

Offering Hope



As part of our vision to Make Jesus the heart of Southsea we seek to offer hope. Our desire is to be intentional in becoming a beacon of hope where everyone can respond to the good news of Jesus and experience restoration and freedom in Him.

Keeping Our Eyes Fixed on Jesus

Our hope is found only in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We will therefore always seek to keep Him and His Way at the centre of all that we do. Ultimately, Jesus is the answer to the question 'How can I have hope?'. And everything we do, will and does point to Him, as the way, the truth and the life. In our decision making and future planning we will seek to make the hope of Jesus a driving factor for all that we seek to become.

Hope Team

This team brings together members of our prayer ministry team, prophetic group and Hope Café team. What unites them all is a passion to see Jesus' transformation and power at work in their own lives, and the lives of all God's children.

Together, the Hope Team will help the church to deliver this aspect of our vision in the following ways:

Prayer Ministry and Our Services

Prayer ministry is currently offered after every 10:45am morning service. We aim to see this extended to all services, but more than this, we aim that praying and seeing God move will grow to be a part of our everyday culture as a church. This will require having more space and times of response, with everyone who attends our worship services given time to respond to God's word in prayer.

There is a difference between culture and character when it comes to our services. We hope to inhabit a culture of expectancy and dependence on God across the church. How this is expressed will be characterised differently, both within services, and also within the personalities of those who attend.

All those who offer prayer ministry will be fully trained and commissioned for this ministry. At all times we will continue to take every aspect of safeguarding extremely seriously.

Prayer Appointments

We long to be a place where all God's children - regardless of whether they come to church or not - can experience his transformational power and love.

Prayer appointments will be offered with members of the Hope Team at times convenient to guests. These can be booked through the church website or church office, the vicar's PA being the main point of contact.

A risk assessment for this ministry and prayer ministry guidance are already in place. These appointments will be widely publicised online and social media offering opportunities for people to engage with them easily.

Dwell

As we seek to see freedom in our church and our city, we will host a monthly worship gathering in the church as a time to focus on Jesus in our worship – and bless our city with a space to 'be'. Partnering with other churches across the city, we hope this will be a resource for both Christians and non-believers, a haven for our community.

At the present time, these will take place in the Sunday 7pm time slot once each month.

Hope Café

The supporting 'pole' in the centre of our Offering Hope Team is the Hope Café. Meeting monthly, at present, throughout the year this is a space:

- for the Hope Team members to gather to pray together
- to hold a space for those who would like to receive prayer without an appointment
- to have the church open for quiet and stillness.

Say One for Me

We want to be more visible with our offer of hope to the community and so we will place a box at the front of the church building inviting people to submit prayer requests. These will be prayed through each Sunday by members of the prayer ministry team.

Bible Course and Living Free

Our two values are Word and Spirit, and whilst significantly integrated, the Bible Course and Living Free each offer specific insights into these two aspects of our faith. We hope that every member of the church will engage in the teaching offered and consider renewing their knowledge of it every few years. Both courses form part of the delivery of our whole vision, as they are a way to grow deeper in our faith and understanding, discover His hope and healing power, and understand the love God has for all His children.