
Dec 2011/Jan 2012



mosaic
church news

White elephants

It's that time of year when the pressure is on. What shall we buy for our loved ones this Christmas? Whether it's entering the jungle of shops, joining with the crowds or checking our emptying wallets and purses, this precious time of year can easily move from excitement and celebration into pressure and isolation.

I'm still the over-excited kid when it comes to Christmas morning and it's time to open the presents! One year Helen thought it a good idea to let her family have a list of presents I would love to receive. With great anticipation I opened my presents in front of her family. Cushions, food scales, sandwich maker and, finally, the best of all, a linen basket! Thank you, I said, looking at Helen with a look that was not full of Christmas cheer...

Thank God that when he gave us Jesus 2,000 years ago, He knew not only what we needed but blessed us beyond all measure with a saviour and friend who would be with us every day of our lives and through every situation.

We need to make sure this Christmas as we rush around that we make Jesus the centre of our celebrations and understand He is no 'white elephant', a gift to leave in the cupboard or put on a shelf, just to be brought out when the in-laws come into our homes.

Remember to invite someone special to our carol service or the Christmas morning celebration. It could lead to the best present ever – Jesus!

Enjoy and party well,

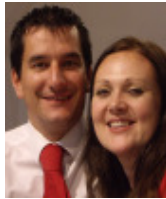
Gary & Helen



MOSAIC CHURCH – who's who



Gary & Helen Spicer
Senior Pastors and Site Pastors
of Mosaic@Hope
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Dave & Leah Boden
Site Pastors of Mosaic@Grace
daveboden@mosaicchurch.co.uk



Chris & Tina Spicer
Chris is the Teaching Pastor at Mosaic
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Lisa Day, PA to Gary & Helen
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Restoring the Lion's roar

While the media insist on portraying Christians as pathetic individuals – more like the cowardly lion of 'Yellow Brick Road' fame, than those go-getting radicals of the New Testament – God is calling you and me to 'Arise and Shine'.



Starting in January 2012, Mosaic embarks on a new series of talks outlining those lion-like characteristics the Holy Spirit is seeking to download on every Christ-follower. Entitled: *'Restoring the Lion's Roar'*, this is one series not to be missed.

Chris Spicer

WAKE UP!

WAKE UP – you're important!

There's never been a greater time to be part of the Church of the living God. What a privilege to be joined together with God's people to build His kingdom and serve His purposes in our generation.



Isaiah 52 tells the Church to WAKE UP and clothe ourselves with strength. There's nothing insignificant about the part you play in Mosaic Church – YOU have been chosen for such a time as this and we need you to enable us to accomplish all that God has for His people in this city and in this nation.

No one is overlooked in the kingdom of God; every one is unique, amazing and needed. 1 Cor 12 speaks about the body of Christ being like a body and how each part is essential to the others. Verse 22 says: 'some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary', so if you're feeling weak, allow God's strength to be perfected in you!

Across the Church, God is healing, transforming and shaping individual lives to strengthen us to rise up and be the voice that God has called us to be. It's not time to be complacent, sit back and think others will 'do it' – it's time to be you. Be loved, be free and be part of this revolution of change.

It's time to place *your* piece in the mosaic – it's starting to look beautiful!

Dave & Leah Boden



STORYTIME

You are cherished!

Cherished is the name of a group of women and volunteers who meet at Hope Centre each Tuesday for a chat and a meal and to enjoy arts and crafts.

Some of the women used to work on the streets of Hillfields, but have found that coming to Cherished has made a real difference to them. Through their new-found faith, they are moving ahead into a new beginning and a bright future, knowing they are loved by God.

Sam

I first got involved with Cherished when I was very vulnerable. I was into prostitution and on drugs, but thanks to having somewhere to go for support and a shoulder to lean on, I stopped working the streets and got myself clean and now I have two happy and healthy children living with me. I would have lost them if I had never got myself sorted, so it doesn't matter what your situation is, you will never be turned away.

Mandy

God saved my life and the life of my baby. Both of us were dying, and we prayed together and Sophie and I are living to this day. Sophie is now 14 years of age. God is so good and he will save you in your life. Whatever you do, God will love you.

Angie

I came from Yorkshire about 18 months ago to work with Cherished. I just love every moment I spend here.

Tracey

I think when I joined the group I felt scared and now I have made some friends in the group.

Mike & Jean

Since we began working with Cherished, we have prayed with many women facing difficulties and other troubling issues and it has been a pleasure to see God answer those prayers. It has also been a joy to introduce some of the women to Christ who
4 loves them and wants to build a relationship with them.

A praying family is a powerful family

I was raised in a home where prayer was a habit; my Mum would drive me crazy by her consistent question, 'have you prayed about it?' but I allowed it to become part of who I was as I grew up.

I continue to be amazed at how much we influence our children, not just through the way we act or what we say, but also through how we *pray*.

Recently, as the children and I were praying together, I was so blessed to hear my son pray with such faith and conviction. Yes, he was repeating things he had heard Dave and I pray, but he had made it his own and was now praying it from *his* heart to the heart of his father.



The bible tells us that 'faith comes by hearing, and hearing the Word of God' (Rom 10:17). We can build faith in our children by praying aloud with them and for them. Let them hear you speaking the Word of God over your day, your family and your world. Let them hear you cry out to God when you can't pay the bills, let them see you on your knees praying for other nations.



Whether it's round the dinner table, at the bedside, driving along in the car or during a daily slot in your family's schedule, pray with your children, watch and be amazed at what God does with their precious lives!

Leah Boden 5

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.

On 31st October, nearly 50 children and carers came to the **Mosaic Light Party**. It was an exceptional evening of fun and activity and a chance to introduce many new people to a church environment.



One family brought a neighbour's son and called me afterwards to tell me what an impact it had had on him. Evidently, his parents don't believe in God but this lad spoke on the way home to say that he really believed that this Jesus bloke was something real. Pray for the seed that was planted and many others like it to grow and bear fruit in the coming months. Praise God for such a great evening.

If you want to volunteer as part of the children's church team then please see Viv or e-mail her on viv.kibble@sky.com.



Children's Christmas Party
Saturday 17th December 2.30–4pm
for primary-aged children with their families. £2 per person (pre-booking essential). See Viv for details.

iDentity and the whale

As excitement builds for the festive period and moustaches are aplenty, the month of November has seen iDentity youth focusing on the Sunday school favourite story of 'Jonah and the Whale'.



The youth were encouraged to spend some time away from their X Stations, Facebook accounts and Tweeting and to read the short book of Jonah. This meant we could spend Friday



"The sad thing is, Jonah's so afraid of the water now, he won't even take a bath."

nights sharing our thoughts and personal revelations on Jonah's remarkable adventure into the belly of a fish. Through great teaching we were challenged to stand up for our beliefs and causes. The feeling that it is our time to step forward and stop shying away from God's plans for us is growing throughout the youth group.

Moving into the month of December, we will be having a retro-style Christmas party on Friday, 16th. Pass the parcel and musical chairs will definitely be on the agenda as we take a journey back to our infant days for an evening of fun. Any teens currently attending Mosaic but not yet involved with the youth, please find out more from Alisa McElvenny or Naomi Baskerville as we would love you to come along and join our friendly bunch.

Finally, we have recently given out letters to youth group members regarding Soul Survivor 2012. Parents, please dig the letter out of your child's pockets as it is not to be missed!

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

OUTREACH

Hillfields outreach – seizing the opportunity



An elderly English gentleman was walking slowly with his shopping. We started talking with him and he told us that he had never been to church before. We explained the gospel and the free gift of salvation and just as he was about to move on, I asked him, 'Would you like to have Jesus in your life?' He said yes straightaway. So he prayed the prayer as follows:

'Lord Jesus, forgive me for my sins and all the things I've done wrong. Now Lord Jesus, I ask you to come into my life as my Lord and Saviour. You died on the cross for me. Gratefully, I give my life back to you. Fill me with the Holy Spirit so that He can help me to walk like Jesus.'

Many people we have spoken to seem to think that they have to do something to be acceptable to God or that they are not good enough to be Christians. The really good news is, Jesus Christ has done everything that is needed to make it possible for us to be acceptable to God and there is absolutely nothing we can do apart from inviting him to come into our lives.

The man we met seized the opportunity before it was too late. If you don't know Jesus and would like to, pray the prayer above and Jesus will come into your life. Then speak to someone in the church who can help you deepen your faith.

Seamus Cassidy

Out of the mouths of children...

A Sunday School teacher asked her class, 'What was Jesus' mother's name?' One child answered, 'Mary'. The teacher then asked, 'Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?' A little kid said, 'Verge'. Confused, the teacher enquired, 'Where did you get that from?' He replied, 'Well, you know how they are always talking about "Verge and Mary"...

Christians Against Poverty is a national free debt counselling service where CAP Centres offer the service throughout cities and towns in the UK. Mosaic Church offers the only CAP Centre in Coventry.



Clients call a freephone number (0800 366 0008), details are taken and an appointment is booked to meet the client.



The first visit is a fact-finding visit, to gather as much information as possible about their financial situation. The second, a week later, is where a draft budget will be presented to the client and

any anomalies hopefully resolved. The third visit is two weeks later, during which creditors will be contacted and arrangements to stop interest/charges. A more accurate budget is created detailing the length of time it will take to be debt free.

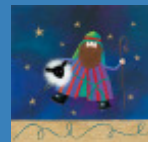
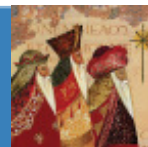
Andrew Grizzle & Gavin Kibble are our CAP centre debt coaches and are supported by a few support workers. For more information, contact Andrew Grizzle on 07517 687 094 or email andrewgrizzle@mosaicchurch.co.uk.

Support Christians Against Poverty

CAP Christmas Cards, bookmarks and Gifts of Love are for sale at Mosaic@hope each Sunday to raise funds for CAP – it's a great opportunity to support the project.

CAP Families Christmas Party 17th December

This is a wonderful occasion for our CAP families. If you can help out with setting up, preparing/serving the food, clearing up, wrapping presents or befriending our families, have a word with Dee Ward or email her at: deeward@mosaicchurch.co.uk.



OUTREACH

Since the Coventry foodbank was established by a partnership of four churches, many more churches have become involved and there are now ten distribution points, the latest set up by three churches and a team of law students from Warwick University.



We've seen people extraordinarily blessed as they receive gifts of food, we've witnessed many folk making a step of faith, and we believe that God has purposed this to be a catalyst for local churches to work together regardless of denominational differences.

Psalm 133 says, 'How good and pleasant it is when brothers [i.e. *all* children of God] join together in unity ... for there the Lord commands his blessing, even life for evermore.' I don't believe that God wants churches to adopt a 'go-it-alone' policy. I do believe He wants His church to be socially relevant and socially responsible.

When the blessing of God is poured out, extraordinary things happen. Whitefriars Housing Association has just offered the foodbank newly carpeted offices for free – no rent, rates, electricity or gas charges! This is like precious oil poured out on the head (Psalm 133:2), an anointing and blessing by the Holy Spirit to see His Kingdom come and His will be done.

Gavin Kibble



Radio Plus 101.5FM

Listen to our very own Andrew Grizzle on Radio Plus 101.5FM on his show called Island Sounds, 8–11pm every Monday. Andrew is

known as Andy G on radio and the show offers gospel and positive music in the following musical genres: RnB, Hip Hop, Reggae, Dancehall/Bashment and Soca/Calypso. To listen

10 online go to www.radioplus.org.uk then click on 'Listen Live'.

A decorative graphic for Christmas and New Year church services. It features a dark blue background with white and light blue abstract patterns, including snowflakes, stars, and circular motifs. A white rectangular box in the center contains the text "Christmas & New Year church services".

Christmas & New Year
church services

18th December, 4.00pm: Joint Carol Service at Hope
(NB there are no services in the morning)

25th December, 9.30am: Joint Christmas Service at Hope

1st January, 10.30am: Joint service at Hope.

Monthly prayer evening

13th Dec & 10th January, 7.30–8.30pm Hope Centre

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

'Extraordinary things happen when ordinary people pray!'

Oasis Soaking Prayer & Prayer Ministry

Weds 18th January, 7.30–9.30pm Hope Centre

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

Women's Weekend 2012 22nd–24th June

There's still time to book your place on this inspirational weekend away in spectacular surroundings at Ilam Hall, Derbyshire. Sign up on the sheets available at church each Sunday.

Coventry Pilgrimage 26th March to 1st April 2012

As part of the Golden Jubilee of Coventry Cathedral in 2012, a special pilgrimage will be taking place. This will culminate in a celebration service at the cathedral on Palm Sunday, 1st April. Christians from all churches across Coventry are invited to join the celebrations and participate in the pilgrimage. More details at www.sherbournetrust.net and in the next Mosaic News.

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 September our giving was £10,520 and in October it was £33,091, both figures against a budget of £12,620. If you would like more info on giving through standing order or gift aid please contact Jan Towell by emailing 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, Winifred Breunken and chaosimperfect for permission to use their photographs.

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