
Laughing alone

I just can't tell jokes, however hard I try to get the timing or punchlines right. I can tell funny stories and recount times of fun with family and friends, where sometimes a misdemeanour has left me crying with laughter!

A few years ago I was asked to take a funeral of a man who had suddenly died. When I asked who his relatives were, I was told there was no one left alive. I then asked about friends, neighbours who may be interested in bringing a tribute or Bible reading at his funeral. I was devastated to find that there was no one who knew him well enough even to attend his funeral.

What a shock, that a human being could go to the grave without anyone to celebrate the gift of life. The tragedy is, that could be any of us if we neglect to position ourselves in meaningful relationships. God made each one of us for one another, God told Adam 'it was not good to be alone' and sent His only Son Jesus to be a gift to mankind so we would not be left alone!

Mosaic Church has been called to be a community of people who share their lives and journey through the good and bad times with each other. 'If we want a friend, be friendly.'

May I encourage each one of you not just to attend Mosaic Sunday services, but to belong to one of our Nets, where friends can be found, where we can be encouraged and where we can explore together God's word and ways. It might just be a place where jokes can be shared, because it is no 'joke to laugh alone'.

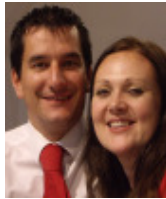


Your friends, **Gary & Helen**

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
daveboden@mosaicchurch.co.uk



Chris & Tina Spicer
Chris is the Teaching Pastor at Mosaic
chris@mosaicchurch.co.uk



Lisa Day, PA to Gary & Helen
info@mosaicchurch.co.uk
024 7663 3500

Special services 27th November 2011

Joint service at Grace Academy

10.30am: We will be welcoming Steve and Angie Campbell (right) from Cambridge who will be speaking as part of our *Do[n't] do this at Home* sermon series.



Advent Communion Service at Hope Centre 6.30 to

7.30pm: Join with us as we begin this time of preparation for Christmas – for more details contact Boz and Esther.

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENCE

Many Christians seem to live in their past, or worry about their future, yet forget to take hold of Today.

Years ago, when I finished Bible College, I left full of prophetic words about having a missionary call over my life. I pictured myself in somewhere like China or Africa, walking around huts, preaching the gospel, holding babies and discipling women. I couldn't wait for that far-off day when God would start to use me and I would finally be in his purpose.

Instead of China, God brought us to Coventry of all places! One day I was walking around Potters Green where I live and God reminded me of the prophetic words I had heard many times at Bible College: 'There is a heavy duty missionary call on your life.' In that moment I realised God said, *'Daughter – THIS is your mission field! Don't live for what could be in the future, live for what IS, today!'*

So what about you? What are you doing today that builds towards what you see for your future? You'll never get to do today again; it's actually happening now! You're not in training for the 'real event' – the real thing is TODAY.

It is time for us as the Church to be deliberate with our lives, our days, our decisions, our relationships and our resources. Forget about the nostalgia of yesterday, don't dwell on the anxiety of tomorrow, and take hold of your daily bread.

There's no time like the present and there's no time like HIS Presence, so take hold of all those possibilities, adventures, miracles, moments and memories to be made with God *To-day*.... God is waiting for you – so what are you waiting for?

Leah Boden



**5th November &
3rd December 9–11am
Hope Centre**

STORYTIME

AND SUDDENLY...

I was helping with the Foodbank and felt perfectly well. Just after 5pm I arrived home AND SUDDENLY I felt very ill. Trish and I decided that hospital was the place to be – and quickly.



I remember arriving at the hospital and that's about all for the next two days. I eventually came round and Trish explained that the doctors had diagnosed that I was suffering from acute pancreatitis. Once I was fully aware of my situation I realised I was seriously ill.

I knew you were all praying for me and the strangest thing – or perhaps not – was that I was not afraid, not even a little bit, even though the doctor had said I was very ill and could succumb to this.

In my mind all the time – and I mean all the time – were the words to a song, just the same few words playing over and over again, and every time I was quiet the words were there:

You are my Shield, my Strength / My Portion Deliverer / My Shelter, Strong tower / My very present help in time of need.

I lost a stone and a half in seven days and it has taken some time to recover from that weight loss. However, my consultant gave me the results of my scans: great news: there is no damage to the pancreas and I will continue to regain my strength and energy.

You prayed for me and at the same time prayed for another chap in the next bed to me. He was even more ill than I was and dangerously close to death. He had been in the hospital for six weeks with no improvement. I prayed with him personally and you prayed for him collectively and within a week he was up and eating, as was I, and within another week he was at home recovering. How good is our God?

Bill Watt

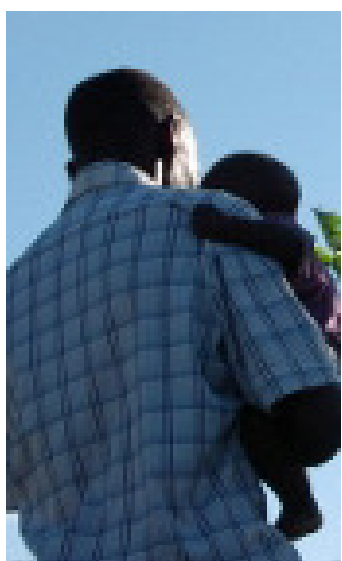
Parenting: Your greatest ministry?

It is easy to get caught up trying to serve God on a platform, at an event, or out on the streets in a high-profile way, but God wants us to understand that it is the little things we do in our home that make all the difference.

Parents, if you are looking for a way to serve God today whilst being a parent, never forget your family is your first ministry.



Mums – If you want to take hold of a higher calling, play a significant part in history, and have an impact on generations to come, simply keep sowing into the little ones (or not so little ones) around you – Today!



Dads – If you are looking for a significant ministry in the Kingdom of God – try working with who is sat around your dinner table. You can be a teacher, a prophet and a discipler of nations right from your living room. All you have to do is dare to be the best Dad you can be – Today!

It is never too late to recognise and prioritise the awesome ministry of parenthood. And when we do, we not only change our perspective, we might just change our world...

Top tip of the day!

Read a chunk of the Bible with your kids and talk about how it applies to your family life together.

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.



**Monday 31 October
5.30–7.30pm
Hope Centre**

**Light Party for primary-
aged children.**

See Viv for more details.



**Enjoying Summer fun at the
Leamington Boat Centre.**

Mosaic Church Children's workers' event 29th October

9.30am to 12.30pm with the chance to hear Matt Summerfield from Urban saints speak and a chance to get to know everyone who helps with children's church. Hope Centre, with lunch afterwards.

Water Bombs, Tents and the Holy Spirit

Over the summer the Mosaic Youth Group, iDentity, attended the Soul Survivor Summer Youth conference at Shepton Mallet Show Ground. Pranks, laughter, friendship and worship were the highlights of the trip.



During free time our campsite was transformed into a war zone, with water bombs flying in every direction. On one occasion Harry M'clevenny lost his appetising pot noodle lunch to a stray torpedo, the result... a yellow stained Harry and the exterior of our caravan dripping with stringy noodles.

Relationships were built and strengthened through spending precious time together as a group. Nights sitting under the dark sky, joking and sharing life with each other (if parents are reading, it wasn't too late... honest) and early mornings sharing the word with one another through our youth devotional time.

And then, we had the amazing big top! Here we would meet with thousands of other enthusiastic young Christians from around the UK and some further afield. The Holy Spirit was certainly moving through these meetings. The worship helped us connect and build deeper relationships with God and the preaching was inspiring, exciting and awesome!

Excitement and a passion for more of God was built within the Mosaic youth while at Soul Survivor, but also the invaluable relationships that were strengthened gave us all the confidence that we're in this together!

Any young people interested are welcome to come along and join us Fridays 7.30 –9.30pm at the hope centre.

**Josh Spicer
& the iDentity Youth Team** 7

OUTREACH



We are launching lovecov.com again – YES it's still there. We originally launched it about three years ago, advertising it with just the words: www.lovecov.com. It worked very well. People's curiosity made them log on and the website encouraged everybody to do an act of kindness, a good deed for somebody today, or to give them a small gift.

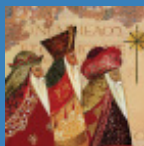
This time **lovecov** will become the vehicle for engaging volunteers, encouraging people to donate furniture, household goods, white goods and children's essentials, and fundraising to help meet the needs of the most vulnerable in Coventry: the **young**, those with **special needs**, the **elderly**.

We want to create a city-wide umbrella for social action that the people of Coventry will know is for their city, and foster a sense of pride in what we can achieve together.

I'm looking for a volunteer to come alongside me to help drive this vision forward, somebody who is highly motivated, has a heart and passion to make a difference in our city, somebody with good organisational skills, someone with time to spare.

If you think you want to be involved in any way with this vision, email bwatt@mosaicchurch.co.uk.

Bill Watt



CAP Christmas cards are now on sale at mosaic@hope!



3,000 mouths fed in 7 months;
20 tonnes of food distributed by
10 partner churches of which 8 are
distributing food in the neediest
parts of the city; over 100 city
agencies sending clients to us.

Coventry foodbank is the fastest growing foodbank in the Trussell Trust's history and Mosaic people are right at the heart of this. Sometimes it's not easy but we are determined to see God's kingdom come on earth and play our part in giving us this day our daily bread.

Gavin Kibble

Hillfields Outreach

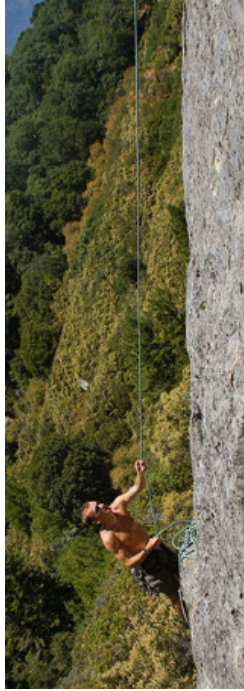
We have ventured slightly beyond the boundaries of Hillfields. There continues to be an awareness of and also an openness to the gospel. It appears that seeds have been sown by others and we were just there to reap the harvest.

We encountered a man who was sitting on a park bench. He looked like he'd given up all hope of anything good happening in his life, said he'd read the book *The Cross & the Switchblade* and other Christian books, initially said Christianity was not for him but after our conversation, he decided that he would just give Jesus a try and as we prayed for him his eyes filled up and he said that no one has ever prayed for him like that before.

Another contact was with a Polish man who had just spoken to his eighty-year-old father who phoned him from the USA and said that he'd meet some men of God and, lo and behold, a few of us came by. One of the men we were with was able to speak Polish with him and he was so touched by the love of God that he had no hesitation giving his life to the Lord.

Seamus Cassidy 9

NOTICEBOARD



Has anyone watched the film **127 Hours** yet? The true story of mountain climber, Aron Ralston, who became trapped while climbing alone, this film is not for the faint-hearted. With his arm pinned by a bolder and his rations running low Aron was left with one option: amputate or die.

If nothing else, the film highlights the biblical truth, *'Two are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one falls, the other can reach out to help. **But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.**'* [Ecclesiastes 4:9-12].

Life is a series of moments when we're either carrying or being carried – being supported or supporting others – for God never intended us to live in isolation. Having a Christ-centred group of friends around us is vital, people we invest time

and energy in to become our very own *Stretcher Group*. Beautifully illustrated in Mark's Gospel, a *Stretcher Group* is a bunch of friends who will *stand with you, share the load and search for answers* in time of need. Read Mark 2, 1–5 and see how four faithful friends focused on getting their paralyzed friend closer to Jesus.

The question is, 'Do we have such friends who'd do the same for us?'

Mosaic Net Groups give you the opportunity to invest time and energy in building strong Christ-centred relationships. So if and when we fall *'others can reach out to help'*.



10 **So why not give a Net Group a try!**

Chris Spicer

Oasis Soaking Prayer & Prayer Ministry

Weds 19th Oct & 16th Nov 7.30–9.30pm Hope Centre

Position yourself in an atmosphere where you can experience a deeper intimacy with God. Any questions, see Mike & Jean Adkins or Richard & Olwen Blower. Please bring a blanket & pillow for your comfort!

Men's Skittles night Saturday 29th Oct 7.30pm

£6.50 per person including meal (either chicken and chips or fish and chips). Wolvey Bowling Club, Coventry Road. Need a lift? Then let Richard Blower or Neil McElvenny know.

Colin White will be running a **Traidcraft stall** at Hope on 31st Oct and 4 Dec and at Grace on other weeks. Please support this initiative that aims to fight world poverty through trade.

Monthly prayer evening 8th Nov & 13th Dec 7.30–8.30pm

We encourage you to join the church leadership in praying for Mosaic, its activities and outreach locally and globally.

Operation Christmas Child

This is the time of year to start collecting items to fill a shoebox (toiletries, stationery, toys, gifts, etc) for the Samaritan's Purse annual initiative (www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk). Boxes can be given to Dee or Esther at Hope or Lisa or Joyanne at Grace *before* 20th November. This amazing ministry brings joy to children throughout the world who have very little.

Mosaic Leaders' meeting with Steve & Angie Campbell

Saturday, 26th Nov 8.45–11am at Hope Centre.

Women's Weekend 2012: 22nd–24th June. Important notice: those who are committed to coming to the weekend need to pay their £30 deposit by the end of November. Many thanks.

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



Mosaic Church info database

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

Tithes and offerings

The giving of our tithes and offerings is an important part of our worship at Mosaic. In July our giving was £11,258 and in August it was £8,804, both figures against a budget of £12,620.

If you would like more info on giving through standing order or gift aid please email Jan Towell info@mosaicchurch.co.uk.

Taking care at Mosaic

As part of our 'safeguarding' policy can we ask everyone to be alert to any dangers for the children, young people and vulnerable adults of Mosaic Church. This applies to all areas of both premises, but especially the cafe, corridors and car park.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of Mosaic News and to David Niblack for permission to use his photographs.

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