



HIGHWAY

*Mission, Vision &
Values*

HIGHWAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Our Name

Our name "Highway" comes from Isaiah
40 verses 3-5.

**A voice of one calling:
"In the wilderness prepare
the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.**

**Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.**

**And the glory of the Lord will be
revealed,
and all people will see it together.
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."**

These verses have been significant to the people in this church family for many years. They have meant different things to different people in different seasons, and still remain foundational to our calling and destiny as a unique community of believers.

We choose to allow these words to stand alone in their own right and continue to seek God to bring fresh revelation from them for us.



Our Mission

Our mission is simple yet profound: to love God; to love one another; and to journey to become who God created us to be, inviting others to join us on this discipleship adventure as we go.

Our mission is not complicated or difficult to understand, yet carries great depth. First and foremost we have made the greatest commandment our priority - to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind and then to love our neighbour as ourselves - Matthew 22:37-39.

Love is what our community is established upon. We see each person as fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of God.

Through the power of God's transforming love, His Spirit and the adventure of discipleship, we are on a journey of becoming more fully who He created us to be.

Our heart is to open up the way for others to join us and become part of God's family.

Our Vision

As part of the global Body of Christ, our vision is to pioneer a network of welcoming, discipleship communities, between Bicester and Buckingham (and beyond), with Jesus at the centre.

We desire to know Him more, to learn to follow His ways, to share His life fulfilling good news with others, to steward His presence, and to see His transforming love and power at work in our lives and communities.



Jesus is at the very centre of our vision. We humbly desire to become more like Him as we spend time in His presence, delve into His teaching, and pursue His mission. We believe that Jesus is the Word of God, meaning He is God. We believe the Word became flesh taking on human form. This was all part of God's rescue plan. By Jesus' death and resurrection, He defeated death and broke the curse of sin, making a way for us to step into His promise of eternal life. When He ascended into heaven, He promised that the Holy Spirit would be with His followers.

We love the presence of God's Spirit in our lives and community and actively seek to welcome His voice and steward His gifts when we meet. We believe Jesus will come again as the righteous and worthy King to finally restore all things to glory. The good news about Jesus is not just a story, it is an invitation to encounter God in His living Word, Jesus, and to be transformed. We recognise that we are just a small expression of the Church. As Jesus prayed in John 17:20-21 that all His followers would be one, so we are committed to unity between believers. We seek to be a blessing to other Churches and Christian communities, both locally and internationally.

Our network of house churches are based between Bicester and Buckingham. We see these towns and the surrounding villages as our focus for local ministry, yet also look to pursue and support mission further afield.



Our Values

We are a people responding to the life-transforming love of God in our lives. Our community is established on this love and is characterised by an enduring faith, a persevering hope and a profound joy that tenderly engage with hurting lives in a broken world. We choose authenticity, simplicity, kindness and generosity, and are intentional about safeguarding the children and vulnerable adults in our community.

We love because He first loved us - 1 John 4:19. We are a people who have encountered and been changed by the love of God and from that place, we respond by joyfully giving Him our hearts and lives for His glory. We endeavour to persevere and live by faith, putting our trust and hope in God, as well as finding joy through hearts full of gratitude. We seek to tenderly engage with the hurting lives in the areas of influence God has given us.

Our Values Expanded

Authenticity - being real and true to ourselves before God in community.

Simplicity - keeping things straightforward where possible, and making our love for God and each other our priority.

Kindness - cultivating the quality of being selfless, compassionate and merciful which expresses itself in words and actions.

Generosity - desiring to have the same attitude and longing of Jesus - to give freely and abundantly without expecting anything in return. To generously give of our time, attention, finances, other resources, forgiveness and mercy, contributing to the well-being of others.

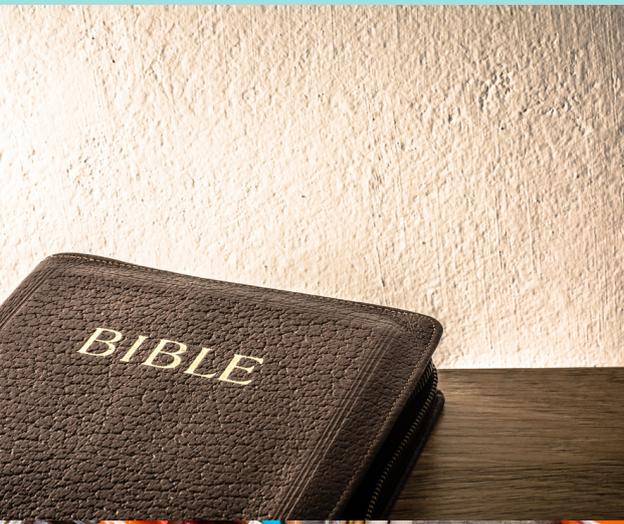
Safeguarding - to put measures in place to protect children and those who are vulnerable in our community from harm.

Our Practices

We embrace diversity, but unite around the following common themes:

Worship, Stewarding God's Presence, Communion, Prayer, Teaching, Family, Discipleship, Investing in the Next Generation and Mission

- Worship: Worship is the expression of our love to God and is foundational in fulfilling the first commandment. We are free to express our love and reverence for God in all sorts of ways and endeavour to cultivate a lifestyle of worship in our everyday lives.
- Stewarding God's Presence: God is actively at work in our lives and communities, and we embrace His presence, growing in demonstrating the fruit and stewarding the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives. As priests of God, we host His presence and we are called to guard well this treasure within us. (2 Timothy 1:14). We steward God's presence as we worship and adore Him and as we recognise our need for His life-giving Holy Spirit.
- Communion: As part of our worship we break bread together, recognising and remembering Jesus' sacrifice for us on the cross. Jesus asks us to share communion with each other in remembrance of Him (Luke 22:19) and this holy meal is central to us as a community when we gather. We remember that Jesus died in our place and with Him our own sins were buried. We remember that He has risen from the grave and that we rise with Him into newness of life.





- Prayer: We are a people of prayer believing in God's goodness, His power, and His desire for us to join Him in His purposes. As a church, we see prayer as a vital part of our life together, a bit like the 'engine room' which powers our church life. We want to respond to God's invitation to commune with Him, both listening to His heart and sharing our own with Him. We believe that our prayers make a difference.
- Teaching: The revelation of God's character and wisdom in the Bible is foundational to our community life and discipleship. The Bible centres around God's redeeming love for us, culminating in Jesus' life, death and resurrection. We desire to be a community of life-long learners. Continuing to grow in our understanding of God's Word, is a central focus in our gatherings.
- Family: We want to be a community characterised by God's love where people feel welcomed, accepted and loved, but also challenged and inspired to grow. We pursue kindness, honesty and authenticity in our relationships and fellowship together.

- Discipleship: We are a church in which every person is invited to take part and feel like they belong. We all have a unique contribution to offer and we desire for each person to have the opportunity to grow in character and competence in the areas in which God has gifted them. We want our communities to be places where people can become more like Jesus and our hope is for each house church to feel released and supported to pursue the specific things to which God is calling them.
- Investing in the Next Generation: We value every young person in our community and desire to see each one come to have a personal relationship with Jesus and to be discipled and equipped to fulfill their destiny.
- Mission: Our heart is to be outwardly expressing God's love to our neighbours, our communities and the world around us. We look for opportunities to serve, show kindness and give generously. We desire to share the good news of the gospel in word and deed and invite others into our communities. We seek to bring God's restoration, reconciliation and healing to hurting lives and a broken world.





In a Nutshell

Our Mission

LOVE
TRANSFORMATION
INVITATION

Our Vision

TO PIONEER A NETWORK OF WELCOMING
DISCIPLESHIP COMMUNITIES WHO DESIRE TO
KNOW, FOLLOW & SHARE JESUS

Our Values

LOVE
FAITH, HOPE & JOY

AUTHENTICITY, SIMPLICITY, KINDNESS,
GENEROSITY & SAFEGUARDING

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