

West Leigh Baptist Church

Vision

2015 and beyond

www.wlbc.org.uk

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West Leigh Baptist Church
1150 London Road
Leigh-on-Sea
SS9 2AJ



This leaflet explains a taste of the vision for West Leigh Baptist Church; a vision which was agreed in 2013 and is continually developing as we begin new projects, step out in faith and seek to understand how the Lord is leading us. I'd like to invite you to grasp the vision, engage with it, and get involved....and there are loads of ways to do that!

What follows is a general outline of the vision we have and the structure we've adopted to try and make it happen. The **Welcome Pack** which is available on our **Church Website** www.wlbc.org.uk and in hard copy in the Welcome area provides a good overview of what happens day by day and week by week within the life of the church.

So read on and see what we're going for and how you can be involved!

Be inspired!

Rev Jon Stannard
Minister, Team Leader



Rev Jon Stannard
and his wife Sarah



Our Vision Statement:

**“Jesus in us, our church,
our community, our world”**

West Leigh Baptist Church will be:

A 400 member plus church

**A church with multiple congregations
meeting at our London Road site.**

**We will plant a new kind of church
in the area called West Leigh.**

Scripture references: Isa 12.6, Isa 40.3,
Psalm 126.5-6 (text for 2015), Eph 4.16

Vision Values:

**We will demonstrate our love for God, Father, Son and
Holy Spirit, and one another, by striving to:**

- **Centre our lives on Jesus Christ, recognizing the need to be distinctive in our Christian lifestyles**, seeking to equip and care for one another in daily discipleship.
- **Reach out to and serve others outside our church**, welcoming the stranger, offering hospitality and challenging injustice.
- **Encourage our leaders and each other** to be visionary, pastorally sensitive, demonstrate humility, commitment to prayer, forgiveness, and listening to the Spirit.
- **Be generous** with our time, our money and our gifts.
- **Vision Structure:** West Leigh Baptist Church is structured into 4 main areas and each area is led by a Task Group of 5 or 6 elected and co-opted leaders, and with the help of the Minister, Rev Jon Stannard (our Team Leader) they pray, plan and put into the action the agreed aims and objectives for that year. Those Task Groups and the Minister report to the Church Council (the elected trustees) who in turn report to the Church Membership where all the big decisions are made!
- **Membership** may be something new to you too so pick up a leaflet in the welcome area to find out more!

The four areas are:

Church Life:

Worshipping, Growing and Caring

“The state of the worker is more important to God than the state of the work.”

Community:

Serving, Sharing and Partnering

“To demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ to our local community and the world.”

Children & Youth:

Inspiring, Encouraging and Releasing

“To ensure that Children & Youth are the church of today, and released in ministry now.”

Support Services:

Enabling, Facilitating, Coordinating

“To support church life, community, and children and youth ministry by providing administrative and organizational support.”

Some of the recent highlights have been:

- Our partnership with other local churches to form a **Christians Against Poverty project** supporting a local centre as well as hosting our own money courses
- The development of a **Parish Nursing project** where our Parish Nurse Lorraine works in the community and in church life with health and wholeness as a priority. Exciting things and much growth in this exciting ministry.
- The development of the Leigh Distribution of the Southend **Food Bank**. Each Saturday we help those who need food and are a good contributor to the food needed across the whole Southend Area.

- The growth of our discipleship **Home Groups**, growing in number significantly over the past 2 years.
- A new **Pastoral Care** team and structure
- And **much more....**

You can find about all of these and much more on our website www.wlbc.org.uk or picking up a **Welcome Pack**

Our priorities for 2015 include:

- Developing a resource centre with books, CD's, and more
- Developing our seniors ministry
- Grasping a new vision for Children and Youth work and establishing a structure to make that the best it can be.
- Adopting a new leadership structure which can cope with the growth we've seen and will continue to see
- We are also asking big questions about how to resource the current life of the church and manage the growth we expect to see, so the staffing structure is being considered.

How can you help?

1. Read a copy of the latest **Vision** document available on the website and from the church office. Just ask.
2. Make an appointment to meet one of the **Task Group Leaders** or the Minister to talk through how you can get involved. Contact the church office for up to date contact details.
3. Fill out a '**How can I be involved?**' form and give to the church office. These forms are available by the refreshments hatch and on the church website. It lists all the areas of service and asks you to tick a box to express interest.
4. Fill out a **Database Form** – available from the church office or by the refreshments hatch – which will mean you get regular updates
5. Ask about Church Membership – again via the church office

Help Financially. The truth is that it takes money to make things happen and we have great need. You can give in a number of ways:

- **By standing order – forms are available by the refreshments hatch**
- **By bank transfer – again see the forms by the refreshments hatch**
- **By cheque – placing a cheque payable to West Leigh Baptist Church, in the offering box – guess where? By the refreshments hatch!**
- **Cash – in the offering box.**

You can also give to our **Building Fund** in all the same ways – see the Building Fund form – again, you've guessed it, by the refreshments hatch!

We have massive plans! Not just to pay off the £500,000 we still owe on our new buildings but also to develop the whole site by knocking down the old memorial hall and replacing it with purpose built buildings for the 21st Century.

You can even give to the New Building Fund which is raising money for our next Building Project starting in 2018-2019. Pick up a leaflet by the refreshments hatch

We are totally dependent on the Lord for our future development, and hope that through the generous giving of those who are members and who attend our church, we can keep making an impact locally. Regular (weekly/monthly) giving is so important so we urge you to respond by giving generously, if you are able.

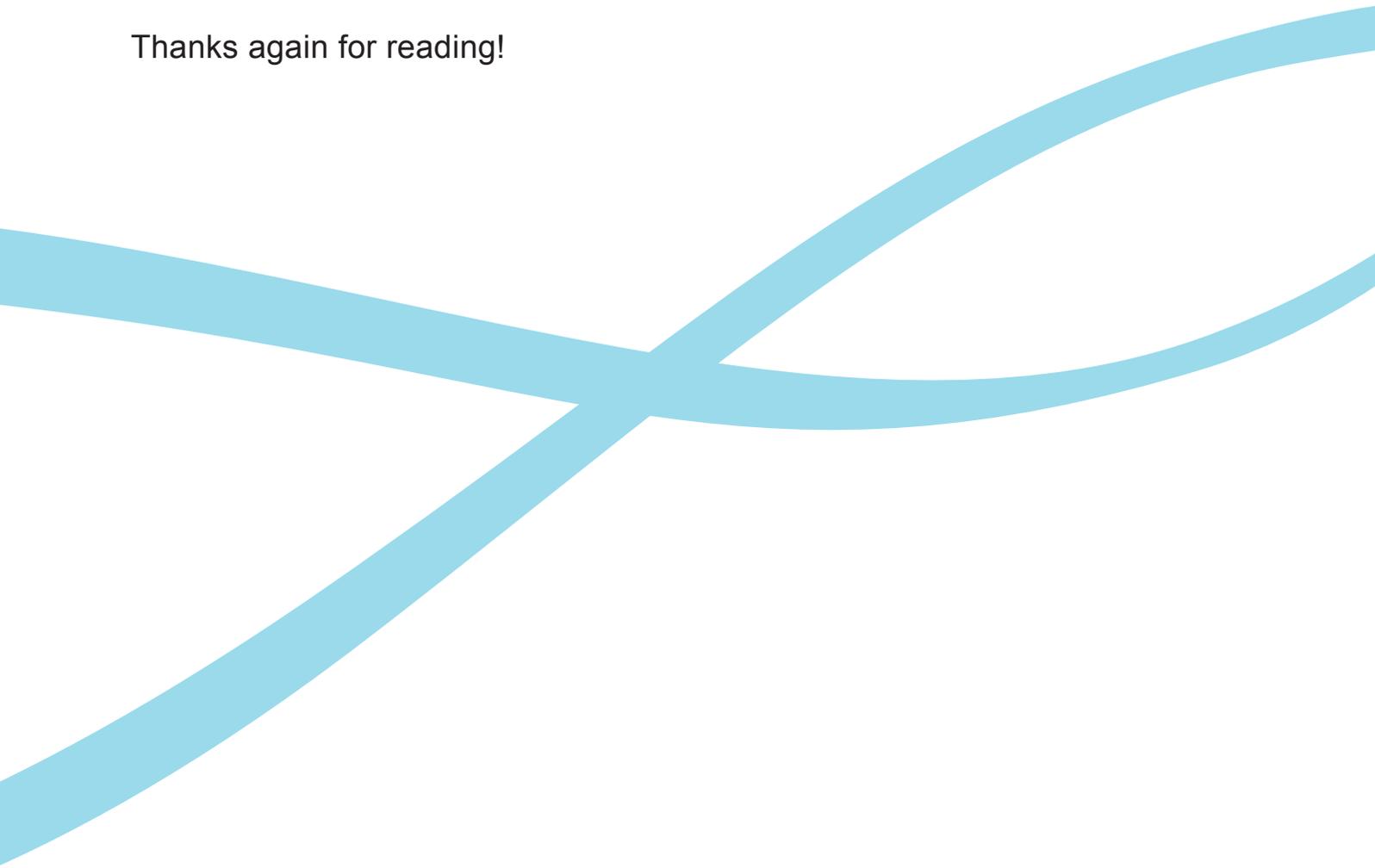
What many people don't realise is that ALL our finances are as a result of the generous giving of our members and attendees, with some coming from lettings, and some for the Building Fund raised from our Charity Shop 'Cornerstone'. So....everyone who attends has a part to play. That's the reality and the opportunity to be part of a community where together we can make it happen!

Some are able to give larger one off amounts and these are both welcomed and often timely so if the Lord is prompting you to give then please do ask to speak to the treasurer 'in confidence' (you can arrange this through the church office) or use the forms – **BY THE REFRESHMENTS HATCH!**

It's important to link VISION and RESOURCING together and we hope that this leaflet, the welcome pack, the website, the notices, and the people you meet provide that sense of enthusiasm and commitment we feel about what the Lord is doing amongst us. It's an incredibly exciting time and we invite you to climb on board, through prayer, attendance, membership, service and financially giving.

Questions? Ask to meet one of the leaders – you can do this, not by picking up a form by the refreshments hatch, but by contacting the church office on 01702 472100 or admin@wlb.org.uk

Thanks again for reading!



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Please note all personal/sensitive data is processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.
Further details are available from the Church if you wish.

