

*Praise be to the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ!*

*In his great mercy
he has given us new birth
into a living hope
through the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead,*

I PETER 1:3

EASTER 2019

GOOD news

MAGAZINE
HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

WELCOME

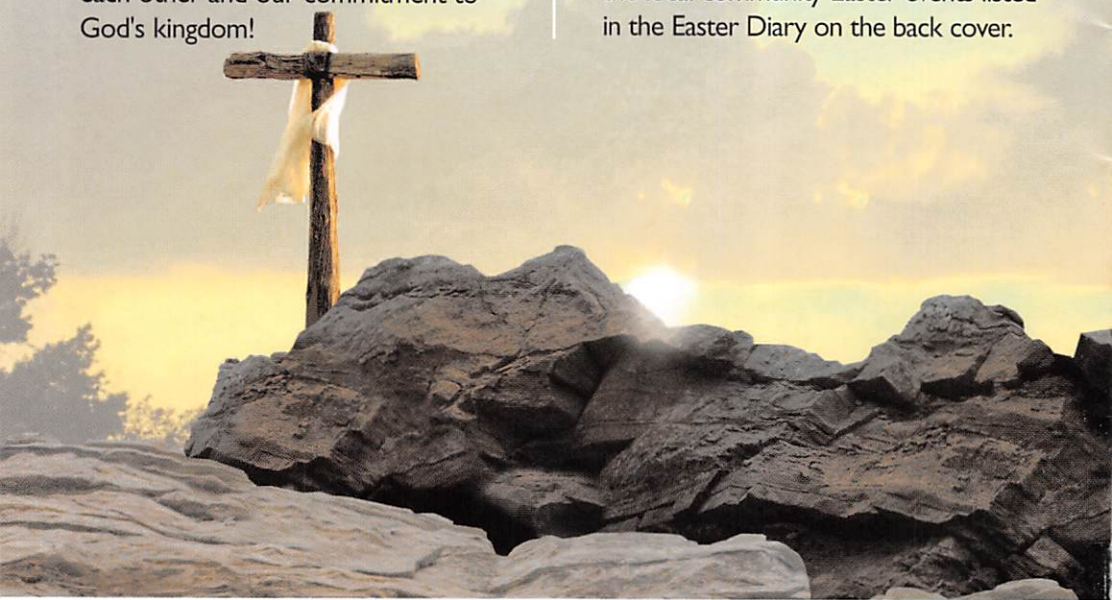
Welcome to **Hope Community Church** and our Easter **Good News** magazine.

We hope that our magazine will help to unravel the surprising joy of Easter and that you will discover the hope, thrill and promise of Jesus: who lived and died, but rose and lives again!

We are a group of ordinary people from very diverse backgrounds, with some things in common: our respect for Jesus Christ, our love and care for each other and our commitment to God's kingdom!

In this edition of the **Good News** magazine, you will find personal stories of hope in difficult circumstances, Bible verses expressing God's heart to restore hope to people, lyrics of songs that describe the foundations for true hope as well a little about activities taking place in Hope Christian Centre (by the traffic lights in Mottram) and within the community that we trust play a part in offering hope to the hopeless.

We also invite you to join us at any of the local community Easter events listed in the Easter Diary on the back cover.



hope PURSUING HONOUR FOR CHRIST
HEALTH FOR HIS CHURCH AND
HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITY
community church

HOPE FOR THE HOPELESS

As we chat with people living in our neighbourhoods, we are deeply grieved by how many are living lives of quiet desperation: who speak of existing without hope for a brighter future.

In their book **Hope in the Age of Anxiety**, psychology professors Anthony Sciolli and Henry Biller identify nine types of hopelessness plaguing far too many people in the West.

Do you, or does anybody you know, identify with any of these feelings?

ALIENATION

People who are closed off to others because they believe they are no longer worthy of love.

FORSAKENNESS

People who feel abandoned by family, friends and even God, in their time of greatest need.

UNINSPIRED

People, especially from underprivileged minorities, who feel undervalued, lack opportunities for growth and have no positive role

POWERLESSNESS

People who feel that they have lost the ability to determine the course of their own lives and cannot fulfil any sense of purpose.

OPPRESSION

People who feel down-trodden under the suppression of the more powerful, richer and more influential ruling elite.

LIMITEDNESS

People who feel that they lack the capabilities to make it in the world because they are disadvantaged by poverty, disability or illness.

DOOM

People who feel their life is over, weighed down and worn out by old age, failing health and mental despair.

CAPTIVITY

People who are trapped in abusive relationships, addictive and controlling behaviour patterns, toxic and harmful emotions and the like.

HELPLESSNESS

People who feel exposed, vulnerable and unsafe in the world because they have experienced terrible trauma or persistently high levels of stress.

Challenged by the need to respond with practical compassion to our suffering neighbours, Mottram Evangelical Church made the decision earlier in 2019 to change its name to reflect our deep conviction and personal experience: **that it is possible to have hope restored!**

We have discovered a vibrant, life-giving certainty of future glory that empowers, encourages and enables us to endure present suffering and trials with joy!

What have we learned about the source of hope? **In a word: "JESUS".**

Jesus, in his death and resurrection to new life. In the promise of his imminent return to establish his everlasting kingdom of joy, peace and justice. **Our hope is rooted in Jesus Christ alone.**

And so, we have changed our name to Hope Community Church. This name reflects our desire to live together as a warm-centred community infused with vibrant hope, reflecting our desire to offer living hope to those whose lives feel dark and desperate.

May God shine light into your darkness and fill your heart with hope as you read about what Jesus Christ has done for us!

Martyn Cooling: *Leader and Full-Time Elder | Hope Community Church*

A STORY OF HOPE

Several years ago, my life changed dramatically as I was diagnosed with a chronic illness that left me housebound and in a wheelchair. I went from being sporty and strong to very weak, dependent on others, and in constant pain. It was incredibly hard to lose everything I could do, and often felt like I'd lost myself.



I wrestled with the questions of "Where is God in suffering?" "Who am I when all that I am is taken away?" "Where, in all this loss, is hope?"

As I brought these to God, and worked through the pain and loss, He started to give me **hope**. This was not a kind of wishing things would get better, or trying to think positively, or some kind of false assurance that it would all work out nicely. He gave me **hope** that in all things, including my suffering, He would work for my good.

He gave **hope** that in my weakness, and with all my many limitations, He would not be limited. Even as every day felt like a struggle just to survive, He showed me how to fully live every day I have. And He gave me **hope** of eternity.

This is my favourite promise of God "**no more tears**". For those who believe in Jesus, and say He is Lord of their life, there is a promise of perfect joy forever. For those who do not, after death there is only torment.

But for me, my confident, certain **hope** is this: There will be a day when, for those who belong to Jesus, there are no more tears, no more pain, no more sickness, no more loneliness, no more rejection, no more broken families, no more sin, no more failure, no more hopelessness. I will live in perfect joy with Jesus forever. Every day I spend on earth is preparing me for that.

This is worth living for!

Hephzibah



"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." ... "For in this hope we were saved..."

Romans | Chapter 8 | Verses 18/24a



MONDAY & WEDNESDAY



Pilates/Keep Fit

For further information, contact Susan on 07497 632283.

10 am on Monday
1.30 pm on Wednesday
Qualified instructor led.
Cost per hourly session £6.
Loyalty discounts for block bookings are available.



Monday Matinee

2 till 4 pm on Monday
An afternoon of fun and entertainment in which older people within the local community have the opportunity to meet up. A wide range of activities are planned including music and singing, quizzes, local history, personal stories, chairbics, interactions with local schools and much more. *For further information call Debs on 07446 893445.*

TUESDAY



Community Café

Open every Tuesday during school term times between 11.45 am and 12.45 pm. Simple meals are prepared and served in a environment that is warm friendly on a donation basis - just pay what you can! Staffed by cheerful volunteers from the church and any "profits" made are used to alleviate poverty and injustice around the world.

THURSDAY



The Meeting Place

Open between 9.30 and 11.30 am during school term time. A time and place for people across the whole spectrum of the local community to meet together: From parents with babies and toddlers ... all the way through to some of the older members of the community, the Meeting Place provides a safe space and a warm welcome to all who want to gather for a chat, have a "posh" coffee and fruit toast or to meet up with others from within the local community.



Kid's Club

From 6 to 8 pm Kids Club (K4C) is a lively, fun-packed weekly event (during school term time) for children aged 8 to 11. A fun-filled mix of carefree games, competitions, quizzes and outings (e.g. swimming baths) ... all overseen by a team of young-at-heart, enthusiastic, safe and experienced DBS-checked leaders. *For further information email Jim on jim@towells.info.*

SATURDAY & MONDAY



Mottram Movies

The third weekend of each month! Saturday 10.30 am it's a family blockbuster ... and on Monday afternoon it's a great old-time movie from yesteryear. Showings are free ... with a popcorn machine, an intermission for drinks and affordably priced snacks! *For the films on show, check the posters in the foyer of HCC, sign up for a monthly email or call Debs on 07446 893445.*

Hope Christian Centre is on:
Stalybridge Road, Mottram SK14 6NF
Telephone 01457 764113
Email administrator@mottramec.co.uk



In 2017, we became increasingly aware of the scale of loneliness in Tameside through the police connection with Silver Cord. The pain of isolation can be extremely heightened on Christmas Day so it was decided that in 2018 we would offer a warm welcome and dinner to those who would otherwise be alone then.

On the day we seated 65 (mostly guests from in and around Tameside and Glossop) and enjoyed an excellent dinner followed by some very fine entertainment. The children gave gift bags to all who came and we closed with the Queen's speech.

Volunteers from HCC sat at each table, helping to keep the words flowing and adding to the family-feel of the afternoon.

Before leaving, one guest said: *'That was my first Christmas Day dinner in ten years - it made me feel human again'*.

Another added that they hadn't celebrated Christmas properly before and another *'it made me want to go back to church'*.

We are already taking bookings for 2019!

SILVER SUNDAYS

Once a month, on a Sunday afternoon, members from Hope Community Church and Mottram Parish Church take traditional Sunday worship into the local care homes.



BEFRIENDING SERVICE

Local churches are working in partnership to positively address the impact of loneliness in our communities.

WE ARE OFFERING

- > A FREE service for those who live alone, have minimal contact with family, friends or as extra support for full time carers
- > A one hour visit per week from one of our carefully recruited and DBS checked befrienders
- > Data protection and confidentiality of personal details

For more information call

07446 893445

Or email: admin@silvercord.co.uk

DON'T DELAY I START A FRIENDSHIP TODAY

*Cherish the person
change the community*

image

PREGNANCY HELPLINE

0333 772 0237

text: 07860 017037

email: kate@pregnancyhelpline.co.uk

website: pregnancyhelpline.co.uk

Free confidential counselling, tests, help after abortion, acceptance and support. We don't refer for termination



Established in 2002 by the local church to share hope with our local young people and their families, we deliver a diverse range of activities designed to enable local young people to achieve their full God-given potential.

We run various youth and kids clubs, provide adventure activities, work in schools locally and support young people by building long term mentoring relationships. We are in regular contact with over 200 young people each month.

One of our regular groups, **Rock Solid**, runs every Tuesday in term time and gives young people a chance to grow through exploring Christianity. Sessions involve exploring life issues through the Bible as well as a range of activities designed to build community and have fun including cooking, art, crafts, games, team challenges and trips out to Total Adrenaline and Nerf Wars. Running for over 7 years **Rock Solid** has often been the place we've really got to know our young people well and where long term mentoring relationships have begun, enabling us to support them into adulthood.



Rock Solid is for those in school years 4-9 and runs from 4.30pm-6pm at Meeting Point in Hattersley.

If you would like to get involved or just find out more please give me a call: Simon Davidson on 07770 427313 or check out our website and Facebook page at www.lifecentre-hattersley.org.uk and facebook.com/lifecentrehattersley

We also hold **LifeCentre Drop-In Activities** at The Hub in Hattersley on Wednesdays (in term time):

CREATIVE ART & CRAFT SESSIONS
6.30 to 7.30pm | FREE
For school years 4-7

LIFECENTRE YOUTH CLUB
7.30 to 9pm | FREE
For high school age young people

“FOR I KNOW
THE **PLANS**
I HAVE FOR YOU”
SAYS THE LORD.

“**PLANS** TO
PROSPER YOU
AND NOT
HARM YOU
PLANS TO GIVE
YOU **HOPE**
AND
FUTURE”



“Three years ago my life was good, I had a nice husband, two lovely kids and a great job. Then my husband left and my whole world fell apart ... I never thought something like this would happen to me. It happens to other people and on the tv but not to me.

The pain and the sadness was overwhelming, life seemed so dark. I couldn't see how I could ever be ok again, yet I knew that if I put my trust in God he would get me through this.

So I clung to God and I clung to the promises in the Bible. Even though life was incredibly hard and even though I couldn't see a light at the end of the tunnel, I knew that there was one ... because I knew that God would carry me through this time and he did!

I am so thankful to God for everything he has done for me in the last three years. Because of what happened to me I have become stronger in my faith and stronger as a person. I have met so many amazing people and had so many opportunities that I would not have had.

God has done the impossible, He put my broken pieces back together and made me happy again”.

Lizzie

“In 2008, my relatively comfortable life was thrown into turmoil through a bewildering sequence of events that severely shook my friendships.

For two years, I experienced hostility, rejection, misunderstanding and the questioning of my motives by people I love deeply. . None of it made sense.

God seemed to be silent.

But, supported by my wife Susan, I clung on to Jesus by faith and we continued to worship him together through many tears.

With the benefit of hindsight, I know God never abandoned me.

He was humbling me, so that I would lean on him more. He was refining my character, so that I would become a little more like Christ. He was breaking me to be more useful as a believer.

God established in my heart a stronger hope and hunger for the promised glory that is yet to come!

Martyn

“My real dad left my mum when I was around seven. I never saw him again, ever. No birthday cards. No “well done son”. I coped. I got on with it. But always there was something missing. Getting to know my new and loving heavenly father is another story ...

... but when your hope is in God he replaces the disappointments with confidence, the let-downs with encouragements and the pain with love.”

Bryan

*(Lord where do I put my hope?
My only hope is in you | Psalm 39:7)*

HOPE ACROSS THE GLOBE



TANZANIA TRUST (UK)

Our shared friendship with Christians in Dodoma, Tanzania began in 1990 and in 2010 the Trust was created. We now consider ourselves 'family'. Healthcare in Tanzania is dire. There is only one doctor per 50000 of population, the lowest rate in Africa. This compares to 1 per 440 of population in the UK. A simple medicine may cost as much as a month's food supply. There is no such thing as free medical care.

Regular, annual medical trips have resulted in the Trust being able to provide basic health care training to 30 plus volunteers with the building and resourcing of a Health Centre in the suburbs of Dodoma which has been operating now for almost twelve months.



Just under 12,000 shoeboxes put just under 12,000 smiles on the faces of children in the Ukraine thanks to the efforts

of the local churches, the volunteers at the Droylsden Collection Centre and, of course, ***all of you who packed one!***

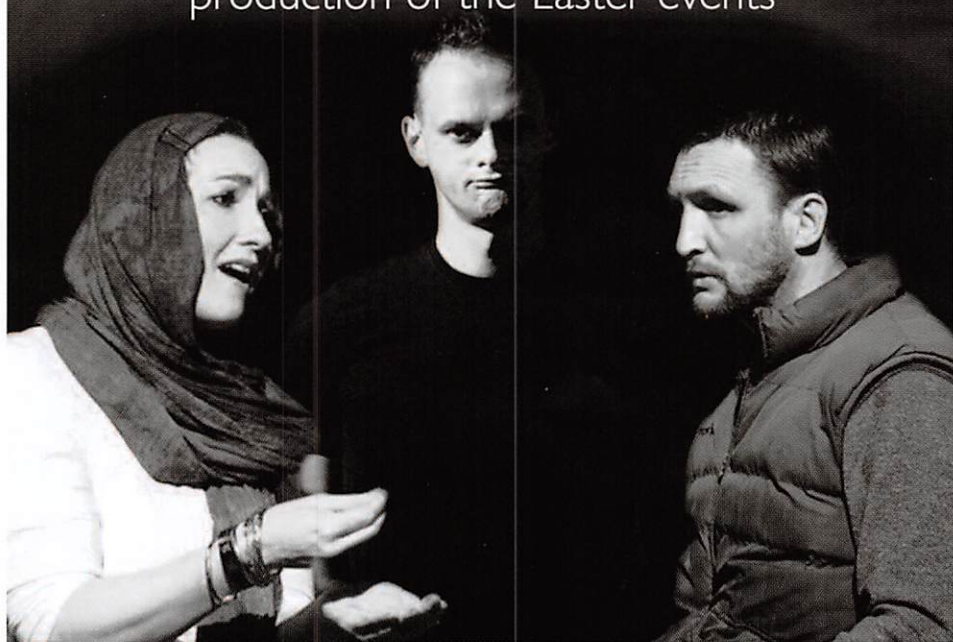
THE HOPE OF EASTER

LAMPS

presents

THE PASSION

A moving and memorable musical theatre
production of the Easter events



Thursday 18th April (7pm)
The Magdalene Centre

Mottram Road, Broadbottom, Hyde SK14 6BB

Ticket only (free) from:

Liz: 07920 145654 (liz@mottramec.co.uk) or
Steve 07718 142599(steve@mottramec.co.uk)

EASTER DATES

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Good Friday 19th April

Service of Contemplation
Hope Christian Centre ■ 10.30am

Easter Sunday 21st April

Easter Sunday Celebration
Arundale Primary School ■ 10.30am

(Please note: On Sunday mornings we meet at 10.30 in Arundale Primary School, off John Kennedy Road, Mottram SK14 6PW)

HATTERSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

MELANDRA CRESCENT, HATTERSLEY

Good Friday 19th April

Worship at the Cross ■ 10.30am

Easter Sunday 21st April

Worship the Risen Lord ■ 10.30am

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

WAR HILL, MOTTRAM

Maundy Thursday 18th April

Service of Communion ■ 7.30pm

Good Friday 19th April

All Together Worship ■ 10.30am

Easter Sunday 21st April

Holy Communion for Easter Day
8.30am and 10.30am

THE MAGDALENE CENTRE

MOTTRAM ROAD, BROADBOTTOM SK14 6BB

Thursday 18th April ■ 7pm

THE PASSION

A moving and memorable
musical theatre production of
the Easter events
(FOR TICKETS SEE PAGE 11)

HYDE MARKET SQUARE

Good Friday 19th April ■ 2pm

Easter Outreach

IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied –
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine –
Bought with the precious blood
of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

STUART TOWNEND & KEITH GETTY ©
COPYRIGHT © 2001 THANKYOU MUSIC