

CHURCH PROFILE

DISCOVER WHO WE ARE

Pursuit
of his presence



PROFILE

HELLO

Thank you for taking the time to read this profile, connect with us and discover more about Pursuit. Every church is different and carries a unique flavour and calling. It is our hope that through this church profile, you discover more about who we are, learn about our history, our values and vision. This is important in deciding whether or not to make Pursuit, your home church.

The local church is a gathering of a family of believers (Ephesians 2:19). As such it is God's means to provide acceptance, nurture and growth. It is also a place that carries certain values, dreams and responsibilities.

This church profile is designed to give you an overview of Pursuit. It outlines our mission and our accountability as a church. It also addresses how to become connected in a way that is meaningful and provides growth and relationships.

As you discover more about Pursuit, we pray you are

REFRESHED in His Presence,
CONNECTED with His family,
STRENGTHENED by His Word, and
EMPOWERED for His purpose.

Blessings,

Ray & Pam Watson
Senior Leaders

OUR HISTORY

PASTORS RAY & PAM WATSON

Ray was raised in Auckland and attended Avondale College. He later moved to Dunedin where he completed an honours degree in music at Otago University. After completing a Teaching Diploma he spent several years as a high school teacher before being appointed “Composer-in-Schools” for the Otago region. During this time he began to write and record his own music.

Pam, was raised in a small farming community in Central Otago. She attended boarding school in Oamaru and later moved to Dunedin to complete a degree in Education. Ray and Pam met while attending Word of Life Church in Dunedin. They were married in 1982.

STARTING INTO MINISTRY

In 1987 Ray and Pam left New Zealand to help pioneer a church in Hawaii with an American evangelist Joe Robinson.

A year and a half later they moved to California where they spent another 18 months at Joy Christian Fellowship (Irvine).

In 1989 they were ordained and released into fulltime ministry. They then returned to Auckland, New Zealand and in April 1990 pioneered Joy Christian Fellowship.



HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

Joy Christian Fellowship was birthed out of the Word of Faith movement. The initial vision was captured in the phrase, "strong in the word, warfare and worship". This strength still remains part of the church today.

There was however a growing desire to host the Lord's presence and out of that place of encounter, to display His goodness. A major catalyst for this change occurred in 1997 when Ray had an encounter with the Lord and was unable to speak for a week. It was during this time the Lord redirected him back to his music, song writing and recording. This resulted in the formation of The Secret Place – a ministry dedicated to "turning hearts back to the Father through intimate praise and worship."

During this time Pam began to preach and take a more active role in the church. Together their passion was to pursue God's presence and see His glory manifest.

This change in emphasis ultimately led to a name change and rededication of the church as Pursuit of His Presence in March 2004.

"There was however a growing desire to host the Lord's presence and out of that place of encounter, to display His goodness."



In 2007 Ray and Pam visited Bethel Church in Redding, California. They had received from the ministry of Bill Johnson for several years, but in visiting the church they discovered a greater model of what the church had become.

Pursuit has since become connected to Bethel through Global Legacy (Bethel's relational network), and the Bethel Leaders Network. Global Legacy has enabled Ray and Pam to connect with the international community of Bethel Church, and brought a sense of connection and identity to Pursuit.

Bethel Leaders Network (BLN) which started in 2018, has taken Ray and Pam's connection with Bethel to a new level. Through BLN, they are connected to an online community which fosters greater connection with Bethel, and establishes global relationships with other pastors and leaders. They receive ongoing input and mentoring from leaders and coaches at Bethel Church through monthly online group meetings, coaching sessions, training courses and other resources.



OUR PURPOSE

**TOUCHING THE HEART
OF GOD**

**IMPACTING THE HEART
OF MAN**

**RELEASING THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN**



OUR VISION

**PURSUIT:
WHERE YOU ENCOUNTER GOD,
BECOME CONNECTED WITH
FAMILY,
AND ARE TRANSFORMED
AND EMPOWERED
TO IMPACT YOUR WORLD**



ENCOUNTER

To be known for the Presence of God and a walk of connection and intimacy with the Lord. Lives will be touched, and Jesus will be exalted.

This will involve:

- A culture of intimacy and connection where hearing from God is normal
- An emphasis on the prophetic and encounters with God
- Sensitivity to the move of the Holy Spirit
- A focus on prayer, declaring the word and moving in the gifts
- Developing Encounter Evenings

CONNECT

To build Pursuit as a family where God is known as Papa and all who come are valued and belong. The strength of our connection will reach beyond meetings and be seen in our lifestyle and our hospitality.

This will involve:

- Awareness of our identity as sons and daughters of God
- Promoting hospitality and connection at church and beyond
- Developing Assimilation System
- Building Connect Groups within Pursuit
- Connecting with the community through target groups and outreach

TRANSFORM

To bring life changing encounters through the power of the word, worship and the demonstration of the Spirit. To establish ministry teams and a Transformation Centre to bring wholeness and healing.

This will involve:

- The preaching of the Word with the ministry of the Holy Spirit
- Growth based training programs
- Workshops and ministry training – worship, coaching, sozo etc
- Develop Pastoral Care & Transformation Teams
- Obtaining a building for a Transformation Centre

EMPOWER

To honour the move of the Spirit, mentor others and develop a growth track where people are trained and equipped to walk in the fullness of their calling and destiny.

- This will involve:
- Following the leading of the Holy Spirit in meetings and encouraging participation
- Modelling moving in the gifts and actively training others
- Mentoring of others
- Pursuing ministry opportunities beyond Pursuit

RELEASE

To provide the opportunity, encouragement and support for people to express their gifts and develop ministries within Pursuit, the marketplace, communities, cities and nations.

This will involve:

- Celebrating risk and validating market place ministries
- Encouragement and support for people to move beyond their comfort zone
- Creating ministry opportunities beyond Pursuit
- Promoting outreach
- Sending out Missions teams

OUR VALUES

VALUING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

BELIEVING IN HIS GOODNESS

DECLARING HIS WORD

LIVING UNDER GRACE

GUIDED BY THE SPIRIT

EXTENDING THE KINGDOM

SERVING PEOPLE

RELEASING HONOUR

RELATIONSHIPS & ACCOUNTABILITY

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The purpose of a Board of Trustees is to give the church a legal status as a corporate entity, so it can do business in the community. The board deals with government bodies such as the Charities Commission and the Inland Revenue Department and is responsible for other legal corporate matters.



Our current trustees are Pastors Ray and Pam, and Col and Jan Stringer (Australia). Col and Jan are covenant friends to Ray and Pam and have been involved in the life of Pursuit for over 20 years. They have vast experience both in business and in the church. Col ran a successful business and hosted his own television program before pastoring in the Northern Territory, Australia. He has also written several books and in 2004 was voted the third most popular Australian author. Travelling internationally, they relate to over 50 pastors in different nations.

BETHEL

Pursuit is part of the Bethel Leaders Network (BLN). This ministry of Bethel Church, Redding, California, is pastored by Bill Johnson. BLN is an apostolic family of leaders united with Bethel in passionate pursuit of God's manifest presence and committed to revival – the personal, regional, and global expansion of God's Kingdom.

The vision of BLN is to connect, encourage, and empower leaders to thrive and bring transformation to their churches, cities and God-given spheres of influence. When every believer is empowered to fulfil their unique calling and bring Heaven to earth, we will see reformation in the church and revival in all spheres of society.



ROB & LYN PACKER

Rob & Lyn Packer Ministries, New Zealand



Rob and Lyn Packer have been ministry friends with Ray and Pam for several years and often minister at Pursuit through worship and teaching.

Rob and Lyn carry a catalytic revelatory anointing that brings breakthrough and shifts to both individual lives and churches as they minister. They are a part of the Prophetic Round Table in New Zealand and are widely respected as prophetic ministers for their ability to hear and declare what God is doing in the nation.

PETER & CRISTIE ROBERTSON

Worship Ministries International, Australia

Peter and Cristie, reside on the Gold Coast, Australia. They have a love of worship and minister powerfully in several nations. Through their worship and preaching, they have a passion for people to know who they are in Christ and to empower people to rise up to be everything that the Lord paid so dearly for them to be.

Peter has been connected with the ministry of Pursuit for nearly 20 years. He speaks into the life of the church and also plays guitar on all of Ray's albums. He has been a covenant friend to Ray and Pam and together with his wife Cristie, they are a source of encouragement and support.





BECOMING CONNECTED

God promises to put the solitary in families (Psalm 68:6).
Becoming part of a family creates a place where we can grow, be challenged, encouraged and celebrated for who we are.

As a spiritual family, the church provides:

- Acceptance, love and fellowship with other believers
- A corporate encounter with the presence of God
- An atmosphere for healing, transformation and ministry
- A place of teaching and training
- An opportunity for growth and the releasing of gifts

Email church@pohp.org for more information on getting connected and involved. We would love to help you find your place in God's family at Pursuit.

EXCERPTS FROM PROPHETIC WORDS OVER PURSUIT

Judy Gossett

Canada // November 1997

"This place is going to become known as a healing centre because the worship of God will be here and anytime that there is worship and there is praise going on, God will heal, God will do things, not just physically, but deep emotionally, and in the areas of our lives that are the hardest to touch. ..."

Steve Freeman

Indiana, USA // August 2004

"... you carry in your heart the DNA for intimacy. When they see true intimacy, true relationship with God, people are going to be attracted. ... there is going to be a tremendous impact that is going to come from this little fellowship. ... a forerunner of intimacy."

Mark Davidson

Texas, USA // August 2005

"I believe that God has a mark on this church to draw this church into a deep place of intimacy. The Holy Spirit wants to conceive something very new. Very new. It's not anything that's been done before, it's new. And it has to do with intimacy, especially in worship.

This Church is also like three patriarchs in the bible, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, ... This Church has been like Abraham in a season. You answered the call of God to go out. You've left the security of where you are and you've gone out, but you're really not sure where you're going.

This Church has also been like Isaac, who was a digger of wells. You have a desire in your heart to dig deeper, to go deep with God. Isaac was a digger of wells.

But also there's Jacob, ...before Jacob worshiped, there were only three ways men worshiped, but after Jacob, there was a new paradigm of worship. ... Jacob changed the way men worshiped. ... he took the rock and he poured oil on it. He anointed Christ as the King and Lord and that is what the core value of worship is. ...a Christ centred kind of worship that is constantly pouring oil upon Him, anointing Him as King."

Faith Bullock

Bethel, California, USA // November 2009

"I just saw deliverance, and I feel like you are going to have an incredibly powerful ministry of deliverance of Jesus being the deliverer to people. You are going to have dramatic healings, of people being delivered out of incredible darkness and hopelessness and despair ... they are truly going to become mighty men and women and that you are going to be known in the future; there is going to be a strength. ... And I see the angelic beings being very much part of your ministry and your area; and you know Jesus said, "I could have asked the Father and He would have sent 10,000 angels." And I feel like God is giving you the invitation to ask Him for the angels ..."

Josh Stevens

Bethel, California, USA // February 2010

"We love the freedom that we've felt in here. When we came in we felt that there was this whole angelic thing happening - we saw angels come in with us and they are here pouring out the glory because they are attracted to freedom. They're attracted to freedom and we feel freedom here."

Rob Packer

Tauranga, New Zealand // January 2011

"You are called; you are placed; strategically placed. Literally you have come to the Kingdom for such a time as this. And your ministry, the sphere of influence is going to grow exponentially. And some people may look on the physical size of the congregation and say, "well they're just small." What God says is that your influence is exponential; it's like a perfume which changes the atmosphere. And the sound which comes forth from this house and from this ministry is global and I'm not telling you anything new there. But in that sense, that it disarms the powers of darkness, in a way which is not obvious to the natural eye.

There is an aspect too, on ground zero, on home base. ...equipping with the purpose of release. Equip-release, equip-release. ... to put tools in people's hands that is going to equip them to do what God has called them to do."

Matt Lansdowne

Bethel Whangarei, New Zealand // April 2014

"I see this place as a safe harbour. It is a place of safety and calmness and peace. It is a place of peace, of healing and restoration. I saw people coming in here who had been battered by the battering ram of religion, of the harshness of religion. I saw lots of people come in here who had grown up in church but had been wounded by religion. They had seen things that made them question "God's not like that, He can't be like that" and they had walked away from church and become offended and hurt and were living out of that pain and they came here and there was a restoration of their heart. Their hearts became whole again.

This church specifically has an inner healing movement. There is also an evangelistic ministry that is being birthed here. These two things are wanting to be birthed here in this community of people, amongst you guys. They are going to work hand in hand. People are going to get whole. There is a spirit of counsel here; of wholeness. There are calm waters here that their souls are going to be restored and that from that place they are going to have a crazy passion to share this restoration, this love with others.

There is going to be a come and a go. Many are going to come and stay with you and be part of this community but I feel also that a lot are going to come, be restored and then go to other places. There is a sending grace that is on you to heal them up and send them off again. Be secure in that and know that it is part of the plan of God for you guys. It is a real grace that you carry. Part of the lightness that I felt in worship is part of that grace in this place to lift off the burdens."

Darlene

BSSM, California, USA // November 2016

"You are carrying the fire of the Holy Spirit in such a powerful way. You are multiplying people and people are catching the fire that you're carrying... There is a reflection of His glory on your faces. There is a reflection of who He is in what you are doing and it is multiplying, its multiplying..."

Nicky

Bethel Whangarei, New Zealand // October 2017

I felt like Pam and this church carry the anointing of an elephant. I was thinking about the characteristics of elephants and there are three things in particular. One of them was that they are known for their memory ... not only do you carry remembrance for what He has done in the past but also promises that He has made for the future. So, there is a lot of hope that you carry... and the anointing to remind God of the promises He has made in prayer.

And the second one was strength. Elephants are known for their strength. They can be used as beasts of burden, so they carry the weight of others ...The ability to bear each other's burdens and provide strength and lend strength to others. And also, the strength that they carry to just lay the smack down on anyone that tries to take them down. So, it is like the anointing for spiritual warfare to lay the smack down on the enemy.

And thirdly, they are known as a herd and the strong connection that they have as a herd. And I felt that you have an anointing for family and for that deeper connection and that is something that you bring to the body - the wider body. Pam as a matriarch ... carries an anointing to bring women into greater levels of freedom. ... an anointing to bring women into freedom and destiny and into identity.

Andy Piggott

Bethel Whangarei, New Zealand // October 2017

I saw a bridge of three spans. It spans the past, present and future moves of God. There will be people who have come from past moves of the Spirit, as well as those who are currently moving in the things of God's Spirit, plus those who will be caught up in the future move of God, and they will all have a place in the church.

PURSUIT CHURCH
Website: pohp.org
Church Venue: The Fickling Centre,
546 Mt Albert Road, Three Kings, Auckland
Email: church@pohp.org
Facebook: [@pursuitchurchauckland](https://www.facebook.com/pursuitchurchauckland)