

Crisis to calm!

A number of years ago when I was in my infancy of church leadership, an experienced pastor visited the church I was pastoring. He soon realised that I like to get things right! We were just starting to eat lunch when his words nearly gave me indigestion: 'Do you always run around like that? You'll burn out trying to get everything in place. Let me give you some advice. We don't have to get everything right all the time, a little bit of crisis keeps us looking to God.'

I have come to realise that where God is moving, there is always some crisis and often inward panic. In the Mosaic community there have been many times when the church has looked in crisis and seemed messy in more ways than one! Yet I am reminded that the Saviour of the world, the gift child, wasn't born in a Marriott Hotel with a nice spa, but in a smelly, messy barn!

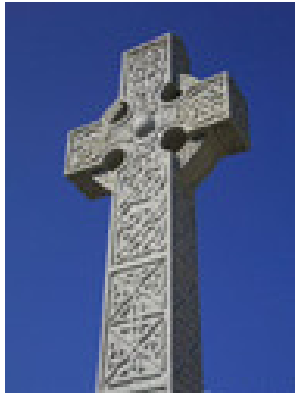
We are already seeing lost people found and broken people healed. We only have to remember the incredible stories shared in our baptisms recently. With new life and growth there are always challenges, new people needing to be shown how to love and be loved in the Jesus way. I am continually thanking God for each person who is stepping up and serving; we need more!

Our church may look messy sometimes, but may we never settle for a church that is predictable. The great danger is that we settle for order in the church and miss the miracle in the barn!

With love, **Gary & Helen**



REFLECTIONS ON THE CELTIC CROSS



I have been greatly inspired by a small booklet called *Celtic Reflections* written by Martin Wallace, from talks given at St Peter's Chapel, Bradwell-on-Sea, Essex, a small church built by St Cedd of Lindisfarne in 654AD.

As well as offering food for thought concerning many aspects of the Christian life, the booklet looks at the nature of the Celtic cross:

- > The Celtic cross, with its depictions of Biblical scenes, was an early aid in Christian teaching.
- > It was never meant to be a dead monument or even an interesting ornament, but an encouragement to a deep spiritual life.
- > It was not used to mark a graveyard but a place of life: holy places, made significant by deep prayer.
- > The round sun at the centre of the cross suggests creation shot through with redemption and Jesus as the Light of the World.
- > The cross was often a development of the old Druid standing stones – for Christ came 'not to destroy but to fulfill' all cultures.
- > True evangelism always happens from within the culture. To adopt a new faith does not imply adopting a new culture.
- > The heavy stone base of the cross suggests the road of calvary where we all meet.

I recommend this booklet as a taster for anyone who is interested in Celtic spirituality. It's available through Amazon: www.amazon.co.uk.

MOSAIC CURRENCY OF FAVOURS

All over the UK people are discovering the benefits of trading their services and skills and buying and selling goods using a local currency – you may have already heard of the Lewes ‘Pound’, the Leamington ‘Oak’ and the Coventry ‘Cov’.

Within Mosaic Church we’ll be creating our very own currency – the ‘Grout’ – and inviting church members to use the currency and to take part in what we are calling a ‘currency of favours’.



So how does it work?

Each person identifies the skills and services they wish to trade. Here are some examples: car maintenance, accounting services, DIY, hairdressing, painting and decorating, electrical work, arts and crafts, gardening. You can also sell goods, for example, home-made produce, clothes, books, plants, bric-a-brac or the surplus from an allotment.

These details are published in a directory. Each member is given an account number and when trading takes place the Grouts spent and earned are recorded in the online accounting system. At any time we can know if one of our friends needs help to spend the Grouts they have accumulated or needs help in finding ways to earn Grouts.

A tried and tested approach

This approach has been found to be of some success amongst groups of people who have little else in common other than where they live and their ability to trade. But how much more successful could this kind of mutual accountability and support become when it is carried out between friends within a community of those who already share time, common faith and values, worship, prayer and friendship?

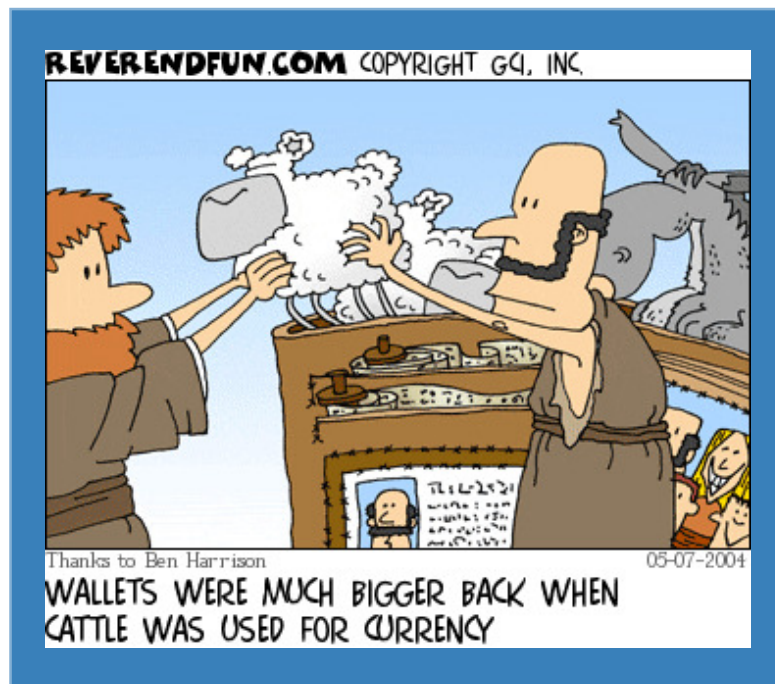
Could our ability to help each other out in a mutually supporting and accountable manner become a witness to the surrounding community of which we are a part? ‘All will know you are my disciples if you love one another.’ (John 13: 35)

MOSAIC CURRENCY OF FAVOURS

What's more, 10% of each transaction will be tithed to Mosaic to enable the church to support those in need.

If you have a few hours a month to take part in the 'currency of favours' initiative, please consider opening an account. If you want to find out more do have a chat with Richard or Amanda. An initial meeting to launch the currency and to answer any questions will be taking place very soon.

Richard & Amanda Kay



Christians Against Poverty Money Coach Course

**15, 22, 29 April 7–9pm
Hope Centre**

This is a free course run by trained facilitators and is available to all even if debt isn't an issue. For more details please speak to Gavin Kibble or Graeme and Jan Towell.

NOAH'S ARK & PEEP learning together



Noah's Ark

**Mosaic Church Hall
Hope Centre**

**Mondays
10.00am – 12 noon
Term time only**

A **FREE** carer & toddler group offering support in helping your child learn and develop.

For an hour each week we meet together and

- > sing songs
- > share books
- > enjoy play time with the Noah's Ark tots group
- > share ideas about our children and their learning (PEEP Learning Together with Twos).

COME ALONG, MAKE NEW FRIENDS & HAVE FUN!

For further information see Heidi, Mary or Dee.

Parents and carers are enthusiastic about the group:

'The kids love it!' 'It's local and friendly'

'It gives Demi a chance to be around kids her own age.'

'The kids are safe in this environment.'

'It's good to get out and meet other people.'

'We have singing, playing and listening to the stories.'

'It gets all the kids involved.' 'They are happy.'

'It's really good to talk to other mums. It's reassuring to know you're not on your own.'

KIDS CORNER

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 (formerly
Glow plus): Key Stage 2:**
ground floor Henley room

**Youth Alpha: school years
7-10:** meet bi-weekly.

Prayer & planning sessions for group workers

Prayer: Sunday, 25th April & 23rd May 6.00-7.00pm

Planning: Sunday, 28th March 7.00-9.00pm

Venue: Viv's house

Kid's Summer Camp

Seven of our youngsters will be going with Gav & Viv to Leyburn in Wensleydale for five days in July. The camp is run by CPAS, a large church organisation which organises camps with a strong Christian message. If any can help out financially with this camp or the work of CPAS, then see Gav or Viv.

Contact: Children's Youth Pastor: Viv Kibble
E-mail: viv.kibble@sky.com

Any concerns or comments please get in touch.



OK so last issue's anagrams were beyond even the adults! But congratulations to Ellie & Alysha who designed a beautiful garden and got their prize.

Picture competition – anyone under 12 can enter

Daniel was a man who refused to bow to false gods so he was thrown into the lions' den by the ruler Darius. But God protected Daniel and he came out unharmed.

We are looking at being in God's presence this term so we would like a picture of any Bible story that shows God protecting his people when their lives were in danger. Ask the grown-ups for advice. You can do it using pens, crayons or paints, and in any style including collage, graphics or 3-D. Please hand your entries in to Viv by Saturday, 19th June with your name and age on it and a special panel will select a winner from each Children's church group. You can submit more than one entry if you get carried away!

Youth Alpha Camp

We will be taking some of our younger youth to a weekend camp in mid-May. Cath Henzell is the contact.

Encourage and pray

Please encourage and pray for all those who give their time to the children's church. Pray for the children as they make friendships and grow in their understanding of the Bible. In the summer term we will be looking at being in the presence of God. Ask your child what they have learnt from the session and help them put new ideas into practice.

IDENTITY

Identity is Mosaic's young, vibrant and fun-loving youth group for 11 to 18 year olds. It's full of individual characters who know how to have a good time! We meet every Friday, 7.30-9.30pm, for an evening full of laughs, teaching and discussion.



We recently completed a sponsored swim called 'Dodging the Monster' to raise funds for the group. We swam the equivalent length of Loch Ness (approximately 37km), swimming about 20 or more lengths each.

We have some really exciting events coming up:

The Ultimate Event – Alton towers: 8th May: this is a fabulous day out and in the evening there's a concert jam-packed with Christian bands. We need to book as soon as possible so if you'd like to go please speak to Naomi.

Soul Survivor: 11th-15th August: this is a fantastic event. We'll be joining with other Christian youth groups, camping and listening to some great speakers and bands. We are all very excited to be going. If anyone is interested in joining us we can still book you in until the end of April, so please speak to Alisa for more details.

Giant Killers: for the next few months we're focusing on a topic we have called 'Giant Killers'. We'll be looking at David and how he made mistakes in his life but despite it all was still a man after God's own heart.

We are very excited about Identity – we are beginning to grow as a group and it's so encouraging to see individuals grow in character and faith. It's never a dull moment! We would love to encourage anyone who is not part of Identity to come along and check us out. We'd love to see you!



**Resumes Sunday
25th April @
Hope Cafe 7pm
with a showing of
the film *Chocolat*.**



Mosaic 7 is now up and running and we've established a pattern of generosity to those we serve through food, through openness to those who come along, and through listening as we share and chat through our experience.

We've now paused for the Easter holidays and this gives us a chance to re-group and make sure we're still going where God wants us to. We have a small team at the moment and a small number of students attending.

We would love to build this up and have many more people of student age with us as we explore. The first Sunday back is April 25th when we're planning to show the film *Chocolat*, which looks at community and church in a great way.

Please pray that we'll attract the right people as we build the Kingdom of God in the hearts of the student community in Hillfields. Do come and chat to Melanie or myself if you'd like to know more.

Mark Jarvis

Did you know...

that you can get free legal advice from the Coventry Legal Advice Service? It's a drop-in that operates every Weds at Hope Cafe from 12noon to 4pm.

Letter from Devon

Catch up with news of our friends, David and Sue Jones, who recently moved to Paignton. Their letter is now on the Mosaic website.

DATES TO NOTE

Mosaic Outdoors

- 5th April** Day out in the Malvern Hills 10am-5pm.
Start out from Hope Centre.
- 18th April** Lazy Sunday afternoon, picnic and wander,
at Kenilworth Castle, straight after church.
- 3rd May** Day out cycling or walking at Rutland Water
8am-5pm. Start out from Hope Centre.
- 15th May** Walking in the Clent Hills and Bluebell
Woods 10am-5pm. Start from Hope Centre.
- 30 May** Lazy Sunday afternoon, picnic and stroll,
Kingsbury Water Park, straight after church.

NB Please bring a packed lunch to these events.

Friday at the Flicks

23rd April & 28 May

Film choices to be confirmed.

Contact Yvonne Perry:
yvonneperry@yahoo.co.uk



Day of prayer 14th April

Please sign up for this. Further details to be announced.

Board and trustee meetings

Tuesday 20th April

Tuesday 18th May

8pm at Hope Centre

Support team meetings

Wednesday 28th April

Wednesday 26th May

8pm at Gary & Helen's (tbc)

Please pray for the trustees, board members and all those involved in supporting Gary and Helen, that God will uphold them and guide them in the decisions they make in furthering His work within Mosaic, in Hillfields and throughout Coventry.

For a full list of events and for information about other church gatherings please visit the Mosaic Church website:

10 www.mosaicchurch.co.uk

**COMING SOON TO
MOSAIC CHURCH...**

LIVE out your new identity
in Christ
BREAK through to spiritual
maturity
UNCOVER strongholds
and deception
RESOLVE issues from the
past
BECOME a genuinely
fruitful disciple



**A 13 week discipleship course
22 April – 22 July 2010**

For further details e-mail Mee
Lee: meeleeccas@aol.com or
Lisa: info@mosaicchurch.co.uk
or visit the Mosaic website.

Women's retreat

18–20 June Ilam Hall

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. If
you're interested in coming along, please see Helen Spicer.

Grapevine 2010

27–31 August Lincoln

Great event for all the family.
Find out more from the
brochures now available at



church or from the website: www.grapevinecelebration.org.uk

Database

If you want to be added to the church database and be kept
informed of everything going on at Mosaic, please fill in a data
form available on the info desk in the cafe area every Sunday.



024 7663 3500
info@mosaicchurch.co.uk
www.mosaicchurch.co.uk

Hope Centre, Sparkbrook Street, Hillfields CV1 5LB

Sunday services 10am for coffee 10.30 start

Date	Speaker
11 April	Helen Spicer
18 & 25 April	Gary Spicer
2 May	Dan Oliver
9 & 16 May	Gary Spicer
23 May	Helen Spicer
30 May	Jeremy Parkes

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 the premises, but especially the cafe, corridors and car park.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all who contributed to this edition of Mosaic News and to freefoto.com and to Graur Razvan Ionut for permission to use their photographs.

Mosaic News – next issue

If you have any contributions for the newsletter please contact Amanda Kay: e-mail amanda@copsewood.net.

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