

Family life!

'The church is the gathering of God's children, where they can be helped and fed like babies and then, guided by her motherly care, grow up to manhood in maturity of faith.' John Calvin

Mosaic Church has a fantastic opportunity to become a church that is not just good, but great. For this to happen we need to have an ear to what God is saying.

Chinese whispers is a popular children's game. A message is given to one child then passed around the group. Would the initial message be the same when the last child received the message? Rarely! It usually becomes distorted in every way.

God always intended His Church to be a community of like-minded people journeying together with shared vision and values, all serving each other and challenging each other forward in their faith. Our challenge is that God's original message about the Church has become somewhat distorted – it is no longer a community or family, but an event, an occasion or, sometimes, a performance, even!

Mosaic celebrates its diversity in a multicultural, all-age community of people with differing backgrounds. Our vision is to celebrate our differences while understanding that God has called us to enjoy being together, with Jesus at the centre.

In this next season we'll be teaching and focusing on our family values and what keeps us together. We'll also journey together into Advent. This will help us each understand that we all 'belong together' and not just 'attend together'.

**Your friends and pastors,
Gary & Helen**



WHO'S WHO



Gary & Helen Spicer
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Contact: via Tina



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Year one of **The Lions Experience** was a great success. From around 40 applicants, 15 delegates were invited to take part in a programme aimed at empowering those with a pioneering spirit. Led by significant people from the field of business, church and social outreach, each weekend sought to impact upon the character, concepts and calling of all who attended.

The year culminated in 12 delegates pitching their ideas to the Lions Lair, with a number receiving seed money for their project, along with an invitation to the second year and ongoing personal mentoring. From a facility for ex-offenders, to a clothing brand aimed at helping those with mental health problems, these projects promise to be a powerful means of extending the kingdom of God in the UK.

But that was last year. For those looking for a means to prepare themselves to pioneer a church, business or social outreach, why not find out more about **The Lions Experience** by checking out www.thelions.org.uk.

Chris Spicer



'Does the future have a church?' is a question many are asking! Although a growing number of people are showing interest in the Christian message, it seems

that the Christian church is struggling to remain relevant in an increasingly secular world.

Remaining loyal to a 1st-century mandate in a 21st-century setting is never going to be easy! 'Can the church show compassion without compromising its beliefs?' is a question that needs to be answered in a way that demonstrates the father-heart of God to the world in which we live.

Mosaic Church is on a journey to outwork the values of Jesus in all we say and do. So for six weeks over the autumn period a series of talks called *The Journey* will look at our values and how we're transitioning to make them an integral part of the way we do things. We want to become a community characterised by people who truly 'Connect', are 'Empowered' to 'Serve' in an 'Enjoyable' way, people who 'Honour' one another and who are constantly 'Outward-looking' in their perspective.

Kicking off on Sunday, 29th September, I'll be sharing on what I'm calling *Move that Bus!* Want to know more? Why not join us for *The [whole] Journey* and find out what kind of culture we're seeking to build within the Mosaic family.

Chris Spicer

ADVENT: A Journey of Celebration

Many have commented on how much they enjoyed journeying on *The Road to Resurrection* during this year's season of LENT. With a daily Bible Reading, Thought for the Day, Prayer and space for personal notes, these booklets became a means for people to reflect, pray and praise God for what Easter really means to the Christian church. In the



WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

light of that success we are planning something similar for ADVENT by producing a booklet that will cover the days leading up to Christmas. We'll be looking at a number of key individuals from Christ's family tree, which will not only help us to see how these characters reveal aspects of the life and ministry of the coming Christ, they will also help all who take part to embark on a journey of celebration.

Although Christmas is still a way off we'd encourage everyone to make this year's Advent season an adventure of discovery. So why not come to a special launch event on 26th November and pick up your own copy of *ADVENT: A Journey of Celebration*.

Chris Spicer



WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

I was rejected at a very young age. I made mistakes and bad choices in my life because of brokenness. I was bullied throughout school and ran away from home to spend years in a violent relationship which almost claimed my life.

I found it hard to trust and form healthy relationships so I medicated myself and became dependent on drugs. I would isolate myself and my hurt turned to anger and bitterness. I hurt myself and others. After years of depression, failure and battling suicidal thoughts, one day I decided to go through with it. But I cried out to God from the bottom of my heart and asked Him, if he was real, to save me. Suddenly, faith, hope and love came alive in me.

I discovered religion, but I couldn't live up to its standards so turned back to my old ways of coping and the destructive cycle repeated. I knew God was real, but didn't feel good enough for Him. I wanted love but I didn't know how to receive it. Recently I've discovered and understood the grace of God and I am now experiencing healing, freedom, peace and the meaning of true love.

Naomi Coogan

YOUR INNER ENVIRONMENT



We recently had a family day trip to France via the Eurotunnel. It's amazing that you drive on a train in one country and you are shortly in a totally different environment. The language, food and culture across the English Channel are worlds apart from us culturally, despite being so close geographically. Yet I didn't really have to make an effort to change and adapt to French culture. My outside environment changed, but my *inner environment* stayed exactly the same.

As Christians we are responsible for the *inner environment* of our lives. Every person carries a certain environment with them wherever they go. It is what people encounter when they encounter you. It is what people experience when they visit our church or engage with our community.

Our inner environment determines our fruitfulness. The Bible speaks of our hearts being like soil that can be prepared in ways that bring growth or barrenness. If we want to grow on the outside, we have to grow on the inside. Jesus spoke of a people who would hear and respond to God's words with hearts that would *produce* a crop. Our prayer is that Mosaic would be full of hearts like this. And who knows what amazing fruit we are going to see!

Dave & Leah Boden



KIDS CORNER

Mosaic@Hope Children's Church

Jelly Beans 6 months to 3 years:

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

GLOW 4 to 6 years:

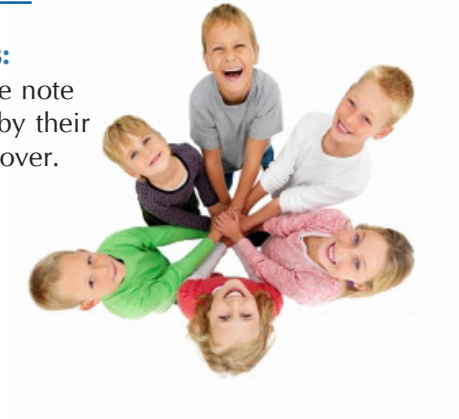
Ground floor nursery.

LEAP FROG 7 to 10 years:

Ground floor Henley room.

NERGIZ 11 to 13 years:

Meet on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.



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Mosaic@Grace

At Grace there is an optional multi-age session for the children every Sunday run by parents.



Noah's Ark Carers and toddlers group

**Mondays
10.00 to 11.30am
Hope Centre**

Free

**A relaxing time to
socialise and for the
children to play and sing.**

**For further information about Children's church and
Noah's Ark, contact Viv Kibble: viv@lwad.co.uk.**

Amidst the busyness of family life it's so easy to get distracted from our primary call: to love Jesus and live a life that brings glory to His name. Placing Jesus at the centre of our family life is essential to our health and growth. There are so many practical and creative ways we can do this to show our children how vital His centrality is.

This time of year marks something of a new beginning for many of our children: mums shed tears at the school gates and Facebook is showered with photos of small smiling people in uniform! Whether it's meeting their new teacher, facing new learning challenges or wearing their shiny new shoes, young people enter into a fresh season of 'firsts'.



This is a great time to add new things to your family routine: listening to worship CDs, praying before dinner, reading the bible before bed, talking to our children about the challenges and victories that God puts our way, are all simple but effective ways of revealing Jesus. Our children will emulate and desire to live according to those things we are passionate about and give time to – let's make sure Jesus is at the centre!

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. Heb 12: 1-2

Raising a family isn't easy, but it's a noble calling. Be encouraged, God is with us and we're walking this journey together.

Leah Boden

Women's Breakfast Saturday 30th November 2013

Look out for details on the news sheet!

NO PERFECT FATHERS HERE!

When a world-famous greetings card company offered the inmates of a prison the opportunity to send a free Mother's Day card to their mums, the response was overwhelming. Riding high on their success the company decided to repeat the offer for Father's Day. Determined not to be caught out by expected demand, extra stock was shipped into the prison. Imagine then their surprise when, even with free postage included, not one inmate took up their offer. In fact, many of the inmates blamed their absent or abusive father for the plight in which they now found themselves.



With more than a million children in the UK having no contact with their father while growing up (estimates of up to two million by 2015), the Centre for Social Justice warns of a coming social 'tsunami' in terms of family breakdown.

The lack of fathers in certain parts of the UK is creating so-called 'men deserts' where children have no male role models in their lives. Profoundly damaging a child's social, mental and spiritual development, this lack of a father figure will have long-term effects on generations to come. Please pray, not only for the world we live in but also the church we attend, that in all we say and do our children will have positive male role models to look up to.

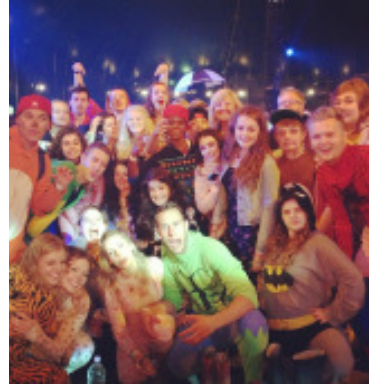
Chris Spicer



Written for real dads – imperfect dads with real struggles, failures and successes – *No Perfect Fathers Here* by Chris Spicer is a guide on how to capably handle the role of a father in a positive manner. To obtain your copy – and see the excellent reviews – go to www.amazon.co.uk.

The nights are drawing in and cold weather is fast approaching. But it's not all bad... iDentity youth is back!

This summer has certainly been a memorable one. We had an awesome five days at Soul Survivor, full of water-bombing and worshipping. Being a part of over ten thousand young people worshipping in onesies was a moment none of us will ever forget!



Soul Survivor was once again inspirational, stirring and challenging for all of us. We were encouraged that we can start a revolution and together we can make a huge stand for Jesus!

The new school year is going to be an exciting one – the plan is to teach and encourage each other and enjoy some awesome social events to foster relations within the group.

Please pray that the youth of Mosaic will continue to grow in their faith and gain a greater understanding of their hugely important purpose on earth.

Here's what's happening at iD throughout October...

4th – Worship & Word @ Hope 7.30pm

11th – Group Bible Study and Games @ Hope 7.30pm

18th – Worship & Prayer Night

25th – @ Grace 7.00pm

For all up-to-date info for iDentity, log on to our Facebook page... and while you're there why not give us a 'like'?

Josh Spicer & the iDentity Youth Team



FIND US ON FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/groups/identity.mosaic

OUTREACH

**Speak up for those who can't speak
for themselves. Speak up for the
rights of all those who are poor.
Prov 31:8**



Mosaic Church has historically played an active role in the life of Coventry. However, in 2013 a sea change occurred in the relationship between the city council and the churches across the city. Funding cuts has meant that the council now engages more actively with community groups. With 800 council jobs gone already, and another 800 at risk, we at the Hope Centre feel this most in the loss of local support services.



Whatever your feelings about the funding cuts, the story of the Good Samaritan shows us we must stand in the gap when everyone else passes by on the other side of the road.

A group of Christians from many churches (including Mosaic) are partnering with the city council to set up a major conference at the CLM Welcome Centre on 1st October, 2013. Entitled 'Welfare Reform in Coventry – working together – challenges and opportunities', the conference has nationally recognised Christian leaders speaking at it and is supported by the Cinnamon Trust which believes that this is one of the first conferences of this type in the country.

This has not been an easy journey but through it all we have never compromised our right to speak out for the lost, the least and the last; to champion justice and the rights of the poor. In doing so we proclaim the name of the Lord Jesus.

Gavin Kibble

STOP PRESS! Partners' Evening Wednesday 20th November

OUTREACH

Recently we were talking to a young couple. The man was willing to talk about God. However, the lady said she wanted to have Jesus in her life and prayed with us. She had been going to a church for some time, but didn't know she needed to invite Jesus personally into her life. It made me think about where I would be today if someone had not told me that I needed Jesus.

A new Christian told me that when she informed her contacts that she had become a Christian, one of them – whom she had known for more than 20 years – acknowledged that she had been a Christian all that time. Our friend then asked why she had let her go astray and had never told her the gospel message. The reply was that she left it in God's hands.

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? Rom 10:14



My team and I just love telling the good news of the gospel to people out there in the streets. We never cease to be amazed that people want to talk about God and are so open and receptive. The Holy Spirit always shows up when they pray to make a decision for Jesus.

Seamus

COURAGEOUS

Mosaic Men's Ministry
Conference
Sat 16th Nov 2013
Grace Academy
9.30am–1pm

CHERISHED

Charity event
Dinner & entertainment
Thurs 7th Nov 2013
Hope Centre
7–10pm

MOSAIC CHURCH – one church, two expressions



Mosaic@Grace
Grace Academy
Wigston Rd CV2 2RH



Mosaic@Hope
Sparkbrook Street
Hillfields CV1 5LB

www.mosaicchurch.co.uk

Sunday services 10.00am for coffee 10.30am start

Tithes and offerings

The giving of our tithes and offerings is an important part of our worship at Mosaic. The total amount between May and August came to £39,523, (budget: £49,295). If you would like more information on giving through standing order or gift aid please contact Gavin Kibble (gavin.kibble@sky.com).

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.

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.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all who contributed to this edition of Mosaic News, and to David Niblack (Imagebase.net), Clicktrick and George Hoden for permission to use their photographs. Please note that some of the portraits are for illustrative purposes only.

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