

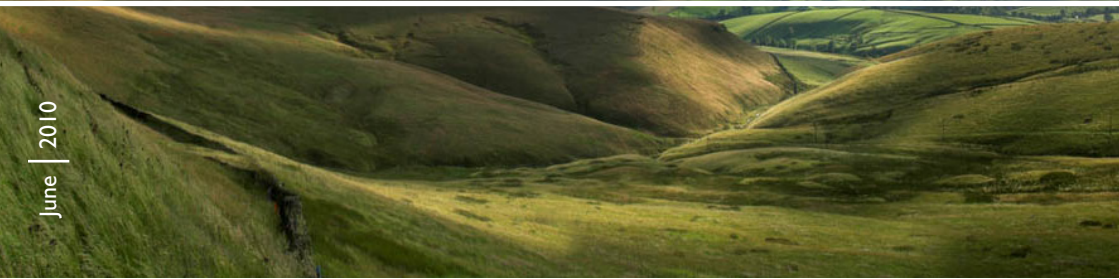
Wildfire

Church in the Peak

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CHURCH NEWS: ENCOURAGING FAITH, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

GROWING IN FAITH

We began this year with a real desire to grow in faith, in particular, to live by faith, not in the things that are seen but in the things that are unseen. The unseen things are the realm of God's Kingdom, they are superior to the things that are seen and are received by faith (2 Cor 4:18). Notably as we have pressed into this we have had a stream of significant prophecies that encourage us to trust in the character of God and believe for a coming harvest. The apostle Paul tells the Ephesian church that he is continually praying for them. His prayer is that by the Spirit they may have a fresh revelation of Jesus so that they may know Him better. This is a

great prayer for us to be praying for one another because we all need to know Him better and, as we do, we will grow in our trust and dependence on Him. We can trust the One we know to be utterly faithful, always good and full of grace. The Lord is calling us out of our fears and out of our self reliance into a deeper relationship with Himself. This is not without its challenges as many can testify but there is a Good Shepherd who is taking us into a deeper relationship with Himself who restores our soul and ministers to us at our point of need as we open up to Him. Not only is he a good shepherd but he is also a host of a banquet and he lays a table in the presence of our enemies who are powerless to prevent the goodness and abundance of God flowing to us as we trust in Him. He anoints us and our cup overflows – he is an extravagant God. The best way to receive fresh

revelation of Jesus and to experience more of His Presence is in worship. Worship takes our eyes off ourselves and puts them on God. God so loves people that He sent His Son to live among us, identify fully with us and be crucified for all our sins that we might have restored relationship with God himself. As we worship, we open our heart to him and we see into the unseen realm of God's Kingdom. Worship brings us into the presence of God and we begin to see with the eyes of our heart. Worship brings fresh revelation, strengthens our faith and calls forth obedience from the heart. There is far more than we have yet seen or experienced but with the psalmist we can say 'taste and see that the Lord is good' Psalm 34:8

By Dave Harper

REGIONAL CELEBRATION

July 11th at St Anselm's Sports Hall

Twice a year we gather together with our other churches in the Peak District for a time of worship and celebration and have had speakers from around the world, last year we had Sam Poe from America and Dave Holden from the UK. We had hoped to have Steve Oliver this time round but unfortunately there has been a change in his plans so watch this space! It is great to meet up and see evidence of the wider call of God on us as churches as we gather together and meet friends new and old. Please do make this a priority, Steve and Susie will be leading the worship, maps are available on the information table

YOUTH

Growing relationships with God

By Pamela Williams

Explor continues to meet on a fortnightly basis, at alternate venues of the Riverside where Andy and Lorna Sewell run the meeting and the other Sunday of the month at our house.

Our main aim is to help the young people grow in their relationship with God. There is no greater reward in this work, than to see the next generation worshipping their God with passion.

The next big event for us will be Newday 2010 which they are already looking forward to and planning towards. This is where we would really value the prayers of the wider church family in praying for the young people as they go off to Norfolk from 11th – 17th August, that they would have a real and living experience of our great God and come back on fire to reach their family, friends and their neighborhoods with the gospel.

In September we say good bye to some of our great young people as they move up to Emerge we want to wish them all the best and let them know we will miss them, but we pray that God will continue to work in their lives. On the other side of the coin we look forward to having some new members who join will be joining us from Kidszone.

INDIA

Dave is hoping to make return visit to some of the churches he has worked with to encourage and support the leadership development there and the strengthening of the leadership teams that are being raised up. This trip will be early next year and will involve visiting churches in Goa and in Belgaum, the main city in the north of the state of Kanataka .



MONEY UPDATE

We shared the church accounts for 2009 at the last Church News Night which were very encouraging as we exceeded our goals for giving during the year. It is encouraging that giving has sustained and indeed increased this year which enables us to restore the church planting fund and press on with the vision for the church. Last year we gave away almost 20% of our income and we continue to give to people and projects around the world. One project we are committed to see completed is the building in Lesotho that will house the church and clinic that Peter and Pamela were involved with when they were out there. We also have been able to offer Abby Tromans a half time contract for youth work with the Emerge age group which is initially on a 3 month rolling basis. She will also be looking at improving the visibility of the church and our publicity.

GIFT AID

If you give regularly by standing order it helps us with our cash flow and if you are a tax payer then completion of a gift aid form enables us to increase your gift by 28%. So for every £100 that is gift aided we receive £128. It makes good sense!



'IT WAS FOR FREEDOM THAT CHRIST HAS SET US FREE'

We have just completed week 10 of the 12 week Freedom in Christ course which is designed to help Christians to break through to a greater level of spiritual maturity. The course helps people to realise their full potential as they realise the amazing truth of their true identity in Christ. It shows them how they can be free from habitual sin, negative thoughts, fears, unforgiveness, deception, condemnation and wrong thought patterns. We have had 19 faithful attendees who have been great. Each evening we have watched the teaching DVD's together and then we have split into 2 groups for questions/discussion/prayer. On Saturday we met at our house in Ashbourne to go through the "Steps to Freedom" together. 15 of

the course members were present, only weddings, work commitments and illness keeping the others away. God was really present as we went through each step, one at a time, allowing Him to show us areas of our lives that we needed to deal with.

The feedback has been good with comments like:

"The course has been such an enlightening experience, not easy but breathtaking in its ability to move me on from my past. The future is much more exciting now."

"The course has been life changing, the away day was fantastic"

"The away day was all so natural and full of God"

"After being saved for over 19 years God can change things you did not know were a problem"

If you would like more information please speak to Paul and Angela

REGENERATE

By Tim Palmer

“ We're stepping out
In faith to see
Jesus Regenerate lives ”

We're really excited about what's happening with Regenerate this term and looking forward to the planning the next. Regenerate is a mission project where we're stepping out in faith to see Jesus Regenerate lives of unsaved and un-churched 18-30 year olds in the Matlock area. I now have the privilege of co-ordinating a vibrant team hungry to experi-

ence and carry the presence of God and to be agents of His grace. Our meetings vary in style from food, fellowship and great worship to 'open mic' nights and barbeques all rooted in Biblical truth. The message of each meeting is a preach or a theme communicating the gospel and the power of His grace and love for us. We're now building community, praying into and focussing on where the Holy Spirit wants to take us and putting Jesus in charge of our direction. We've spent this term gelling as a team, developing the aesthetics and perfecting the planning processes. We've already had numbers of over 30, with half attendees being people who've wondered in off the park! God's on the move. We're standing firm on words

from God about taking ground in and around Matlock and we would appreciate you standing with us in prayer. We want to see salvation for the lost on a Sunday night that then feeds into community groups and the wider body of the church family. **Meetings for the rest of this term are from 6:30-8:30pm and will be on 4th July at the Riverside then BBQs (weather permitting) in Hall Leys Park on 18th July, 1st & 15th August. Everyone aged 18-30 is welcome!**

SARAH IN GHANA

It's been a busy, challenging and exciting time here in Ghana over the past few months.

After months of very hot weather the rainy season has just started. Everyone is enjoying the free water and the crops, including the maize in our garden, are growing quickly. However the rain does provide a struggle for those living in poor housing and the dirt roads become difficult to travel along.

After many visits from local children knocking at our gate asking for me to come and play or to read them stories I decided to organise a more regular kids club. So, we have been meeting on a Saturday morning to play games, read bible stories and do different crafts. About 15 children have been coming and it's been lots of fun is this the start of KidZone Ghana?!

City of God Church continues to grow and we now have a cell group meeting in our house which is a good time as we gather together to worship God together in English, Twi and Ewe. I have started leading sessions of the children's work on a Sunday and continue to be involved with New Nation School.

I've also enjoyed being able to meet people from Newfrontiers churches from across West Africa and to learn and share about all that God is doing. I've been able to travel to some different

places here in Ghana, including a village called Amanokrom where a team has been going every Sunday to talk and pray with people and to invite them to an evening meeting. This weekend I'm off to Hohoe in the Volta region for a weekend of evangelism to support our church plant there.

So much has happened which is hard to write about in a few words. I'm back in the UK at the end of July for a few weeks and am looking forward to being able to share more about what has gone on and all that God has done.

Thank you all for your love, support and prayers....

TIM AND RACHEL IN RUSSIA

For the last two years we have been supporting Tim and Rachel Heath in their move to St Petersburg, Russia, to plant a Newfrontiers church. Rachel returned to have their second child and now they have been preparing to return, particularly concerned to receive visas for the next phase. Here is his latest piece of news: "Praise God, our visa's and passports arrived back yesterday (4/6/10) on schedule, without the need for that last minute test that we asked for prayer about - even though it say's its needed!! God answers prayer! This has meant that we have been able to confirm our flights and finally sort out all the other things we need to sort out - and we fly tomorrow morning!

Please pray all goes smoothly! The BA strike is not effecting our flight (another answer to prayer) and the sky's seem clear of ash!

This next year promises to be the most exciting yet - the vision has grown, the work on the ground is developing, and we are returning to a very different situation to that which we first came out to in 2008. We know there'll be new challenges as well, not least the first few weeks of settling back into life for the 4 of us, as well as the ongoing visa and finance issues which we ask you for your continued prayers. Thank you so much, God bless and we'll write next from Russia! Love, Tim, Rachel, Mia & Anya Heath xxx,"

TOGETHER ON A MISSION

We have 22 people going to Together and a Mission and Mobilise at Brighton in July. This is an international leaders conference gathering delegates from across over 50 nations who are committed to world mission through church planting in the context of apostolic ministry. It is a place to receive fresh vision especially about the wider work of Newfrontiers and to receive from God. Pray that each delegate wil have a significant encounter with God whilst there and our fellowship times together will be very up-building and fun.