

STARTING POINT

GETTING TO KNOW US!



WELCOME

It is great to have you at a time to look at where we have come from as a church, where we are going and how you could be part of what God is doing. This city has many great churches and so we are blessed that you are thinking of becoming part of Tabernacle of Worship Church (TWC). We hope this time together will help you catch the our heart, and work out whether this is the church for you.

Our journey started when a twenty-one year old Mlibazisi Ncube responded to the call of God, left his home town of Lower Gweru and headed to Harare where he planted a church in Dzivaresekwa. The first service was on the 9th November 1995 and eventually became Living Hope Christian Fellowship (LHCF).

Then in 1997 the church in Crowborough was planted after a few guys that were a part of LHCF Dzivaresekwa but staying in Kuwadzana began meeting in a house as a home group. Many more people joined the meetings and that was the birth of Tabernacle of Worship Church (TWC) as we know it. Initially, both LHFC and TWC were part of a denomination called Church of Christ Holiness before they became autonomous local churches.

It has been a journey of faith in the Lord and we continue to grow with many more Leaders coming through and more church plants in Harare Central Business District and Hatcliff.

Who Are We?

- ❖ We are a community of believers who love Jesus with a heart to grow and fill the whole city and nations with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- ❖ We are a church that meets in many locations [sites] across the city of Harare.
- ❖ We partner with the New Covenant Ministries International Trans-local Team.

OUR VISION

To be a base church that lives for God, making Him the center of our lives while touching lives and transforming communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We Exist :

1. To raise a people who know and love their God :

- A people who love God with all their heart, soul and mind. (Matthew 22:37)
- A people who are filled with the Holy Spirit, (Acts 2:1-4) with the evidence thereof, a people who are led by the Spirit, carries the fruits of the Spirit and walks in the power and in boldness of the Spirit.
- A people who have a sound theology and understanding of God and His ways. (1 Timothy 4:16, 1 John 4:8)

2. To raise a people who know they are called :

- A people who willingly and selflessly invest their lives to see God's Kingdom advancing. (Matthew 6:33)
- A people who respond to God's leading with radical obedience and in so doing playing their part. (Ephesians 4:16)

3. To make disciples of all nations by reaching out with the gospel :

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth**.

- To surrounding areas, towns, villages and cities (our Judea).
- To the nations of the earth across our borders (our Samaria).
- To the end of the earth.

OUR VALUES

1. A Christ centered people - In everything we make Jesus Christ the center of our worship and all that we do. We make it priority to build away from ourselves but towards Christ. (Colossians 3:23)
2. A Holy Spirit filled and Holy Spirit led people. (Acts 1:8, Zechariah 4:6)
3. A whole Bible theology, our aim is to be a radically word based people. (Deuteronomy 4:1-4)
4. A people of prayer, personally, in groups, in all our meetings, with fasting and warfare. (Acts 2:42)
5. A people of faith and power (Hebrew 11:6).
6. Bringing all to maturity. (Hebrews 6:1, James 1:4, Ephesians 4:11-13)
7. Friendships and family not just function. We are a community of believers with covenantal relationships in Christ Jesus and are accountable to God and to each other. (Acts 2:45)
8. The priesthood of all believers, where everyone has a part to play in the body of Christ, its not a one man show. (1 Corinthians 12:21)
9. Everyone trained to be a leader. Godly leadership is not just for church but for all facets of life. (Ephesians 4:11-16)
10. A people of character. (Psalm 78:72)
11. A Kingdom minded people, we don't live just to attend church services but impact communities, understanding that being a Christian is an everyday call. (Matthew 4:17)
12. A mission minded people with the mandate to make disciples of Jesus Christ from all nations. (Matthew 28:18)

PEOPLE ON A MISSION

When one become a member of Tabernacle of Worship Church it is important to understand you are not joining a cruise ship where you can just come, attend church and be served. Rather we are on a battleship, we exist to advance the Kingdom of God. Mere “church-going” was never in God’s plan for you. He wants you very closely knit with a group of dear friends with whom you can share your life like what we see in Acts 2:42-47 and Acts 4:32-37.

Why We Believe In Membership?

1. **New Testament Belonging** : Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about 3,000 were added to their number and the Lord added to their number daily (Acts 2:41-47). The biblical pattern is people get saved and become part of a local church community and family.
2. **New Testament Function** : The Bible describes local church as the body of Christ hence it through a local church believers function and in the process advance the Kingdom of God.
3. **New Testament Accountability** : The Bible cautions church leaders that they will be held to account for how they lead while followers are instructed to obey their leaders. Hence it is through a local church community where God makes us accountable to each other and to Him.
4. **New Testament pattern and Structure** : The epistles are written to local churches assuming all believers would be members of local churches and therefore hear these epistles.
5. **New Testament Discipline** : In cases of on-going unrepentant behavior Paul gives guidelines to the churches on how to administer discipline in an effort to find redemption.

Individuals who have never experienced the joy and delight of belonging to a loving and vital Christian body have missed one of the thrills of the Christian life.

OUR EXPRESSION OF CHURCH

Acts 2:41- 42 (NKJV)

41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 5:42 (NKJV)

42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NKJV)

24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

As a church we believe it is scriptural to assemble together regularly to worship, to teach, to encourage, to comfort and to mobilize each other towards our God given mission. We believe we are a community and family of believers, this is what underpins the programs in the life of the church. Below are some of expressions of church, we believe they form our God given wineskin (Matthew 9:16-17).

1. Prayer Meetings

We believe prayer should be a value to every believer hence we also value our prayer meetings. We trust by doing so we are modelling a life of prayer corporately and individually. At least once every week we meet to pray together which we encourage every member of the church to be part of.

2. Small Groups

We require every member of the church to be part of a small group. These are important for **discipleship**, **shepherding** and mobilizing for the church for **mission**. Small groups are a great way of church expression and it is through these groups that we list our members. We have two types of small groups namely Life Groups and Connect Groups.

Life Groups are our home groups where people meet in homes at least once every week. **Connect Groups** are special interest groups such as Four:12 Youths, young adults, men's, ladies, couples, mature singles, the golden generation etc. These meetings enables us to teach into deeper issues that affects people.

3. Sunday Celebrations

This is when we come together as one big family to worship our Lord in celebration and fellowship. This is also for equipping and envisioning.

4. Corporate Events

As a church with multiple sites, occasionally we have events that we do together for re-envisioning and fellowship. These re events such as Advance Conferences, Apostolic Weekends, Thanksgiving Sundays etc.

5. Serving

We believe in the **priesthood of all believers** hence we expect our members to be part of our many serving and ministry teams. We don't believe in just church attendance but rather we ought to participate in what God is doing in the life of the church (*1 Peter 2:4-5*)

6. Generosity

We believe it is scriptural for members to give financially or in kind for the advancement of the Kingdom. The day to day operations of the church are financed through the generosity and kindness of its members. Biblically we see four kinds of giving. Namely; tithing, freewill offerings, alms giving and apostolic giving.

7. Missions

We are a mission minded people, hence we encourage all our members to participate in mission initiatives such as **evangelism, apostolic trips and church planting**. As a church we believe God wants us to look beyond the four walls of our buildings and venues and go into the towns, cities and nations of the world to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. Members can participate by going, giving and praying towards, mission trips. However, we strongly encourage every member to emphasize on going on mission trips.

GET INVOLVED!

How Do I Get Involved?

- ❖ Be part of our meetings e.g. Small Groups, Prayer Meetings and Sunday Services.
- ❖ Be part of a serving or ministry team e.g. Ushering, Worship, etc.
- ❖ Be part of mission trips, join on mission trips.
- ❖ Be generous.

LIFE / CONNECT GROUPS	SERVING TEAMS
Home Groups	Kids For Christ
4:12 Youth (High Scholars)	Worship Team
Impact (Young Adults)	Media & Sound
Women of Virtue (WOV)	Ushering Team
Real Men	Admin
Mature Singles	Catering
Couples Fellowship	Proclaim (Missions & Evangelism)
Golden Gen (Grandpas & Grandmas)	Follow Ups
	Community Missions
	Intercession
	Building & Development

- ❖ Get in touch with our church office for more information small groups meetings schedules or any other information.

Info.tabernacleofworship.co.zw
www.tabernacleofworship.co.zw
3764 Crowborough North, Harare

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

Philippians 1:1 *“Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers [elders or bishops] and deacons:*

This scripture is a great example of God's model for church structure. In it we see (a) **saints**, (b) **overseers**, and (c) **deacons** mentioned. There is also a fourth group mentioned here – Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, representing a **trans-local team** with Ephesians 4:11 gifts. (See the diagram at the bottom.)

Biblically we believe there are two leadership offices in the local church which are **Elders and Deacons**. (Philippians 1:1, Acts 6:1-7) These together with the **saints** function together as one team to fulfill the vision that God has given the local Church.

ELDERS

God appoints the offices and functions of elders, this is our pastoral team and is responsible to lead the local church. (Acts 20:28, I Peter 5:1-5). Elders are the highest human governing authority in the local church and they have the responsibility to **guide, guard and govern** (shepherd) God's people in the local church. The eldership team is accountable to the Trans-local team, and in the case of TWC we partner with New Covenant Ministries International (NCMI).

DEACONS

God also appoints the offices and functions of deacons, Acts 6:1-7. These people work together with the eldership team to administer the affairs of the church.

SAINTS

Any other Biblical ministry to God or to man can be carried out by the saints which forms the **priesthood of all believers** (1 Peter 2:9). Each and every one of us has a calling in life let's move to perfection of what God has for us. If it's singing sing, if it's preaching preach, if it's helping others help, its encouraging encourage. (Romans 12:5-8)



LEADERSHIP MODEL

There are other models which can be found in churches as being discussed and can also be found in the home, in business and in governments. As a church we don't subscribe to any of these models. We believe in Biblical Leadership that is Apostolic / prophetic.

WHAT WE ARE NOT (X)

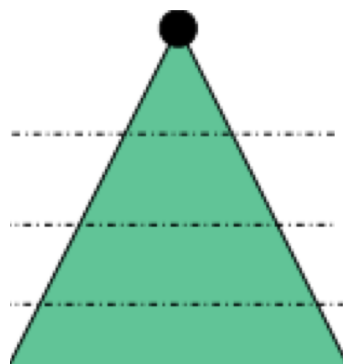
Autocratic Leadership Model

Self appointed or self imposed authority where leadership is by control and fear. It's about titles, positions and hierarchy. In this model leaders rule by fear through rules, titles and positions.

- Value - Top to Bottom
- Sons- Robots -- Servants
- Sons - Rebels - Divisive - Enemy
- Static model - leaders are bottlenecked.

Train & equip but never release.

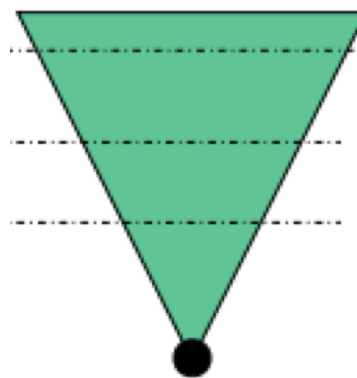
A getting, gathering, keeping mentality.



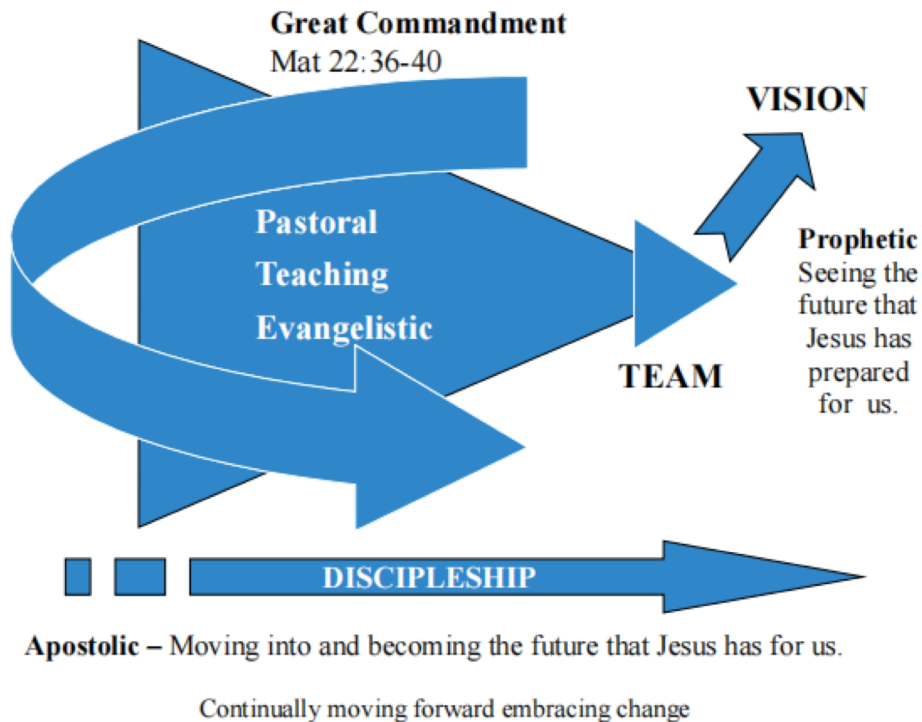
Congregational Leadership Model

In this model the leader is called and appointed by man, voted in. Jesus did not vote when he chose the twelve (Mark 3:13). Leadership and control is by manipulation and flattery.

- Traditions of men are given more importance than the Word of God. (Mathew 15:1- 9)
- Sons and daughters become Absaloms and Jezebels who try to find influence through politics and deception.
- Leaders are yes men and fear men and not God.
- Value – Top to Bottom in the camp you belong to.
- No real relationship with the leader.
- It's all about using people for your thing.
- Leaders oppressed, tired over-worked.



OUR LEADERSHIP MODEL



We call it the Apostolic / Prophetic Model where the church must be rooted in the bible and not in the ways of the world. There are many successful models around, especially in business arena, but success does not mean it applies to the church. We believe that God has given us this model which we see throughout scripture and we believe is the only true biblical way of doing church. This model includes the restoration of that which was lost, what was stolen and also what is most needed.

- Leaders lead from the front by setting an example.
- Equal in value different in function.
- Biblical leadership model over popular or secular models.
- Team leadership, not a one man show or personality driven leadership.
- Servant and sacrificial leadership not positions, titles or hierarchy.
- Training and releasing more leaders.

CALLED AND APPOINTED BY GOD

The motivation for all leaders is the call and purpose of God for the church. Leaders lead from the front (John 10:1-21), they fear and serve God by serving the people. On the other hand people fear and serve God by serving their leaders. They don't fear or worship each other. The leader imparts this through covenantal relationships and frees people to be what God has called them to. The biggest leadership qualifications are character (lifestyle), gifting and the call of God. Through it all, God's Word is our final authority for all life, faith & conduct. Leaders are recognized through the delegated authority of men.

- ❖ Elders are recognised by other elders and ordained by apostles or trans-local team.
- ❖ Deacons are recognised by elders and ordained by Elders.
- ❖ Apostles are recognised by elders and other apostles.

(Acts 14:21-23, Titus 1:5-6, Acts 6:1-7, Acts 13:1-4, Acts 1:20-26)



FUNCTION

We are equal in value but we differ in terms of function as illustrated in Philippians 1:1. Here we see Paul and Timothy working as a team in trans-local capacity writing to overseers or elders, deacons and saints at Philippi. (Romans 12:3-8, 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31, Ephesians 4:4-8, Ephesians 4:11-16)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We understand that sometimes when people come to church they also come with questions in terms of matters to do with their social lives. Hence we find it important to clarify on some of these issues. We believe we have a duty to inform and equip people not only on spiritual things but in areas pertaining to life. Your marriage, family, business, careers, finances etc. We believe the Kingdom of God encompasses all these things and more :

Clarity on some of life's eventualities.

❖ WEDDINGS

We classify holy matrimony as when a man and woman have been legally joined to together with the blessing of their parents or families. In this case we believe a man must have paid lobola to his in-laws as according to the law of the country. However, we strongly encourage couples to register their marriages with the registrar of marriages whether through the courts or marriage officers. This we deem as prerequisite for our ordained leaders.

It's not our prerogative to organize and finance white weddings for members, however we help whenever we can especially in the following areas:

- Collaborating in selecting viable dates.
- Premarital counselling and officiating
- Guidance and the relevant paperwork.

❖ FUNERALS

We believe in mourning with those who mourn. However, we don't subscribe to people living their lives expecting handouts hence **we strongly urge all members to attain funeral insurance or policies for themselves and family members in case of bereavement**. In the event one loses a spouse, or child or parent as a church we put high emphasis in standing with and supporting a member who has lost a loved one. However, we cannot guarantee financial support.

Whenever possible there's bereavement for people in the aforementioned categories we help by :

- Coming to mourn with you.
- Conducting funeral church service and officiating at the burial site.
- Providing grief counselling.

Note: Each case can be different depending on various set of circumstances.

Frequently Asked Questions

❖ MEMORIAL SERVICES

Biblically we don't see anything about memorial services hence, it's not our prerogative to organize them. But if you and your family decide to do a memorial service we will come to support you. Again we cannot offer financial support to this but can only help in conducting a service and preaching. Here are a few key things :

- Let us know your dates on time and make the dates you choose do not clash.
- We come only to conduct the service.

❖ BAPTISM

We believe water baptism or full immersion in water is essential and one of the Biblical ways we profess our faith in Jesus Christ. Baptism is done for people mature enough to make

❖ CHILD DEDICATIONS

We do not believe in Child baptism hence we dedicate our children to the Lord. At intervals we conduct child dedications during our church services where parents can bring their children to be prayed for. A parent can also bring their child to the elders for prayer and dedication.

ABOUT NCMI

New Covenant Ministries International (NCMI) is a trans-local ministry team, with an apostolic heart, that is comprised of men and women who, through partnership, help pastors or elders build their local churches in doing the work of Jesus Christ's Kingdom in their areas. Their work is in equipping and mobilizing believers for the fulfillment of the work of the Kingdom and the discipling of the nations.

NCMI is simply a name given to a team with recognized *Ephesians 4:11* gifts (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers) who partner in their commitment to the same vision of working, on a grass-roots level, with local churches to accomplish God's mandate of making disciples of all nations.

Church leaders partner with NCMI voluntarily and through commitment. There are no documents to sign, there is no headquarters, and there is nothing that makes our partnerships formal and legally binding. We see the Church as a grouping of people that God has called out to bring and demonstrate his message of life, grace, reconciliation, and redemption in the world (the "Priesthood of All Believers"), to make disciples of all nations.

TEAM FUNCTION

- ❖ These trans-local teams have a number of areas of activity with regard to the churches that relate to NCMI:
- ❖ They strengthen the churches and help to equip the priesthood for works of service.
- ❖ They counsel and help church leadership work through questions related to doctrine, discipline and direction.
- ❖ They are involved in the appointing of elders in the partnering churches.
- ❖ They help the relating churches with financial matters. For example, when it comes to the setting of elder's salaries, we advise all the relating churches to ask a team member to come in and look at the church income and expenditure, and then advise on salaries.
- ❖ They co-ordinate the training that NCMI does in the various regions.

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

- ❖ We believe that the 66 books of the bible are Holy Scriptures and are fully inspired of God and we accept them as the supreme and final authority for faith and life.
- ❖ We believe in one God who is eternal and exist in Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- ❖ We believe that Jesus Christ was born of the Father conceived by the Holy spirit, born of the virgin Mary and is true God and Man.
- ❖ We believe that Jesus died for our sins and that we are justified by our faith in Christ Jesus.
- ❖ We believe that Jesus Christ arose from the dead with his body, he ascended to heaven and He presently live as our High priest and Advocate.
- ❖ We believe in the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ We believe that all that repent of their sin and receive the Lord Jesus by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God.
- ❖ We believe in the resurrection of both the just and the unjust, the eternal blessedness of the redeemed, and the eternal punishment of those who have rejected the offer of salvation.
- ❖ We believe in the Lord's Supper as the partaking of the emblems symbolic of the Savior's broken body and shed blood, in remembrance of His sacrificial death, until He comes.
- ❖ We believe in water baptism by immersion in the water as a confession of identification with Christ in burial and resurrection.

- ❖ We believe in child dedication and not child baptism.
- ❖ We believe in the baptism in the Holy Spirit, empowering and equipping believers for service, with the accompanying supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ We believe in the fivefold ministries of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher.
- ❖ We believe that marriage is between man and a woman within the confines of Word of God and lawful matrimony. As per the stated of sexual behavior is the inherent requirement for membership with Tabernacle of Worship Church.