

## NOT JUST A BIG IDEA

Ten years ago Vision 100 was just an idea: 'How many churches would need to be started to see 10% of the population of Hobart in strong, evangelical churches?'

Now there are ten Vision 100 partner churches around the state seeking to realise the vision and plant churches. In ten years we have seen around a dozen church plants and several more attempted. It can sometimes feel from day to day that not much happens but when we look back we can see how much progress has been made already. God has been good to us.

Such church planting only happens through God's work in people. Over these years hundreds of people have gotten behind the vision of church planting and have dared to sacrifice and take risks for the sake of the spread of the gospel.

If we are to see 100 churches we need to raise up many more leaders. Over twenty five people have been sent interstate to study at Bible colleges and many have returned to take up the work here. But we need many more.

So if there is a lesson to take from the last ten years it is that Vision 100 is a realistic vision. It is not too much to ask of God! Seeing what has happened is a challenge to us to try harder, dare more and boldly ask.

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Vision 100 is calling all members across our network to set aside the week beginning Monday

20th September for a special focus on public and personal prayer (and, if you wish, fasting).

We are asking God to renew us as a movement, and fill us with fresh spiritual life, so that we might see Christ more clearly and give our whole lives to Him in service. We believe that deep, fervent, heartfelt prayer with a focus on the mission of the church is the urgent need for our movement.

## A CALL TO PRAYER

Monday 20th

Vision 100 Prayer Meeting  
7:30pm Christian Reformed  
Church of Kingston

Saturday 25th

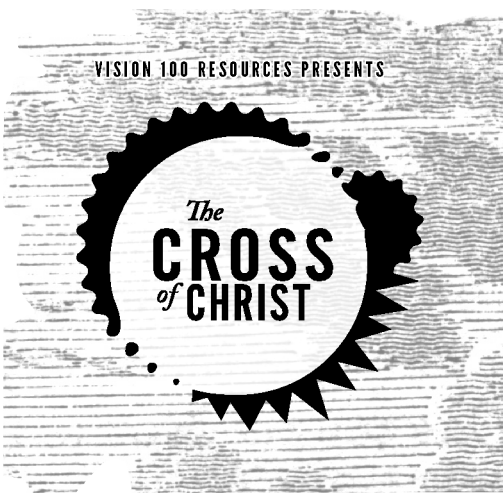
DIY Prayer Parties  
Organise your own get-together

Sunday 26th

Prayer during church meetings  
for the work of the gospel  
around our state

All Week

Please commit to praying for  
the work each day this week



*December 17 / 2010 / 7.30pm*

*The Odeon / 167 Liverpool St / Hobart / free*



### SPEAKER: PETE WOODCOCK

Pete is Senior Pastor at Cornerstone Church Kingston in London. Planted by Pete in 2004, Cornerstone is part of a church planting group called Co-Mission.

Pete has helped start many ministries, including Good News Bus Ministries, Big Issue (Youth leaders training days),

and Contagious Ministries (youth conferences). This year, he produced the DVD course 'Jesus and You'.

Pete is married to Anne and they have two children, Jerusha and Carl. He has travelled extensively around the UK and preached in many countries. Pete worked in student ministry in Hobart in the 1990s, and is returning for a long-awaited visit.

[www.vision100.org/crossofchrist](http://www.vision100.org/crossofchrist) • [crossofchrist@vision100.org](mailto:crossofchrist@vision100.org)

# PRAYER POINTS FROM AROUND THE STATE

We hope that you find this state-wide look at the ministries and churches in our network helpful as a starting point for your personal prayer during the week and for Prayer Parties on Saturday 25th September.

## THE BRANCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We are thankful for so many different blessings. This year we have restructured our church into ministry teams, which is working well so far. We have been encouraged and challenged over the last two months by the preaching team working through the book of Revelation. Our church continues to attract new people each week and we are excited by the opportunity to faithfully declare the gospel to all who come on a Sunday morning.

We ask that you will join with us in prayer for a new senior minister to be found, as Fred is approaching retirement in the coming years. We also ask that we would continue to work hard at seeing ourselves as a church where all members use their gifts and abilities to serve one another in love. We are hoping to start a new church service soon as well.

## THE CROWDED HOUSE TASMANIA

We are in the process of working with a benefactor team who are fanning into flame their gifts of supporting the ministry. Our desire is to see this flourish as a culture within the church so that all who come in contact with us would feel our generosity. Pray for this team as they learn to skilfully steward their resources for eternity.

A few months ago we divided the main church into 3 gospel communities which are potential church plants. This gives young leaders the chance to flex their muscles, but in a safe environment. Pray for the steady continued development of these leaders as they shepherd their small flocks and seek to further the gospel through these communities.

Brian's leadership remains the firm anchor for our work and given his many responsibilities and pressures, his body/health are suffering. Please pray for continued strength for Brian as he shepherds TCHT and the BILD ministry Antioch Initiative AU in order

for the work to become a firm base for the gospel in the North and beyond.

## UNI MINISTRY LAUNCESTON CAMPUS

Praise God for the significant growth in enthusiastic, committed International Students coming along to FOCUS and for their joy in praising God, encouraging other students, and taking initiative. Praise God for the closeness of friendships and support among the students who come to FOCUS and for the opportunities of working through International Student Services.

Please pray for wisdom for thinking through campus ministry next year, and working with the Anglican Imagine project. Pray that students would be bold and take risks in talking to their friends about Jesus and that our evangelism training would be effective in conversations and relationships with friends. Please pray for the Worldview Bible College students as they do outreach among International Students.

## MIDLANDS OUTREACH

There are many and varied needs and struggles among country people and it has been a privilege to minister God's love and care in these situations. This has often led to sharing with people concerning their greatest need, which is spiritual. It is slow work but hungry hearts are in evidence as God leads and enables.

The work at the Kirklands church just out of Campbelltown is also encouraging and numbers are growing. There were 18 at the last monthly service which is the most we have had. Please pray for continuing 'divine appointments'. Please also pray for conversion fruit and that we will be able to establish home Bible studies.

## BAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We thank the Lord that he has provided Bay Christian Church a temporary place to worship for the

next few months while the Council renovates Blackmans Bay Hall. We pray that the new venue and time of 4:00pm will work well and that the change will serve to strengthen the church.

We thank God for the conversions we have had in the past and pray that God would strengthen our community life so that pastoral care and evangelism will flow naturally out of our church life together.

## CORNERSTONE

Please pray especially for our new evening service in a cafe in the city, called (for the moment) 'Night Church.' Ask that God will use this to connect us with lots of unbelievers in the city area who may benefit from the considerable time we give for questions and answers and the weekly shared meal.

Pray that God may help Cornerstone to 'strengthen the net' in 2011: to prepare to be the kind of church that effectively receives and disciples new Christians.

## CROSSROADS

In our part of Hobart people want to value the environment and society over the economy. They crave a community that would be for the good of the world. They are hopeful of a better future. But can they ever have this? Is this just a utopia? Pray for us as we reach out with the good news that in Christ we can truly know God, ourselves and our surroundings. We can exercise real love toward others. Pray for us as we try and live as God's new people in this world.

We are thankful to God that things are going well with our House churches. Please join us in giving thanks. Please keep our Sunday night service in your prayers as many struggle to trust God in a new stage of life. We are grateful for many students who have joined our Tuesday service. Please pray for their commitment to church.

## **CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF KINGSTON**

We thank the Lord that Des and Suze Smith will be joining the Kingston congregation from the start of 2011. We pray for them as they finish their studies in Sydney, move to Kingston later this year, and Des takes up his work among youth and young families.

We thank God that he has used the Kingston congregation for the strengthening of the church here in Southern Tasmania. We thank God for the love and generosity of his people, for the churches that have been planted from Kingston, and for the leaders that have been raised up in the church.

We pray that the Kingston church will continue to be a bold faith-filled community, always ready to step out and serve the Lord where he calls. We pray that God would strengthen the faith of the upcoming generations of children and young people, so they too will serve the Lord with passion and joy.

## **MT STUART PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Please pray for us that we will grow together as a gospel centred community and that we will have good connections with the wider community. Pray for conversions from the world.

Please pray for David as he tries to balance his ministry at Mt Stuart with his responsibilities to the wider church as Moderator General of the Presbyterian Church of Australia (2010-2013). Also please pray for the formation of a ministry team to work with the elders.

## **ONE WAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Pray for our current bricks and mortar building project to expand our meeting space and our appeal as a venue in Margate. Thank God for the growth that has compressed this need

into urgent, and also the generosity of our wider church family in their commitment to meeting it. Thank God for time and labour and material donations and financial donations from dollars and cents up to thousands of dollars!

More importantly please pray for our kingdom building project. We are focussing on our small group 'gospel communities' in a big way as we seek to reach out to those on our fringe and neighbours in the communities to which we belong. Thank God for a whole bunch of youth that we have and for some younger ones who want to profess their faith and be baptised.

## **REDEEMER CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Pray that God will continue to grow us, both spiritually and numerically, and pray for the upcoming opportunities to witness in the community. Praise God that we are about double what we started with and that we've had several people come to Christ in the last few months. Praise God for signs of spiritual maturity, including several people asking for baptism.

Pray that our recent outreach to the athletes at the Winter Challenge will continue to have an impact. We also pray that our witness to the Huon Valley would continue to be fervent and pray that God would encourage each one of our members to be gospel centred.

## **SUMMERLEAS CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

This year our primary goal has been to go deeper with our vision: to be a Gospel Centred, Organic, Community. Praise God that we have made some progress in this. People are increasingly sharing their lives together and pastoring one another in this context.

We have also been excited to see our community approach to mission starting to bear fruit. We have now

had a few people share our community experience and hear the gospel in that context. Pray that we might continue to grow into our vision.

We have a number of people experiencing some major difficulties at the moment which will be a real test as to whether our community is as meaningful as it appears to be. Pray that we would be able to care for and nurture these people through their hardships. Pray too that we would keep our outward focus and that God would help us bring the gospel to many more lost people.

## **UNI MINISTRY HOBART CAMPUS**

### **THE UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIANS:**

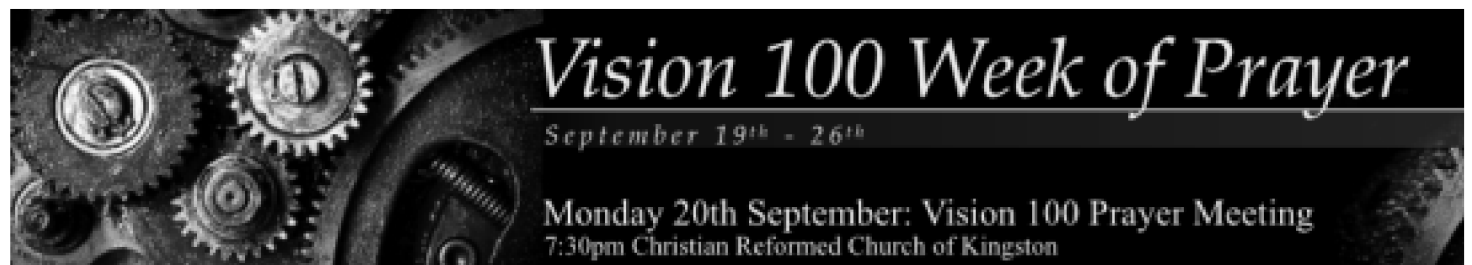
Please pray for the four Scripture Under Scrutiny courses we have started that God will give those who are attending the gift of faith to respond to the message.

We have also been running fortnightly Leadership Development sessions to recruit and train the student leaders for 2011. Please pray for the ten or so new students who have attended that they be ready and willing to step up in the coming year. We hope for a committee of 15+ students next year.

### **FOCUS:**

Thank God for a strong and committed leadership team who are exploring and exercising their gifts in serving the Lord. Thank God that April Chivers has decided to begin an MTS apprenticeship with FOCUS next year.

We have had a large drop in numbers over winter, please pray that we return to the size that we were and that those who come along would hear the gospel and we would be blessed with seeing them repent and believe. Pray especially for Catherine and Jerry from China in this regard.



## FUNDRAISING PROGRESS

We apologise that the latest figures for donations to Vision 100 are not available at the time of printing. We will give a full update next issue. We thank you for your generosity and support of the work.

If you would like to make a donation please specify which of the projects your funds are to be directed towards:

### Ongoing Projects:

Midlands Outreach

Redeemer (Huon Valley)

FOCUS

Uni Fellowship

### Visionary Projects:

Launceston Church Plant

Northern Suburbs

Eastern Shore

## THE HOW AND WHY OF PRAYER WITH FASTING

Brian Vaatstra explains why you might consider fasting during the Week of Prayer

Why include a time of personal and individual fasting in this week? Well, for a number of reasons. Jesus himself predicted that the disciples would fast when he left them, and although some restrict this time to being between Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, it seems more likely, given the fasting practices of the early church, to mean the time between Christ's ascension and return (see Acts 13:13; 14:23; 2 Corinthians 6:5; 11:27).

We are not fasting to make a political statement, or as a religious ritual, or for health reasons, or because we despise food, or for ascetic reasons. We are not fasting in order to get God's attention. We fast in order to give ourselves to prayer so that we might know more of God and all he is for us in Christ Jesus our Lord. In fasting and in all other forms of self-discipline and self-denial, every loss is for the sake of 'gaining Christ.'

If you are planning to participate in this please be aware of the spiritual dangers

in not fasting with the right motives. Do it in secret.

Keep it in the family. Don't tell others. If you fast to be seen by men you have your reward already, says Jesus (Matthew 6:16). Fasting does not and cannot earn anything from God. It is a giving to us so we might grow in Christ and so that God might be glorified through our lives and service. The reward we receive from fasting is a greater love for Christ. As Spurgeon said, 'Our seasons of fasting and prayer at the Tabernacle have been high days indeed; never has Heaven's gate stood wider; never have our hearts been nearer the Central glory.'

So how shall we do it? Well, you need to decide what is appropriate for you. It may be missing one or two meals in the week, it may be fasting through lunch every day, or it may be going without for a whole day. It's your decision. But the important thing is that you use that time to spend in prayer to our great God. May God draw us all into closer fellowship as we seek His face in this special time of prayer.

Brian Vaatstra

## Vision 100 Partners

Cornerstone Mount Stuart, Richmond & Midlands Outreach under David Jones' leadership

Crossroads South House, North House, TBT & Classic under Dan Shepheard's leadership  
Kingston One Way, Bay, Summerleas & Redeemer under Brian Vaatstra's leadership

The Branch Evangelical Reformed Church under Fred van Hulst's leadership

AFES Tasmania - Northern and Southern Uni Fellowship and FOCUS under Sam Green's leadership

The Crowded House Tasmania under Brian Wilson's leadership

## Vision 100 Committee

Brian Vaatstra - Chairman 0439 899 121

David Jones - Vice Chairman 0400 134 701

Mikey Lynch - Secretary 0414 669 554

Brian Wilson - Northern Representative

Ian Headley - Public Officer

Ric Straatsma - Treasurer

Jo Hext - Fundraising

Bronwyn Bultman - Publications and Promotions

## Vision 100 Newsletter

If you would like us to start (or stop!) mailing the newsletter to your postal address please contact Bronwyn Bultman. Telephone 0408 149 393 or email [bronwynbultman@gmail.com](mailto:bronwynbultman@gmail.com)

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## Donations

Vision 100 Resources  
National Australia Bank  
BSB 087-007 54-875-7295

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When we look around at this network of Vision 100 churches we have so much to be thankful for. But let's not rest our gaze. There is so much further to go even to reach a small percentage of our population! The three 'visionary projects' for church plants on Hobart's eastern shore, northern suburbs and in Launceston are just first steps towards vast areas we have hardly begun to reach.

God's living word is powerful to bring people to life and establish new communities of believers. Let's take this opportunity to praise God for what he has done amongst us and plead with him for even greater things for the sake of his glory.

Nick Bultman

## FOR YOUR DIARY:

This year Vision 100 Sunday will be held on the 24th of October.