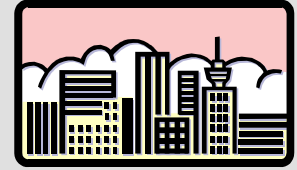


TrueCity: Churches Together For the Good Of The City



Bethany Gospel Chapel

Mission Statement: Our purpose at Bethany is to glorify and please God as a community and to enjoy Him, as in obedience to His Word we worship Him and serve Him.

The following Bethany Values align with TrueCity Value statements:

- **The centrality of Christ as the focus of our fellowship.**
- **Submission to the Bible as the authoritative Word of God.**
- **The proclamation of the truth in love.**
- **The priesthood of all believers.**
- **Diversity within the body of Christ.**
- **The active, diligent pursuit of personal and corporate holiness.**
- **The role of process and growth in the lives of those who come the Christ.**
- **The development and use of spiritual gifts, natural gifts and acquired skills.**
- **Servant leadership to guide the assembly within the purposes of God.**
- **The expression of God's grace toward others regardless of race, religion, or social-economic status.**
- **Compassion for all those in need of God's grace, whether spiritual, personal or social.**
- **Advance the cause of foreign and domestic missions through prayer, finances, development of workers and social action.**
- **Distinction between personal, cultural and spiritual values.**
- **Both tradition and innovation in fair measure.**
- **The use of the arts and literature as a means of communicating Christ.**
- **Excellence in all ministry activities in order to bring honour to God.**

TrueCity Values:

1. **Congregationally Based:** At the heart of our movement are our church congregations brought together by the Holy Spirit to grow in our faith as we engage in mission.
2. **Neighbourhood Engaged:** The focus of our mission is how our congregations can contribute meaningfully to the neighbourhoods that God has placed us in.
3. **Active Cooperation:** We aim to move beyond theoretical unity to relationships of trust and tangible cooperation where our diversity of perspective and gifting enhances our unity. Congregations learning and working together is how the Church can truly be the body of Christ. It is a powerful witness to our city of God's reality.
4. **Humble Orthodoxy:** Confidence in the gospel of Jesus Christ enables us to interact widely with respect and generosity. Submission to Christ compels us to love as God loves with Jesus as our guide.
5. **Margins at the Centre:** Active presence among those on the social margins who are regularly overlooked and wronged by our society will bring real health and vibrancy for our churches and our city. We take seriously Jesus' challenge that, "What you have done to the least of these you have done to me". This is the prophetic challenge of TrueCity.
6. **Whole City View:** We recognize both that God is concerned for the whole of Hamilton and that there is an interconnected system that does not allow any neighbourhood to exist in isolation. For both of these reasons we are committed to engaging the whole of Hamilton.
7. **Growth through Participation:** We grow in Christ as together we engage in His work. Jesus meets us and takes us deeper in our walk with Him as we get involved in the work that He is doing.

Covenant Statement:

We, as a church, covenant with the other TrueCity churches through:

Commitment to Neighbourhood Engagement:

- Offering programs to the children and youth of our community through Bethany Bible Bunch, Uproar and Senior High School ministries.
- Partnering with King George School to support literacy development and the Breakfast program.
- Providing community representation on the King George School Council.
- Providing a weekly mother's drop-in at Bethany, starting in September 2007.
- Creating and operating a gently used Clothing Closet to address neighbourhood needs.
- Publishing and acting on the neighbourhood profile data and history.
- Organizing an environment study group to understand the scriptural basis for environmental stewardship and its impact in the immediate community.
- Exploring the development and use of our facilities to further provide for the needs of our neighbourhood. The Vision Committee leads this work.
- Supporting the IT staff and IT initiatives.
- Supporting newly arrived refugees through assembly ministries, support of Micah House, the IT neighbourhood garden and other opportunities to share the love of Christ.

Alignment with TrueCity Values:

- We come together as a community of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ to worship together and share the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ through word and deeds – **Congregationally Based**.
- As a church community, we share our desire to grow in Christ and serve Him in our local neighbourhood. This compassionate expression of God's love and grace is without consideration of race, religion or social-economic status – **Neighbourhood Based**.
- We believe in the development and use of spiritual gifts, natural gifts and acquired skills to build up the Body of Christ. Working with fellow believers in our city is a powerful witness to the reality of God working in and through us – **Active Cooperation**.
- As a group of Christians, we desire to learn more of God's nature and love toward us, and worship and serve God with humble and obedient hearts. In so doing, we demonstrate to our community the authenticity of Christ living in and through us – **Humble Orthodoxy**.
- It is our desire to demonstrate compassion to those in need of God's grace, whether spiritual, personal or social. In so doing, we address the issues of equity, justice and mercy in order to exemplify the inclusive nature of God – **Margins at the Centre**.
- As we recognize the need for the expression of God's love in our neighbourhood, we understand the whole of Hamilton is in need of God's love and grace. We are accountable to serve in our immediate neighbourhood and then see that the seeds of our service spread through the whole of Hamilton – **Whole City View**.
- Serving the Lord through action is critical in the active and diligent pursuit of personal and corporate holiness and this demonstrates a clear example of the significance of faith and works sharing in the building of the Kingdom of God – **Growth Through Participation**.

Funding Involvement:

- Bethany has committed to supporting IT staff by scheduling 16 offerings during the year.
- Members of Bethany as they are led by the Spirit of God, are welcome to financially support TrueCity ministries and staff.

Congregational Involvement:

- Doug Booth will participate regularly in core church meetings and will report back to the Elders and the congregation on matters relating to TrueCity directions.
- Members of the Bethany assembly will be encouraged to participate in ministries, seminars, focus groups and other initiatives according to their gifts and expertise. Participation at the annual TrueCity conference will be encouraged.
- We will move beyond awareness and enter into covenant involvement with other Hamilton churches that share our values and are willing to enter into covenant with us.

Celebrating Involvement Together: Bethany will publicly celebrate our involvement in TrueCity on May 27, 2007.

