we could do on Sundays and my ability to connect with parishioners. So my goal has been to meet with people.

I've met with my Parish Council and Wardens. My goal is for us to discuss governance issues in a transparent way. We also put together the budget you have today.

I held a Cell group leader meeting. It was a joy to see men and women who are investing in the spiritual growth of God's people. The aim is to meet each quarter. I've also visited many of the groups.

In February the ministry team leaders met. I explained that our goal is to grow a healthy church that works in unison. These quarterly meetings will help that process. I aim to meeting with individual leaders to discuss the purpose and strategy of their portfolio.

I have also been developing the staff team. It's joy to work with David and Tiny. They are diligent and have a heart to serve you. I can't wait to see how God uses us for His glory.

So what are our goals for 2021?

### **1) Gather people back**

As the COVID vaccine rolls out and the number of transmissions remain low we want people to come back and meet face to face. I'm contacting people to invite them to come.

Morning teas have restarted, and I would love to have lunches again soon. Finishing the kitchen renovations will help in this regard.

I think Sundays are vital to the growth of us as God's people.

### **2) See people grow spiritually**

I have started several new cell groups. These groups are a place where we can share in God's word, open up our lives and serve each other.

David Wong has also implemented a discipleship plan that I believe will bring about maturity.

I also want to help people develop their personal time with God in pray and reading his word. I cannot tell you how valuable this has been in my life. I'm sure that this habit will promote maturity.

### **3) See new people join**

I want us to take hold of opportunities such as Easter and other festivals to invite people along. The Chinese New Year was fantastic. I would love to have more of these during the year.

That said, we can invite family or friends to come at any time. In fact, many of you are already doing this.

It's a new year with a new staff team. What remains the same is the need for the gospel to transform lives.

Will you join me in praying for people to come back?

Will you pray that God would grow us spiritually?

Will you pray that God would grow us numerically?

Phill