



June, 2010

Ministry vision at Rostrevor Baptist Church - planning for the future

As Members of Rostrevor Baptist Church you will recall that, over recent months, we have been sharing the vision that the Lord wants to continue to grow us as a Church community into the future, both numerically and in the effectiveness of the work to which He has called us.

As part of the work of Church Council in seeking to facilitate the most God-honouring ministry possible, we have come to the view that one of the key areas needed for us to progress in ministry is actually in the delivery and development of support to those working in the various ministry areas. We have posed for ourselves the question, "What key support is needed for us to grow to be a community impacting 1000 people on an ongoing basis?"

To answer this question, a project group has spent some considerable time researching both our own needs in this area, and also the way that comparable Churches around South Australia and in other States have met this need.

This research has led us to the conclusion that it is now time for Rostrevor Baptist Church to appoint a key leader with the spiritual gifting to administer and grow the church's ministry support functions. This role will also require a person with the skills and experience that support a modern Church ministry with well-designed, well-maintained information and communication computer systems and the ability to train and equip staff and folk in these new systems. Obviously, this person will also need to sense a specific call to undertake this role of managing our Ministry support functions.

Our Constitution empowers the Administrative Services Group to appoint people to undertake work to facilitate ministry, but we believe that this is a crucial and important step forward for us and so we believe that this is rightly a decision to be taken by the Members of the church under the leading of the Holy Spirit. We believe that this proposed senior position will impact positively on all areas of our Church life and that it is in fact probably long overdue. The voting members of the Church are responsible for approving the Annual Ministry Budget which will be before the meeting on 28 June 2010 and will contain provision for this appointment.

It is impossible for voting members to consider this position without understanding how it will affect our other staffing commitments.

We have prepared a draft budget for approval by the Voting members which is premised on the appointment of this new role by 31 July 2010, maintenance of all existing pastoral staff and including the appointment of a new Director of Creative Ministries from the beginning of January 2011. Apart from the role of Manager, Ministry Support, secretarial and administrative assistance will be provided by "non-paid" staff who will, with the exception of salary, be treated as staff of the church. The draft budget continues our current weekly giving target of \$9700 for the first half of the financial year and increases to \$10,500 in the second half of the year.

Of course, the person appointed as our Manager, Ministry Support will not be able to undertake all the work personally. There is far too much for just one person. Whilst this individual, as a full-time staff member, will be available to handle a significant workload, the position will be more one of facilitating and ensuring the required level of support in all areas. There will continue to be a strong reliance on those of us who are gifted in ministry support work and who sense that this is where the Lord would have you make your contribution to His work – in fact it is our desire to increase the level of contribution by "non-paid" staff by way of this leadership process.

Please ensure that you make every effort to be at our meeting on 28 June and to hold the ministry of the church in your prayers as we seek to be responsible to his call that we Love God, Love people and see Lives change!

Yours in Jesus service

Ian Elliss

Paul Drury