

winepress... is a new magazine serving the Christian congregations in Whitfield Parish, Glossop (MMA 27).

It will be published every two months and distributed free of charge.

Please take only 1 copy per household to keep down wastage.



**REJOICE
IN THE LORD
FOR THE
LORD IS
GOOD!**

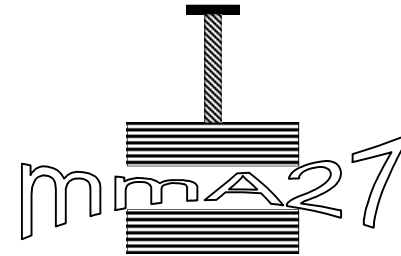
We rejoice that our local church has experienced so much growth in recent years. A multitude of dedicated groups has sprung up to cater for every aspect of Christian life, all age ranges and a whole array of interests.

With so much growth, it can be difficult to keep track of what's happening. The aim of this new-style publication is to transmit information between congregations and to keep us up to date with who's doing what, and where. Each issue will spotlight different groups, report on recent events and bring a roundup of news items.

Do you have newsworthy items from your church group or congregation for inclusion in winepress?

Submit them to winepress@glossop.org
or phone Beverley on 862105.

Winepress



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October 2007

Introducing Winepress

Welcome to the first edition of 'Winepress'. This publication is an experimental replacement for our parish magazine 'Impact' and is a response to the exciting situation we find ourselves in as a developing parish. Winepress is a response to a new need and a new way ahead for the future.

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During recent years, God has blessed us in many ways, not least with increased numbers of people attending our churches or having some kind of link with them. The leadership of our churches has considered how to encourage more growth and it has seemed right to change the way the churches are viewed and organized. This was discussed during our 'vision building' weeks at the start of September.

~

Key to this vision is viewing the parish as being made up of not two churches but of multiple congregations. Looking at our weekly round of activities, five congregations can already be discerned. It is possible that, within four years, that number could be extended to eight or even nine congregations. This would give us increased flexibility to reach more people because as far as church is concerned, one size does not fit all! It would also encourage us to be less 'territorial' in our thinking. This idea is not original to us; both the archbishops are encouraging parishes to operate 'mixed economies' in their congregations. Some of these congregations will be Fresh Expressions of church. All this fits in well with our MMA plan to plant new congregations.

~

So, why produce Winepress? If we are to move forward in this plan, there will be a key need for communication between congregations. Winepress is designed as an 'in house' newsheet to share information from around the Parish (or MMA). It will be published bi-monthly as an insert in the 'Grapevine' and the first one is in your hands now!

Beverley Woolley will edit Winepress
but needs input from YOU!



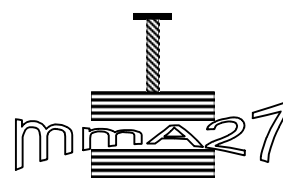
News items and articles of genuine interest will be required on a regular basis to make the publication interesting and stimulating. If you'd like to report on any event which your interest group has staged; let people know of new developments in the parish, or to share with others what it means to you to be a member of our church, please let us know. We want the magazine to reflect the fact that Whitfield Parish is a vibrant and exciting place to be.

What's in a Name?

A name can say a lot, so we wanted one for our publication which would convey the correct message ...

Vines were grown all around Palestine in biblical times and would have been a familiar sight. They are mentioned throughout scripture, often in a symbolic sense. Jesus even described himself as the true vine, to whom all believers are connected, and through whom they produce fruit for the kingdom.

Our parish has a tradition of using this symbolism. We named our church hall 'The Vineyard' as a place where God's people could meet and grow. And our weekly notice sheet which announces all the work being done in his name is aptly called 'The Grapevine'.



What happens to the fruit of the vine once it is produced? It is put through a wine press, of course, where its goodness is extracted.

So the Winepress takes over where the Grapevine leaves off!

Fresh Expressions of Church (FX)

It has been estimated that sixty per cent of Britain's population is now unreachable by the conventional church. I don't know whether this statistic is correct, but I am sure that conventional church is not reaching many ordinary people in this country.

When I say 'conventional', I don't mean 'traditional'. Conventional church includes modern, lively, charismatic and evangelical congregations. Yet in recent years, as British society moves further from Christian ideas, even the modern church is incomprehensible and inaccessible to many people.

FX is not a criticism of the conventional church, which is already meeting the needs of many people. But if we share God's loving heart for others, we will want to find ways of reaching them and helping them to discover a relationship with Him.



FX seeks to plant congregations in places where people are, and in ways with which people feel comfortable. For example, many people are happy to go to the pub but would give going to a church building a very wide berth. So why not meet as a church in a pub? Providing those things that make up genuine church are part of the meeting, this would be FX in a pub!

Some FX are 'need-based'. For instance, there are parents who want to worship with their children rather than splitting up the family each Sunday. Enter 'Contact,' an FX meeting on Sunday mornings at 9.30am in the Vineyard, where parents and chil-

dren can come to learn about and praise God together in child-friendly ways. Or, how about a midweek congregation of some kind for those who genuinely can't gather on a Sunday?

There is much excitement about FX these days. I believe there is a 'God thing' going on here and we need to join in!

COLIN COOPER

MM What??

A new piece of jargon is being used in this magazine: MMA. It even features as part of the Winepress logo. What on earth does this mean?



An MMA is a Mission and Ministry Area. It is part of a reorganization of Derby Diocese in response to the shortage of ordained people to lead churches. The idea is to recognize areas where mission and ministry could perhaps be shared, even between a number of parishes. When Whitfield Parish was asked to respond to this, we made a case that with two churches in one parish covering the centre of Glossop, we were in fact a ready-made MMA. This was accepted and so Whitfield Parish is now MMA 27 (though we can carry on using the name Whitfield Parish).

There are some important advantages in being an MMA in that it encourages us to keep thinking about how we can best do our mission and ministry. The MMA mindset, at its best, encourages thinking 'outside the box'. Our plans for Fresh Expressions of church are very much within the spirit of MMAs.

Lunch Clubs Enjoying Outreach

TOGA is a group of over-50s who meet in the Vineyard on the first Wednesday of each month to enjoy a bring and share lunch and hear a short talk from a visiting speaker. One of these was Janet Muhindo, an ordained minister with an interest in education and children, working in Uganda. Our church has had missionary links with the country for some years and several individuals in the Glossop area are working to strengthen these links and support Janet.

TOGA made a commitment to help Janet in her work. We now make a collection at each meeting and are able to give around £40-50 each month to support her. Our total contribution to date for this ministry is about £1,400.



Our regular attendance is now reaching up to 50 individuals and the TOGA leadership team look forward to new and younger people considering joining them in the near future.

DOROTHY GRANDIDGE

An alternative lunch club has now been set up on the third Wednesday of each month with a slightly different format. Members pay £2.50 and are treated to a ready-prepared two-course meal. Our excellent cooks tickle our taste buds with a variety of menus and we share good food, good service and good company.

The money we contribute goes to help support Ben and Amy's work with the EDEN youth project in Old Trafford, where they witness to young people about Jesus. We can all play our part with them in this way. Please come and join with us.



EILEEN WOOD

Contact

The 'Contact' service came into existence just over twelve months ago. The congregation of St James moved into the Vineyard whilst refurbishment of the church was in progress, but space was limited. 'Contact' was therefore created as an earlier service for families with young children, to ease the pressure of numbers in the building for the later service. Though it was only intended to be a temporary solution to a problem, we praise God that He had greater ideas.



The setting was immediately attractive - even grandparents and teens came along with the youngsters. Then new families, previously not churchgoers, began to arrive. Some came as a response to a desire to have their children baptized and others came because friends had told them about the service. All had a desire to enjoy worshipping God in a way that allows more freedom and creativity than in the later services.

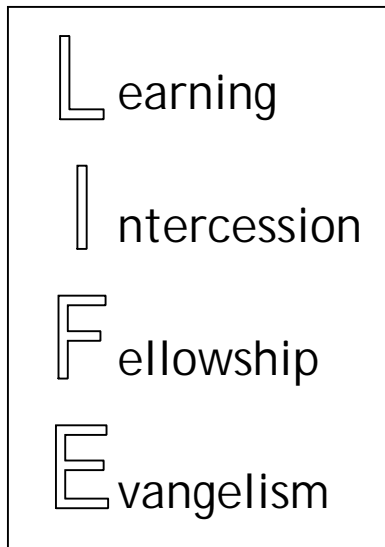
So what happens in a Contact service? We start with a drink and biscuits or, when we are feeling more adventurous, a bacon butty. Then worship begins, usually with music during which adults and children are free to sing, dance or sit - however they feel comfortable. Craft activities play a large part in our time together; we make or create something that reminds us of the morning's theme. We enjoy teaching, Bible reading and prayer, all in a way which is stimulating and life-enhancing, bringing us into a greater awareness of Jesus - who He is and what it means to know Him.

The service only lasts about an hour. Why not come along and experience it yourself? You will be made very welcome.

JAN WILSON

LIFE Groups

When a congregation is larger than around 30 people, it is difficult to express or experience biblical Christian community in the weekly church service alone. Christian community (which God created us for!) is about doing life together, in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit and with the Bible as the rule for our lives. So small groups, LIFE groups in Whitfield Parish, are essential if people are to be plugged into real community.



A typical LIFE group meeting consists of Bible study, prayer, fellowship (encouraging each other in the Christian walk) and looking outward to the wider mission of Christ's church. LIFE groups meet weekly at a range of venues and times through the week.

If you are interested in joining a LIFE group then have a word with Terry or Colin. If you are new to Christian things or feel that you need to investigate the basics afresh, a LIFE group may not be appropriate for you at this stage...

but there are other groups and courses available. The youth in the parish have their own track of cell groups... have a word with Kizzy, our youthwork coordinator, about those.

LIFE groups... where truth meets life!

TERRY CLARK
LIFE groups coordinator (860412)

Encounter

Our parish hosts an array of different groups for children and youth, catering for all ages and many different interests, from football and drama to Bible study. Winepress aims to feature a different one of these groups and its activities in each edition.

Encounter is a group for young people, primarily in school years 9-12. We meet in St Luke's Church at the beginning of the Sunday morning service (usually 10am) and then go over the road to the Millennium Cellar for our activities.

The aim of the group is to explore the Christian faith through games, Bible study and multimedia presentations. As leaders, we wanted the young people to engage with the Bible and start to read it on a regular basis. To this end, we worked through all four gospels last school year, reading a portion at home each week and then studying it during our time together. We try to keep the sessions quite informal so that members feel able to discuss issues freely and ask any questions they may have.

Following on from questions which arose last term, we have just started a series of sessions studying apologetics; looking at the scientific evidence for creation and the existence of God. We then investigate what the Bible has to say on this subject and why our faith is reasonable. To aid us, we are using books and videos by Lee Strobel, a well-known American Christian writer and evangelist. He has co-authored special youth editions of his books, which we recommend to the young people of the parish. At present we are working through 'The Case for a Creator'.

The group is quite small - between six to ten young people attend each week - so we have had the opportunity to get to know each other really well, creating a cosy, friendly environment.

BEVERLEY AND PAUL WOOLLEY



Notice Board

BAPTISMS

@ St James'

22nd Apr Luke Alexander
Parkin

15th Jul Thomas Simpson

5th Aug Stanley James
Crowton-Anderson



@ St Luke's

23rd Sep Emily Diana
Brockington

Thomas James
Nigel Dunkerley

Samuel Joseph
Gattenby

WEDDINGS

@ St James'

30th Jun Lee Antony Rodgers &
Lucy Ellen Farragher

30th Jun David John Vickers &
Maria Cassidy

@ St Luke's

13th Jul Pietro Allen &
Sarah Marie Kay

21st Jul Matthew Newman &
Clare Edwards

WEDDING BLESSINGS

@ St James'

14th July Tom and Galina
Ellison

@ St Luke's

16th Sep Mark and Sonya
Leighton

FUNERALS

@ St James'

13th Feb Robert Bradley

13th Feb Marjorie Allsopp

22nd Mar Norman Wilkinson

8th May Robert Lees

2nd Jun Irene Vera Cooper

7th Jun Gordon Crossland

11th Jun Jessie Bowers

20th Jun Margaret Aspden

22nd Jun Ruby Price

22nd Jun Marjorie Hampson

23rd Jul Mary Hambleton

23rd Jul Irene Beatrice
Greenhalgh

10th Aug David Hibbert

@ St Luke's

1st Apr Robert Brown

13th Apr Richard Humphrey

1st Jun Doreen Ainsworth

14th Jun Leslie Salthouse



@ The Crematorium

14th Aug Hilda Richardson