# **VISION 2025**





Increase is coming, so stretch your tent and add extensions to your dwelling. Hold nothing back! Make the tent ropes longer and the pegs stronger.



# **Vision 2025**

Dear Church Family,

As we reflect on the past year, I'm filled with gratitude for what God has done through Vision 2024. Last year, we took bold steps of faith to create space and increase our impact. In January 2024, we moved to double services, opening doors to welcome more people into our community—a reflection of God's continued goodness.

Thank you to everyone who led, served, prayed, and gave sacrificially to see lives changed. Your generosity is making an eternal impact.

As we look to Vision 2025, God is calling us to "Stretch" (Isaiah 54:2). This year, we aim to stretch our home, our local impact, and our global reach. Will you partner with God by trusting Him and by giving generously? Together, let's hold nothing back and see His vision fulfilled.

With love and gratitude,

Sujith Hlex

Senior Pastor Beacon Church





## To be a BEACON in our world

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Isaiah 60:1-3



## To reveal JESUS to all





## Passionate

We are all in, withholding nothing. We make no apologies for the way we love Jesus. We embrace everything God has done. Everything He is doing. He is worth it.

# Uplifting

We focus on God's goodness, not our weakness. We encourage. We inspire. We build people up, not tear them down

## Welcoming

We believe acceptance transforms, not judgement. We get excited by the limitless potential that God's love can release in any individual. Therefore, we major on love, all day, every day.



# VISION 2024 RECAP

As we reflect on Vision 2024, we thank God for the incredible progress made towards our goals this past year. On 11th February 2024, we set a vision to create space to sustain established ministries, empower emerging ones, and reach beyond our current influence. What your giving has enabled is impossible to summarise completely but some highlights are listed over the next few pages. We hope, you'll see a glimpse of how God has moved powerfully through your generosity. Highlights include:

### **Events & Staffing:**

We celebrated 12 baptisms and 5 child dedications and hosted 44 attendees at 'Welcome Home' events, fostering connection and belonging. Women's cream tea mornings, men's gatherings, and Worship Nights have all created space for connection and renewal. Your generosity also enabled two staff members to transition to full-time roles, strengthening our ministries.

### 0-18s:

Your support impacted the next generation. Weekly attendance averaged: 11 '0-4s', 31 '5-10s', and 11 '11-18s'. Your giving helped 5 young people, who are not followers of Jesus, to attend Newday. In total, 25 young people attended, leading to 3 salvations, 1 baptism, 1 recommitment, and spiritual growth. With new Bible studies, socials, and Youth Alpha, the momentum continues.

Thank you for partnering with us in all God has done at Beacon Church in 2024!



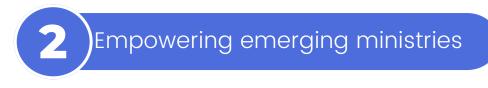
Highlights include:

### **Small Groups:**

This year, we focused on fostering deeper connections through new small groups. We launched groups for Dads, Mums, a 'Well Women' group, and a grandparenting course. Life groups were introduced in Lakenheath and Moreton Hall. We started Alpha for new believers and formed intercessory prayer teams, helping individuals grow in faith and community.

#### **Events:**

We hosted many impactful events, including a summer BBQ, a Christmas family event, and our first annual conference. The weekend featured an international team, an Encounter Night, a Leadership Morning, and Sunday services, inspiring many and strengthening our church community.



Highlights include:

### Suffolk Wellbeing:

Thanks to your generosity, Suffolk Wellbeing, a faith-based initiative was launched to support mental health in our community. This online platform provides resources such as courses, podcasts, and fact sheets. Prayer teams offer compassionate responses and support the work of the Community Chaplain, who engages with mental health groups and the wider community in need. Resources such as the Sanctuary course, will further enhance this ministry. Thank you for your partnership!

#### Leadership Academy:

Our Beacon Leadership Academy equipped 20 attendees in an 8-week course. Many have started small groups, stepped into church leadership roles, and are serving their communities. Your support empowers future leaders to grow in faith and lead with excellence.





#### Live streaming:

Since Vision Sunday in 2024, we have been planning and preparing for live streaming our services at Beacon Church. This has required significant financial investment in cameras, technical equipment, software and lighting. It has also been the driver behind the recent refresh of our auditorium. Additionally, we have been training and developing our production team. We are now on track to go live for early 2025, with the potential to reach people right across the globe and to keep us all connected every week as a church family. Thank you for your faithful support in bringing this vision to life!

### **Church Planting:**

As we embrace Vision 2025, we remain committed to extending our church's spiritual D.N.A to new locations. Though details are still unfolding, this God-inspired vision drives us forward. Your prayers and giving have laid a strong foundation, supporting future progress. With your continued partnership, we trust God's guidance to fulfill this calling. Thank you for joining us in faith and purpose!







### Life Child:

We are partnering with missionaries to transform lives and communities in South Africa. Your support has contributed to the 'Life Child Foundation', who provide children with education, spiritual guidance, and holistic care. Your giving has helped in building a new foster home in Cape Town.

#### Empart:

Beacon Church is privileged to partner with Empart in their mission to provide training, relief, and share the love of Jesus across South East Asia. Thanks to your giving this year, 14 new training centres were established, empowering 2,400 students. In 2024, 1,400 students successfully graduated, and we're hopeful to see 2,000 more in 2025. Your generosity is transforming lives!

We are also privileged to support and help fund individual missionaries extending our impact locally and nationally. Together, we are sharing God's love and building His Kingdom!



# **Vision Sunday**

As we build on the work we began in 2024, we sense God calling us to "stretch" further in Vision 2025, bringing true transformation to Bury St. Edmunds and beyond for His glory.

This year, our theme of "stretch" invites us to reach out with the Gospel to those who don't yet know Jesus. We want to bring His love and compassion to the broken and vulnerable, and become a bold influence for Him across all spheres of society. Stretching means expanding our hearts, our vision, and our efforts to reach further than ever before.

On Sunday 9th February 2025, we will gather for 'Vision Sunday' – a time to celebrate what God has done, and a occasion to stretch our faith together. It's an opportunity for us to stand united, committing ourselves to God's purpose, praying for His strength and guidance as we pursue everything He has set before us.







# 9th Feb 2025

Vision Sunday is a powerful occasion for us to come together and contribute through a special Vision Offering. This is our opportunity to make a financial pledge that will enable us to pursue incredible possibilities, that will greatly enhance our impact for God's kingdom and make a meaningful difference in the world. Without sufficient funding, some of these opportunities may remain just out of reach.

We are profoundly grateful for the faithful weekly and monthly tithes and offerings of our church family, which allow us to set and sustain our annual budget. Your consistent generosity makes so much possible.

Our special Vision Offering on Sunday, 9th February, is a chance to invest in the vision of Beacon Church above and beyond our regular giving. Together, let's take this step of faith and sacrifice, each of us playing our part in the journey God has set before us.







## Stretch our home

Isaiah 54:2 speaks about 'enlarging our tent' and 'not holding back'. It has been amazing to go to two Sunday services in 2024, but already we are often 80% full and we want to respond to the leading of the Spirit to make more room for new people to be added.



To achieve this, we have a bold vision to extend our home by constructing a new structure in our car park. This extension of our home will help us: 1. Release more space in the auditorium as we will be able to remove our temporary welcome lounge currently situated inside the auditorium. 2. Provide a venue for dedicated youth services. 3. Create a bespoke welcome lounge, especially for our first time guests. 4. Enable more room for connection when we meet. Together, through generosity and sacrifice, we can make this vision a reality.







## Stretch our global impact

We are dedicated to broadening our global impact and creating meaningful, lasting change.

The focus of missional giving is to support leadership development, church health and church planting initiatives for organisations beyond the direct scope of Beacon Church.



Our goal is to strengthen partnerships with Life Child across Africa, fostering holistic transformation for families and with Empart in South East Asia, reaching unreached people groups with purpose and care.

Additionally, there are pressing missional opportunities awaiting exploration. Your generous support and prayers are crucial in addressing these needs. Thank you for joining us in this mission!







## Stretch our online impact

We are committed to stretching our online impact by hiring expert consultants to revamp our website, social media, and overall branding. This initiative aims to reach more people with the message of Christ, ensuring that both visitors and regular attendees can easily engage with the life of the church.



With the launch of our live streaming platform, further work needs to be done to maximise on the opportunities that will come our way. Our upgraded online presence will make it simple to discover resources, join events, and connect with our community.

Together, we can expand our reach and deepen our impact.







## Stretch our local impact

We aim to expand our local impact, building on the strong foundations of 2024. Through Suffolk Wellbeing, we will introduce new courses, build community links, and provide faith based resources to support mental health and wellbeing. We will also strengthen connections with business leaders and increase support for community needs.



The Beacon Leadership Academy will continue equipping future leaders to serve in the church and beyond. We plan to expand small groups, offering courses to help people find freedom and receive pastoral support. Community events, including family gatherings, conferences, and worship nights, will remain at the heart of our mission. Your giving and prayers are vital to making this vision a reality







# Get involved!

## 1. Take hold of a pledge card

Pledge cards will be available both on our website and in print version. You can respond through an 'Outright Donation' or a 'Faith Pledge' to be faithfully fulfilled over the next 12 months.

## 2. Decide in prayer

Vision Sunday on the 9th of February may evoke excitement for some and a sense of challenge for others. All we ask of anyone, yet urge of everyone, is to come before God and to ask Him with an open heart what He wants us to give. "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

## 3. Respond with courage

You may wonder whether your contribution matters. God wants to grow each of us in our faith as we listen to Him and step out and trust Him. The individual responses of our hearts will determine our future. We are not looking for equal amounts or equal sacrifice but equal obedience. Fill out both the 'Outright donation' and 'Faith Pledge' sections of your pledge card ready for Vision Sunday.

### Please submit your pledge cards on 9th February 2025

# F.A.Q

### What is a 'Faith Pledge'?

A 'faith-pledge' is your prayerfully decided commitment to give over the next 12 months at Beacon Church. You can do this through instalments or as you choose. Whenever you give, please indicate that your gift is towards the Vision offering. If not indicated, your gift will be considered as your tithes and offerings.

### What is an 'Outright Donation'?

An outright donation is a one-time gift that you can give on Vision Sunday or within the following 7 days from Vision Sunday.

### How can I give?

You can give by 1. Standing order 2. Via our website 3. Cash 4. Cheques 5. Contactless giving 6. Crypto 7. Stocks For more information visit www.beaconchurchuk.org/give

### What shall I bring on the day?

On Vision Sunday, bring your completed pledge card. Cards will also be available to fill out on the day. If you've completed an online pledge, please fill out a blue card on the day to ensure we capture your giving in our vision total. For couples or families who are giving together, include all names and submit only one card. Please kindly note that your pledge is a personal commitment between you and God, and we will not follow up on the amount.

Additionally, the Vision Offering is intended to be separate from your regular tithes and offerings. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness.

If you're a UK taxpayer, you could boost your donation at no extra cost! Gift Aid allows us to claim back 25% from the government. Need help? Contact us via the website.



Complete your online pledge on our website

