
Who's my friend?

Last Summer I had the privilege to be young once more while attending 'Soul Survivor'. The youth of Mosaic were at the festival and myself and Helen thought it would be a great idea after one Sunday morning to travel to Somerset and spend some time with our valued young people.

I realised that my age was catching up with me when I entered the meeting tent to discover 'no chairs'! Yes, we are standing to worship and sitting on the floor for the testimonies and preaching. My horror soon turned to joy though as I saw the young people worshipping God together with great passion and enthusiasm. Here were friends, cheering each other on to reach for God and this was a powerful experience!

Today as God moves us forward in Mosaic Church across two sites, it is vital that we understand the power of true Biblical friendship that is essential to our success. Friends are always going to be vital to us, people who encourage us towards God and His ways, even when we want to run away!

A true friend is one who: walks with us in our successes and failures (Proverbs 17:17); talks Biblical truths to us to help us understand God's ways (Proverbs 27:6); shares their lives with openness and vulnerability (Amos 3:3); goes the extra mile to help us move forward (John 15:13-15)

May Mosaic Church be known as a place where true friends are found. As the writer in Proverbs put it so clearly: if 'we want a friend, be friendly'!

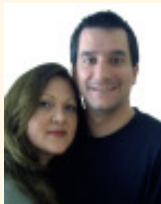


Your friends, **Gary & Helen**

MOSAIC CHURCH – who's who



Gary & Helen Spicer
Senior Pastors and Site Pastors of
Mosaic@Hope
Contact: via Lisa



Dave & Leah Boden
Site Pastors of Mosaic@Grace
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Chris & Tina Spicer
Chris is the Teaching Pastor at Mosaic
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Lisa Day, PA to Gary & Helen
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We are delighted to announce that Traidcraft products will soon be available at Mosaic.



The initiative, which will be launched at our joint service on Easter Sunday, 24th April, will be headed up by Colin White.

It's a brilliant opportunity to purchase fairly traded goods and to support a well-respected Christian organisation that has done a huge amount to combat poverty through its campaigns and its work with farmers and producers in developing countries.



Easter at Mosaic

Good Friday
22nd April 11am–12noon
Communion and a time of reflection at Hope

Easter Sunday
24th April 10.30am
Easter Celebration & joint service at Grace

Please invite friends and family!

Courtesy of Photos8.com

Exciting times at Mosaic's new church expression

It's hard to believe it's been over a month since we kick-started our new expression at Grace Academy. We've certainly known God's abounding grace in these early days. With 50+ people of all ages gathering every week, it's exciting to catch a glimpse of the story God is unfolding for Mosaic in north Coventry.

Following the first session of 'Masterpieces' we challenged each other to a game of 'connect 4'. Each person had the task of connecting with four people in the following week either in person, by phone, by text, by Facebook or any other creative way we could think of! This was taken up with much enthusiasm. It was great to hear stories of new friendships made and God connecting hearts. John 13:35 reminds us that 'Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples'. Relationship is so key for all of us, as God places us – His masterpieces – into His master plan to make Jesus famous!

We are grateful for the continued hard work and willingness of everyone involved in making the Sunday morning gatherings happen, from those setting up the PA to those making tea. We appreciate how each part is being played with great joy.

PARTNERSHIP

Masterpieces – so what now?

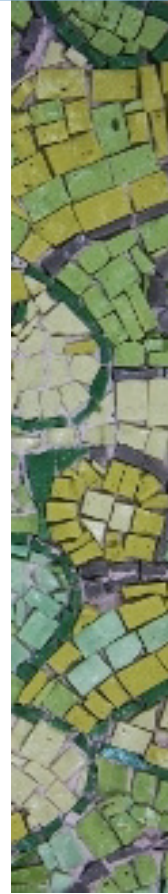
Over the last few weeks we've been enjoying a series of four talks entitled Masterpieces. Each week we've looked at one of following statements – Mosaic is a church where people: *belong to a Tribe, believe the Bible, behave like Jesus, become everything God intends.*

So what now? *'We've heard the heart of leadership and understand the vision and values of Mosaic Church, so where do we go from here?'* Glad you asked.

For those who have listened to all four talks and after prayerful consideration, believe that Mosaic church is their spiritual home, then the next step is to formally partner with Mosaic. You can do this by completing Partnership Forms which are now available.

In the ongoing journey of Mosaic Church this is a key moment. As people decide to walk with us in the adventure, we look forward to an exciting future together.

Chris Spicer



Courtesy of Photos8.com



Weep with those who weep...

One of our challenges in life is in learning how to respond to others when they honestly acknowledge their feelings. We find a very helpful principle in the conversations



between Job and his friends. Job said: 'The words of one in despair belong to the wind' (Job 6:26). So what does this mean?

What people say in an emotional crisis is irrelevant other than to convey how deeply hurt they are. We have a tendency to fixate on words and ignore the hurt. When grief-stricken Mary and Martha greeted Jesus with the news of Lazarus' death, he wept (John 11:35). Paul's words crystallize it for us: 'Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep' (Romans 12:15). We are not supposed to instruct those who weep; we are supposed to weep with those who weep.

Adapted from Neil Anderson's Daily Devotions, which can be found at www.crosswalk.com/

**...and rejoice with those who rejoice!**

We rejoice with Ruth Nelson and congratulate her on her recent appointment as Operations Manager for the Association of Christian Counsellors. Ruth says, 'I am passionate that people who need help, especially pastoral care and counselling, should be able to access appropriate support, and that this support should be part of the full package of what the church offers a hurting world. It's all about bringing those who are broken into wholeness.'

Ruth's own experience of loss, grief and healing have perfectly equipped her for her new role and for the tasks ahead. Read more of how God has been faithful to Ruth and has brought her through times of disappointment and difficulty, at www.mosaicchurch.co.uk. It's an inspiring story!

KIDS CORNER

Mosaic @ Hope Children's Church Groups

Pre-school/Crèche: Children aged 6 months to 4 years:

Downstairs in the nursery. Please note that children must be collected by their parents immediately the service is over.

Glow: Key Stage 1:

Ground floor nursery.

Leap FROG: Key Stage 2:

Ground floor Henley room

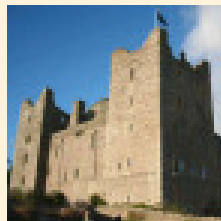
Youth Alpha: school years 7–10:

This group meets bi-weekly.



CPAS Children's Summer Camp
Wensleydale, Yorkshire 31st July to 3rd August
For ages 8–11 (years 4, 5 & 6). Cost £109

Last year we took five children from Mosaic to the summer camp and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



There are activities throughout the day, including archery, wide games, hill walks, castle visits, football, craft, etc., and then in the evening there is a meeting with worship, drama, games and a message.

You might be interested in coming as a leader. If finance is an issue we might be able to help you get a bursary towards the cost.

Contact viv: viv.kibble@sky.com

Child Protection Training

This will be taking place on 4th June. If you work with children and vulnerable adults within Mosaic and have not taken part in child protection training before it is vital you attend.



Albania is creeping nearer and the team is getting very excited about going! As well as training and planning we have been busy fundraising. Thank you all for your generosity in helping us raise funds to go and help the people of Albania, 15th to 26th April.

We have had two cakes sales which were a hit, raising £257. Thank you to everyone who baked and donated cakes and to the cafe for providing tea and coffee. Our big fundraising event was the quiz night and auction. This was such a fun evening. The youth as a whole, including those not going on the mission, worked really hard to organise and plan the night. Thank you again to everyone who took part, those who provided entertainment and also those who donated some fabulous items to auction. We raised a magnificent £600+.

We have one more thing to conquer before we jet off to Albania and that's Mount Snowdon. This is going to be our BIGGEST challenge yet! We are hoping it will be a real team-building activity. Church, family and friends alike have helped us raise an estimated £1,000 for the climb. This is an amazing amount and we cannot express enough how much this is going to help the mission.

We are looking forward to coming back and sharing our experiences with you all. Thank you again for helping the team make this 'Our Mission: Albania's Hope'.

Laura McElvenny & the iDentity Youth Team

Watch this space for details of this year's Soul Survivor summer camp or log on to www.soulsurvivor.com!



VALUING PEOPLE AT MOSAIC

'At Mosaic we appreciate people more for who they are in Christ than what they do, have or wear.'



Mosaic Church is a place where everyone is esteemed and where diversity is valued. That means we welcome people with disabilities, including those with physical limitations, mental health, emotional, or learning difficulties and those with a developmental condition, such as autism or Aspergers.

The following is adapted from Through The Roof, a Christian organisation working with disabled people. It provides some useful – and challenging – insights:

“When disabled people are asked what makes life most difficult for them, they invariably answer that it's other people's attitudes, not lifts or ramps or loos. In fact, our reactions say more about us than they do about disabled people: they stem from our own inner fears and personal insecurities, doubts about our self-worth and misguided value systems.

A brief glance at the gospels shows that the universal acceptance offered by Jesus to disabled people was no more common then than it is today. Blind Bartimaeus was told to 'shut up', lepers and other disabled people were kept away, hidden in ghettos. The problem is, disability disturbs people at a very deep level. It surfaces all kinds of hidden fears about our own inner brokenness, our physical vulnerability and mortality, and the nature of our human existence.

It's important to realise how much God has to teach us, through disability, about weakness, vulnerability and reliance on God's grace. In particular, learning to accept disability in others means learning to accept our own disabilities too. And the more at home we become with our own failings and limitations, the more at home we will





For better
mental health



1971-2011

feel with others who are disabled as well. This is what helps us realise how loved and accepted we are in our universal brokenness. Learning to embrace and welcome disabled people is also all about learning to embrace and welcome Jesus.

As Jesus himself tells us, whatever we do for the least of these brothers and sisters of his we also do for him. God longs to see the barriers between disabled and non-disabled people broken down, and more disabled people being drawn into the church and being genuinely honoured once they get there.

One way we give the world a picture of God's love for humanity is through the time and value we give to those affected by disability and in so doing, we too are drawn into a deeper experience of God's unconditional love.✎

The first step to accepting, valuing and welcoming people with disabilities is to gain a better understanding of their situation. There's a wealth of information to tap into. Scope, an organisation that supports people with cerebral palsy, has compiled a useful list of websites of disability organisations and charities: www.scope.org.uk/help-and-information/other-disability-organisations

Also, Colin White, a member of Mosaic@Grace who has Asperger's, has excellent resources to help people understand what it is like living with this condition. He would be pleased to provide this information to those who are interested.

We are very grateful to Through The Roof for their kind permission to use and adapt their article. Further resources can be found at www.throughtheroof.org.uk.

NOTICEBOARD

Grapevine Celebration 2011

26th to 30th August

Grapevine provides an opportunity for Christians from all backgrounds and denominations to gather to celebrate the Christian faith and for the Ground Level family of Churches to have an annual focus. It's a great event for all the family.



Visit www.grapevinecelebration.org.uk for full details of prices (including early bird discounts), booking info, etc. Camp onsite, or stay at the Hotel Ibis Lincoln (www.ibishotels.com).

Brochures for the conference should soon be available on the information desk.

Mosaic Men events in April & May

Saturday, 23rd April Beer and Skittles Evening

Queens Head, Bretford nr Brinklow. Cost £6.50

Saturday, 21st May Mens Breakfast

Hope Centre 9am–11am Speaker tbc.

Please sign up if you're interested in coming to these events. For further information see Richard Blower or Paul Baker.

Women's Retreat 1st to 3rd July Ilam Hall, Derbyshire



Ilam Hall is a beautiful 4-star YHA Victorian mansion in the heart of the Peak District. It's an ideal venue for our Women's retreat which promises to be a weekend of fun, relaxation and spiritual teaching.

Cost: £105.00 (£25.00 deposit to be paid asap). If you're interested in coming along, please see Helen Spicer.



Oasis Soaking Prayer & Prayer Ministry

**Wednesdays: 20th April, 18 May and 15 June
7.30–9.30pm**

Please bring a blanket and pillow for your comfort!

Any questions please see Mike & Jean Adkins or Richard & Olwen Blower.

Monthly prayer evening

Starting on 3rd May, a new-style prayer evening will be taking place the first Tuesday of every month at Hope Centre, from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. *'Extraordinary things happen when ordinary people pray!'*

Manna Words

Mike & Jean Adkins have produced an excellent article that provides a very comprehensive overview of the Bible. It can be downloaded from their website:

www.mannawords.com or from the Mosaic website.



Tithes and offerings

The giving of our tithes and offerings is an important part of our worship at Mosaic. In January our giving was £9,828 against a budget of £10,620 and in February it was £10,245 against a budget of £10,620. If you would like more information on giving through standing order or gift aid please contact Jan Towell at info@mosaicchurch.co.uk.

Mosaic information database

If you'd like your contact details to be added to the church database so you're kept informed of what's going on at Mosaic, please fill in a form available at the info desk on Sundays.

Mosaic Church – one church, two expressions

Mosaic@Hope
Sparkbrook Street
Hillfields
CV1 5LB

Mosaic@Grace
Grace Academy
Wigston Road
CV2 2RH

www.mosaicchurch.co.uk

Sunday services 10.00am for coffee 10.30am start



The Net – a new sermon series:

In an age when so much emphasis is placed on social networking by means of text, email, twitter, blogging, Facebook and other forms of electronic wizardry one has to wonder if we're not losing the art of interpersonal relationship. While I might have a thousand 'friends' on Facebook how many are mere faces more than friends?

Starting in late April, the series of four talks looks at the importance of real relationships, whether in the home, workplace or church. 'The Net' offers something for everyone, a series you could easily twitter, blog or write on Facebook about!

Talk 1 MAKING NETS – making connections – real covenant relationships
Talk 2 MENDING NETS – broken relationships
Talk 3 WASHING NETS – toxic relationships
Talk 4 CASTING NETS – networking inside and outside of the church

Please note that details in this issue were correct at the time of going to press and may be subject to change.