



## **Coral Coast Christian Church Visioning Process**

### **Pre-amble**

Coral Coast Church's Eldership have begun the process to seek God's Vision for the future of our church. Within this process the Elders wish to include the church family within this process. For this reason, the visioning process will have Five Main Stages being.

- Stage 1 – Hearing God Speak through His people
- Stage 2 – Eldership Discern where God is leading
- Stage 3 – God's People pray for clarity
- Stage 4 – Eldership confirm where God is leading
- Stage 5 – God's people affirm the vision

It is important to note that this is the process the Eldership desire to take to seek God's vision for the future of Coral Coast Church. At the conclusion of this process. The Eldership will then lead the church through the second phase of establishing a strategy in which the church can achieve our vision.

Please join with the Eldership in praying for our church through this process that we will hear God speak and that we will be faithful to what He says.

### **Stage 1 explanation (May 2022)**

Coral Coast Church Eldership asked anyone who calls our church their spiritual home to come and attend one of the two round tables, we had 41 people ranging from

mid 20's to late 80's attend over both meetings. At these two meetings we asked the same four questions and people discussed the questions and answer together in groups of roughly 6 people each group. At the end of each questions discussion times, each group chose up to four answers to share from their table to the greater church family. These answers were written on an A3 pieces of paper and collected after each question.

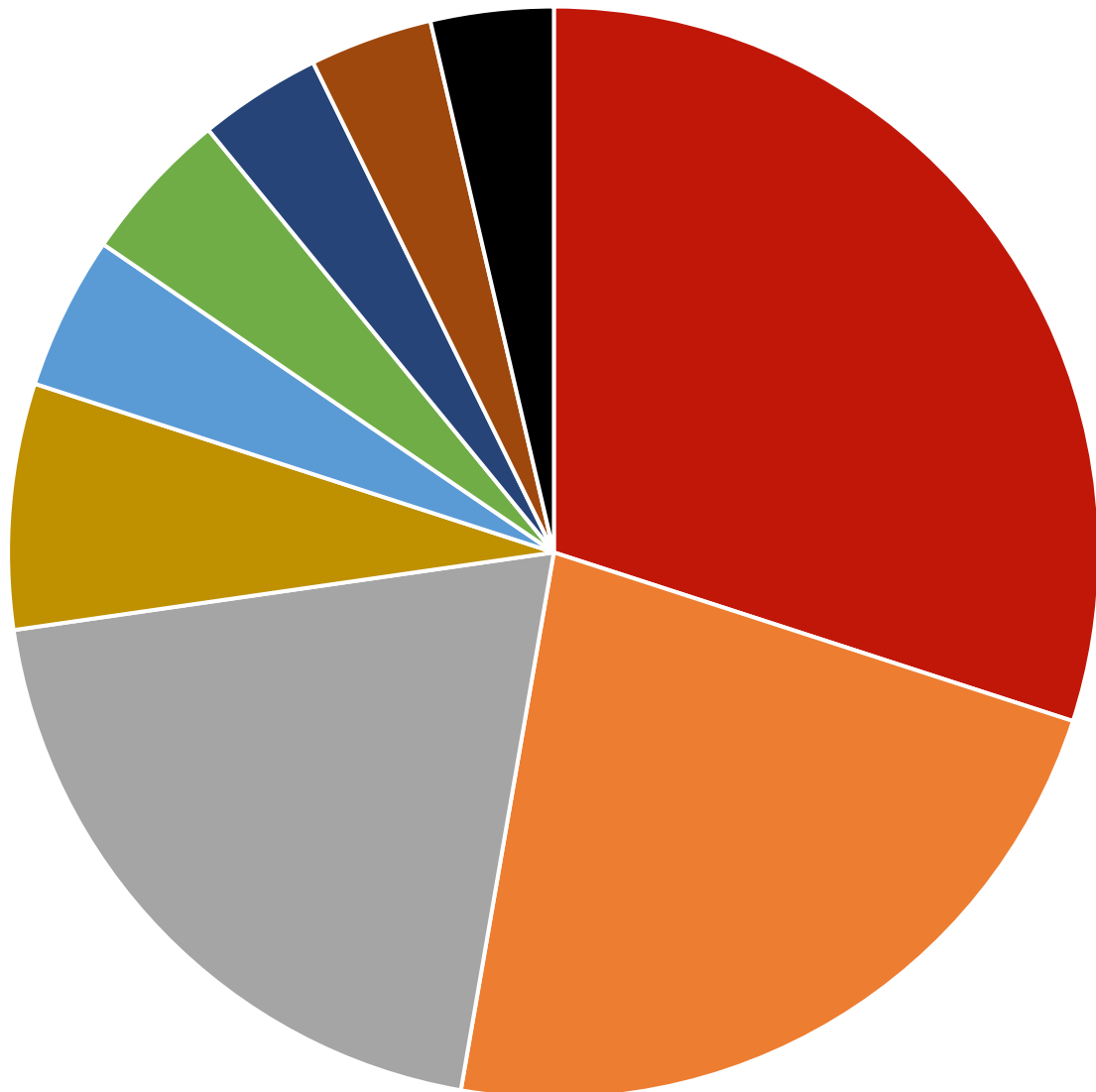
The answers from the groups were then combined together with the desire to match the same answers from multiple groups into one answer. Then the final answer sheets were presented. Each person received 3 stickers for each question to place on the answers that best resonated with them.

This document is the findings from this process.

The questions that were discussed were,

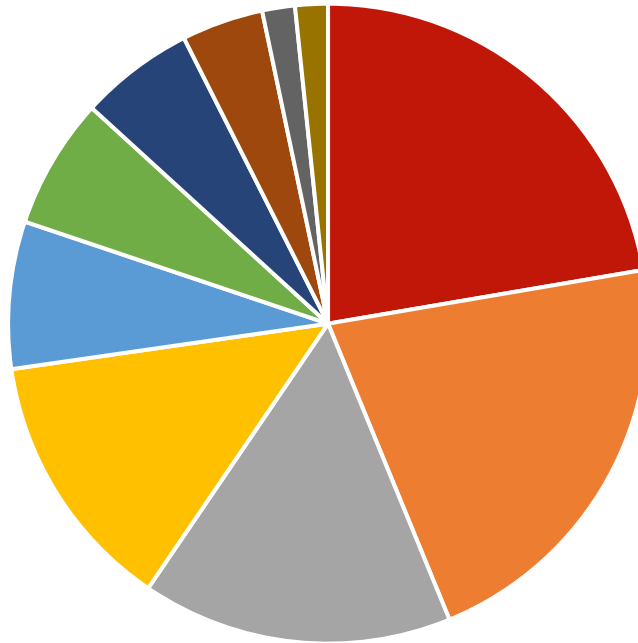
- ▶ Question 1. What don't you like, or makes you uncomfortable, or are we missing in our church?
  - ▶ Question 2. If an alien landed on the earth and came to our church, what would they see as important to us?
  - ▶ Question 3. Aspirational – What would you like our church to be?
  - ▶ Question 4. What do we need to prioritise/ focus on moving forward?
- Please note some answers are not present on these results as they received a few or no stickers.

## What don't you like, or makes you uncomfortable, or is missing in our church?



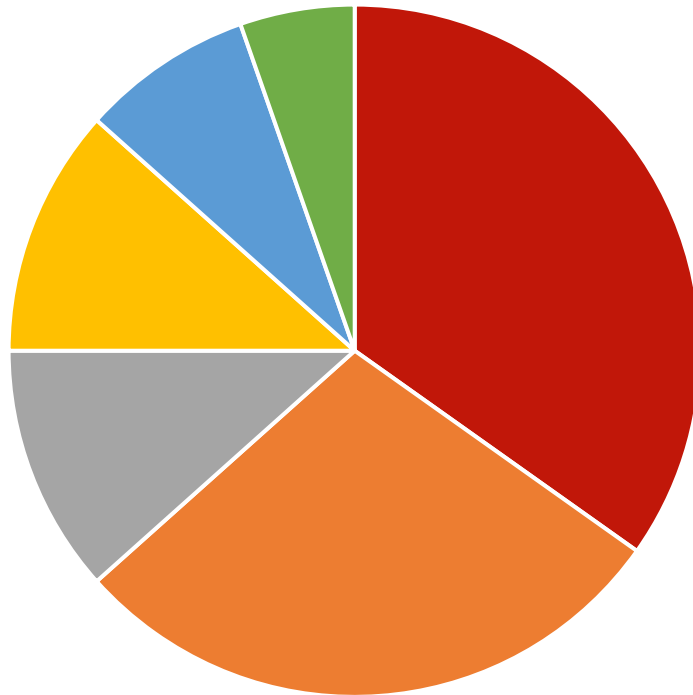
- Missing Pastoral Care and Home Groups (33)
- Missing Events the promote fellowship (25)
- Missing Youth and Children - Families (22)
- Missing Men Ministries (8)
- Unnecessary repetition in songs (5)
- Lack of quite reverence in church (5)
- Missing Musicians (5)
- Uncomfortable feeling of inclusiveness (4)
- Negative attitude towards participating in activities (4)

## If an alien landed on the earth and came to our church, what would they see as important to us?



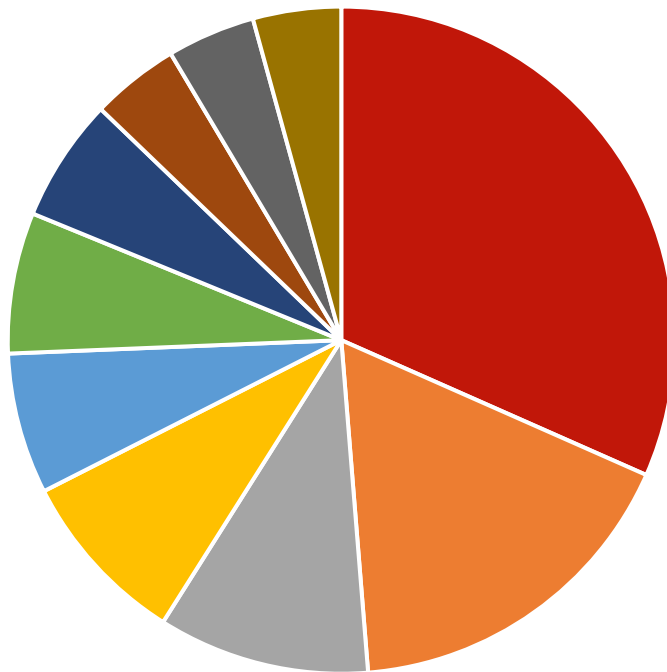
- Worship & Bible Teaching (27)
- Children & Youth Are Important (26)
- Joy of the Lord flows through our music and behaviour (19)
- Friendly, Warm & Welcoming (16)
- Community Outreach through Care Hub & Men's Shed (9)
- Being Contemporary in Music, but needs Contemporary and Traditional Songs (8)
- No signage, to church, office or other buildings. No contact details or pictures/symbolisms (7)
- Men are under-represented as worship leaders (5)
- Use language & Rituals foreign to the common public (2)
- Service takes to long, to much singing (2)

## Aspirational - What do you want our church to be?



- A Community Focused Church, known for our love of people, people experiencing God's love and forgiveness. Including Support (crisis/hurt/need), a place for connection (coffee/book hub/play group etc.) & Events (Men's Shed/Carols/Markets) (39)
- A church that is full of people who love God in prayer and worship with their whole being and are ready to serve in expressing their love for Him through acts of service (32)
- A place to feel comfortable to come to on any day - for new and old Christians who maybe new to the area (13)
- Home Groups - Co ordained approach under pastoral care that fosters quality relationships (13)
- Discipleship Groups - would encourage more to come - intentional mentoring (9)

## What should we prioritise/focus on moving forward?



- Developing our people - strengthening characters & mindsets, discipleship, equipping the saints, providing firm foundation, mentoring of people (37)
- Children, Youth and Families (Mens Ministry) (20)
- Unity - Clear Vision - People in agreement as to the vision and be committed individually and together to achieve it. (12)
- Home Groups & Leadership Development (10)
- Outreach into our community to add church growth (8)
- More Stewards and Elders to enable the church to function optimally (8)
- Supporting the community and building awareness of who we are (7)
- Prioritising pastoral care to help people feel loved and accepted (5)
- Balance of hymns and contemporary songs (5)

## **Stage 2 explanation (June 2022)**

Coral Coast Church Eldership at the end of May together collated the answers from the round tables into the Stage 1 results reflecting on what they observed through this information. The Eldership spent time over two weeks praying and discerning what God is saying through His people, and then met again to share what God was telling us individually. The main themes that came through this time were:

1. Caring for people within the church and the community;
2. Every demographic represented in the church
3. Equipped and empowered to make and mentor disciples

A key theme noted out of the Stage 1 results was the churches heart to Love God, Love People and Make Disciples.

The Eldership then spent the next 2 weeks seeking God within these themes. Within this time Darryl received a 3 part word from the Lord, which the Eldership wish to share with you and Darryl will bring some reflection in the service on the 17<sup>th</sup> of July.

### **Part 1**

This part is talking about preparing ourselves before we embark on this journey.

#### **Be ...**

- Encouraging – reach out to others, show compassion.
- Brave – God has gone before you.
- Bold - don't be intimidated by what others might think.
- Courageous – Jesus has the victory.
- Prepared – learn new skills, encourage others.
- A Participant – find where God wants you involved and do it, you are the right person for the task.
- A Listener – take the time to hear others.
- A Mentor – seek out the person you can encourage and grow in their life.
- Mentored – seek out the person for you.
- Yourself – your story is unique.
- Caring – show pastoral care, to those you are involved, you will know their needs most.
- Accountable.
- Vulnerable – share your story, it is the truth.
- Most importantly, Believe in yourself, Be yourself, you are Special and Unique. God created you.

## **Part 2**

This is a picture of our fellowship as we embark on the journey, it isn't a destination. Many of us are excited about the unknown but others are somewhat apprehensive. As you can see in the picture below we can all make it on the journey God is taking us but we all need to work together and encourage and support each other.

Our fellowship was embarking on a journey.

A group went out to see what the road was like Jill J was driving. As we came along the road there were some very boggy patches but we managed to negotiate them without getting bogged. Then we came to a high river bank that had a big sand bank at the top. This also took a bit to get over but once we reached the top we could see out onto this wide river and there was a low-level bridge across to the other side. We determined that we could make it across so we went back for everybody.

We gathered everyone together and told them what we had discovered. Most people were excited that we had found a way. Glenda especially was excited to be embarking on an adventure and was chattering away 90 to the dozen. There was a sense amongst us that there needed to be some things set right before set off, this enabled a time of healing and reconciliation amongst the fellowship.

So off we went in all manner of vehicles, as we travelled along, we stretched out over some distance. At times we had to slow the lead vehicles down to allow the others to catch up which frustrated them somewhat. We arrived at our first obstacle the muddy section. Jill was right in there, it's better now than it was earlier she said and off she went. Others followed but some were very apprehensive but we eventually made it through. On further to the river, the sand dune appeared some felt that we had travelled far enough. But once again the lead group went on and over and eventually, we all made it. Everybody was so excited and we crossed to the other side of the river.

The journey continues.....

## **Part 3**

God is telling us to look to him, put our trust in him, as we step out in faith and he will provide.

Parents were having a cuppa when their Son arrived.

Parents - How are you going Son.?



Son - I've got some news. We are moving.  
Parents - Where are you going to??  
Son - I don't know, we are going on a journey.  
Parents - What about .....  
Son - That's all sorted.

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It is was also highlighted how it is important to understand the difference between our Mission and Vision. This is what we established.

### **Mission and Vision**

Our mission statement is why we exist. Our vision statement is where we're going.

Getting the two mixed up will lead to confusion for our decision-making and our people. Our vision should **compel people to join and participate**. The vision should paint a picture of the future you want to create.

And the vision should be an extension of the leadership's passions and convictions.

But our vision will change because you change and the future changes as we approach it, and what motivates people changes.

Mission doesn't change like vision changes. Our mission is clearly laid out by a higher authority. Our job is to articulate it in a way that our people understand.

Powerfully our church round table discussions centred around the great commission (to make disciples and baptising them) and the great commandment (love God and love each other).

This aligns with our pre-existing 'Our Purpose' statement found. in our Constitution and reads.

### **Our Purpose**

We believe that God has a definite purpose for the church, and that this purpose is expressed in two significant passages of Scripture.

*And He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and foremost*

*commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 22:37-40)*

*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you ... (Matthew 28:19-20)*

Five important aspects are mentioned in these passages:

- "loving the Lord" is worship
- "loving one's neighbour as oneself" is practical service
- "going and making disciples" is the process of evangelism and missions
- "baptising" is the process of incorporating into fellowship
- "teaching them to observe" is the process of discipleship and training

Therefore, the purpose of this church is to glorify God through reaching out to people, with a view to seeing them won to Christ, drawn into the life of the church, developed to Christ-like maturity and empowered for a meaningful ministry in the church and a life of mission in the world.

In light of this and with the desire of refining our purpose the Eldership wish to express our Mission as a church as.

### **Mission**

**We exist to live out 'The Great Commandment'  
and do 'The Great Commission'.**

And our vision statement for this next season is;

### **Vision**

**We want to be a contemporary church  
that evidently loves God,  
passionately loves people,  
and are committed to make disciples.**

### **Stage 3 – God’s People pray for clarity**

The Eldership desire for God’s people who call Coral Coast Christian Church their spiritual home to prayerfully read through these documents and seek God in prayer for clarity within where He is leading us forward.

On Monday 17th July we will commence a week of prayer and fasting, where we encourage people to set this week to be intentionally leaning into God for His clarity in our future. We will then gather on the afternoon of the 24th of July for a time of hearing and sharing what God has revealed to us.

It is important again that we seek to hear and share what God is telling us, we don’t want to hear your thoughts we desire to hear God speak through His people.

If you sense that God is saying something to you and you wish to share this with the Eldership, please either write it down with your name attached to the document and give it to either Pastor Phillip, Munya or Darryl. Alternatively you can send it by email to Pastor Phillip, his email is [phillip@coralcoastchurch.org](mailto:phillip@coralcoastchurch.org)

May God richly bless you through this time.