





We seek to be evangelical in our understanding and charismatic in our experience.

**Pursuing Honour for Christ, Health for His Church, Hope for Our Community**

**Insight** is the monthly newsletter, prepared by Margaret and Stephen Winfield and published in print and on-line by Hope Community Church, Hope Christian Centre, Stalybridge Road, Mottram, Hyde, Cheshire. SK14 6NF. Tel. 01457 764113.

**Articles** for inclusion should be submitted **before** the deadline indicated on the 'diary dates' page. Contributions should be sent to 4, Hall Drive, Mottram, or by e-mail to [stephen\\_winfield@btopenworld.com](mailto:stephen_winfield@btopenworld.com)

We do ask that contributors submit their name for inclusion with submissions, as personal contributions are accepted on the understanding that they are not necessarily the opinions of the Editors or the Church Leaders.

**Church Child Protection Policy**  
All church children's and young people's work is carried out by personnel who have undergone disclosures and in accordance with the Church's Child Protection Policy. To view this policy please call 01457 764113.'

Cover photo | The HCC Christmas Lunch | Debs

**Martyn Cooling**

**Leader, Hope Community Church**

## Foundations of Lively Hope

**As we continue to review the unchanging values of Hope Community Church, we come this month to our declared intention to be a *Word & Spirit* church.**

**Word & Spirit** is a commonly-used phrase in the Christian community these days, so it is important to be clear about what we mean by this phrase. We shall consider **Word** this month, and **Spirit** in March's Insight.

By **Word**, we are signalling our firm conviction that the Bible is the revelation of God, every word inspired without error in the original writings which are the Old (39 books) and New (27 books) Testaments. We affirm that the Bible alone has final authority for Christian faith and life. In this sense, we are "evangelical" in the original sense of that word.

**But we intend to say more than this by saying we are a *Word* church.**

We are also indicating that we are "reformed" in our understanding of Scripture. By this we mean that we hold to a very high view of the sovereignty of God over everything, in both the seen and the unseen realities. We affirm that nothing happens in heaven, on earth or in our lives that God has not permitted and that he will not use for his glory and for the ultimate good of those who have faith in him.

By saying we are a **Word** church, we are stating that God alone is the author and perfecter of our faith. We affirm our confident trust in him alone as our mighty Saviour: in Christ alone, by grace alone, though faith alone, in God's Word alone and for God's glory alone.

By asserting this **Word** foundation, we are also signifying our commitment to really knowing God, deeply, intimately, through his self-revelation in the Scriptures. To this end we are committed to teaching the full counsel of God, in season and out of season, and through faithful exposition to uncover what the Bible actually says about

God and his ways, not just what we want it to say!

By describing ourselves as a **Word** church, we are also communicating our devotion to learning, defending and applying the apostles' teaching. We do this, not out of mere academic interest, but also to experience the supernatural power of the gospel transforming our lives, our community, our culture and our world so that God's kingdom comes and the whole earth is filled with his glory!

By calling ourselves a **Word** church, we accept that we will experience conflict with the secular world-view that prevails in our nation. We know that as our minds are renewed, the new life at work in us will stir up conflict with the old nature. As we face both external and internal pressure because of the **Word**, we know we will face misunderstanding, opposition and even suffering.

**But we will hold fast to God's Word, because he who inspired it is utterly faithful and all his promises are true.**

**May God bless you richly as you read, pray and obey!**

*Martyn*



Enjoying  
God

Gospel  
Centred

Word &  
Spirit

**JESUS CHRIST**  
resurrected from the dead

# Hope Community Church Matters

## hope week of prayer & fasting

26 JAN – 1 FEB 2020

The elders are calling the church to a week of prayer and fasting as we consider together what the Lord might wish to say to us about our next steps together in ministry and mission as a church community.



Please note the following opportunities in **January** to gather with others to pray about various situations relating to our ministry and mission as a church. It would be great if you could join us for one or two of these prayer times, as we seek to encourage each other in these days of both challenge and opportunity!

Sun	26th Jan	7.00-8.00 pm	Setting the Scene: The Goal & The Gap
Mon	27th Jan	8.00-9.00 pm	Prayer 4 Revival
Tue	28th Jan	6.30-8.00 am	Prayer 4 HCC
		8.00-9.00 pm	Prayer 4 Missions
Wed	29th Jan	11.00am-12 noon	Prayer 4 Ministry & Mission
		8.00-9.30 pm	Prayer 4 Community
Thu	30th Jan	8.00-9.00 pm	Prayer 4 Persecuted Church )
Fri	31st Jan	7.00-9.00 pm	Prayer 4 Kids/Youth
		9.00-11.00 pm	Prayer 4 Rulers/Government



### Out of Office

Just a quick note to advise that Susan and I plan to have a week's "staycation" from 17-24<sup>th</sup> February to rest and to get some much-needed work done on our house.

If you happen to see us loitering around McDonalds in the mornings, please don't feel you have to avoid us!

**Martyn**

## The Life in the Spirit Conference: Local & Global 24th to 27th February Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire

kineticnetwork

Never have we lived with such uncertainty. Never has the Church had such an opportunity. Join with us to be challenged and encouraged as we share a God given vision to see the transformation of individuals, churches, society and nations through the Spirit and the Word.

Speakers include Joseph D'Souza and David Devenish.

For further information and to book your place navigate to <https://www.kineticnetwork.org/book-2020-conference>.



**Please make a note of the following dates and the opportunity for some fun and fellowship together!**

Day, Date & Time	Event
Sunday Feb 23 @ 12 noon	Church family lunch after All-Together Worship
Saturday Mar 28 @ TBC	Hope Pizza Fest!
Thursday Apr 9 @ 2-5 pm	Maundy Thursday Services at Balmoral, Lowry Court and William Ford
Friday Apr 10 @ 10.30 am	Good Friday: Service of Contemplation
Sunday Apr 26 @ 12 noon	Church family lunch after All-Together Worship
??? Jun 2020 @ ???	Cloverley at Home Fellowship Day
<b>May 7-9 2021</b>	Church Weekend Away at Cloverley Hall, Shropshire



# Christmas Day Lunch



For the second year running we hosted a Christmas Day Lunch at HCC for those who would have otherwise spent the day alone. Again we had about 40 guests and 20 volunteers.

Instead of plating the dinners up, this year each table had a platter which the table host (a church volunteer) helped to serve... it definitely had a 'round the family dinner table' vibe to it! Before the Queen's speech we had some first class entertainment from the Martin family and Austin, as well as a sing-a-long of carols, a quiz and a moving poem from one of the visitors (See opposite).

Each guest left with a gift bag of goodies and an optional Gideon's Bible, thanks to Jonathon and Alison! It was an



afternoon brimming with joy.

The comments speak for themselves but I just want to say again a huge thank you to every one who contributed to the day... preparing gift bags, driving, cooking, serving, hosting, singing, decorating and packing away. It's a big job that was made light by the many willing hands and the generous donations.

We had funding from the Jigsaw Foundation, a very competitive price from Mimi's catering, vouchers from Morrisons and Tesco and cash donations from friends at church and the Matinee. Praise God for His provision!

Here's what the guests had to say:

*'It stopped me having a sad and lonely day'  
'It means I don't spend the day on my own which is great.  
Thank you to everyone'*

*'A beautiful gesture from all the people that give up their time to give lonely people a lovely Christmas treat. Thank you everyone'*

*'The hymns and songs were thoroughly enjoyable'  
'Thanks for a lovely meal, company and entertainment. This is true Christianity!'*

*'Warm and friendly atmosphere... well worth coming'  
'The best day of 2019, hope there are many years to come!'*

**Please pray for our guests.** Many went back to homes alone with no relatives or friends that are still alive or living in the locality. Someone recently was describing the deafening sound of silence that forces them to keep a TV on day and night so that the loneliness doesn't feel quite so acute.

**Pray that those who took a Gideon's Bible** will find hope and life through it. Pray for us as we consider any appropriate follow up before next Christmas.

**And please pray for yourself** -if you are stirred by reading this, maybe He is calling you to be part of His answer. We are always in need of those who can spare an hour a week to do face-to-face or telephone befriending with Silver Cord.

**Please speak to Debs for more info (07446 893 445).**

# Carols round the Village and Silver Sunday

Each year we do the tour of Mottram at Christmas time with a short carol service in the lounges of the care and residential homes.

This year felt extra special...

Perhaps having the Martins along to sing and play? Perhaps more mince in the mince pies? Or perhaps the spiritual temperature is changing? As lovely as all the above are, I think there's something to be said of the last one. There is a new freedom within the lounges to declare the gospel of good news, with listeners who are more than attentive.

We have been visiting Balmoral Care Home for the past three years each month with a short traditional service (Silver Sunday) in partnership with Mottram Parish, and we recognise the reception is getting warmer with each visit.

And now.. at the start of 2020 we are delighted to announce that **Silver Sundays are extending to Lowry Court residential home.**

This means that every second Sunday we will be at Balmoral at 3pm, followed by Lowry Court at 4pm.

A half hour service is followed by a time of chat and biscuits with the residents. We consider it a great privilege and great fun. Do come along and join in if you can - and your prayers are, as always, essential and appreciated.

Debs



## A Friend Indeed

Death came along, took away half of my life.  
the night God accepted My Darling Wife.  
I thought I had reached the bitter end.  
But no, it was then I met my friend.

For the love from Jesus saw me right.  
He helped me with my hardest fight.  
Against the loneliness I had to bear.  
I found that he was forever there.

He led me to others with problems the same.  
We meet together now in His name.  
For we all have troubles which we share.  
And as close friends we do still care.

So if you are lonely and feeling blue.  
Jesus, your friend will see you through.  
He is always there, with all His love.  
Sent to us from His Father above.

Ask if you need Him. He will not let you down.  
Our Saviour who wore the thorns as a crown.  
I found, that through Him life does not end.  
And I thank God I have got Him as my best friend.

(a poem written and read by Bernard, a guest at the Christmas Day Lunch)

## Matinee All-Age Christmas

Towards the end of last year, Matt Britton had been working with our Matinee friends and the local primary schools to capture memories from WWII and educate the children through engaging them in performance.

In December, with some of the funding he'd received, we were treated to a Christmas meal with 15 children from Broadbottom Primary School. The children performed a short play they had prepared which was very moving and then we had a bit of tomfoolery with some Christmas games!

It was lots of fun and we are really thankful to Matt for his time, hard work and enthusiasm to honour the history of this country through the memories shared with him from the Matinee guests.

We are continuing the primary school links at the Matinee this year with monthly visits from Mottram Primary. For some of our guests, it's become the highlight of the month!

Debs



### Living Words Words for Living

Jesus name above all names  
Beautiful Saviour, Glorious Lord  
Emmanuel, God is with us  
Blessed Redeemer, Living Lord

And

To keep your lovely face  
Ever before my eyes  
This is my prayer  
Make it my strong desire  
That in my secret heart  
No other love competes  
No rival throne survives  
And I will serve only you

Thinking of dear  
Gwen Taylor's  
contributions of  
scripture verse to  
Insight, I felt  
prompted to share  
these words from  
two songs that  
ministered to me  
over the holiday  
period recently.

May they Bless and Encourage you also.

The first spoke to me of adoration.

The second of supplication.

Keeping Him Holy –Keeping Us Humble

Marie Partridge



## Youth- What's on in Feb? (well mostly!) for secondary school age+

### Youth led prayer slot

Fri 31st Jan (!): 7-9pm

@ Hope Christian Centre, Mottram

Join us for 1 hour or stay for both. Helen, Sam and hopefully some of you, will be leading creative prayer ideas to help us connect with our Almighty Father God. We'll bring our requests before him for our families, church, community and world.

Let's get excited about praying!  
(and I know it's not technically in Feb- but nearly!)

### Dig In

Fri 7th Feb : 7.30pm-9.30pm

@Sam's , 33, Stalybridge Rd

Food, fun and a youth bible study!

### Youth Awards Night: The LIFTA's

Fri 14th Feb : 6.30pm-9pm

@ Hope Christian Centre, Mottram

Church Youth and Lifecentre Groups (Adventure club, Rock Solid, Transition, Creative) are all invited to our Youth Awards Night. (better than the BAFTA's)

- ⇒ 6 AWARDS- with winners and runners up.
- ⇒ GREAT FOOD- with starters, posh burgers and a make your own dessert.
- ⇒ FUN – there'll be a quiz, crazy challenges and games !
- ⇒ 'OPEN THE CAGE'-SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE and testimony

It's going to be soooooo good. Free entry but book ahead as you need a ticket!

Sam





## Regular Weekly Events/Activities

Day	Time	Activity	Venue
	10 <sup>10</sup> -10 <sup>20</sup>	Prayer 4 Church	APS
		Morning Worship Gathering (MC)	
Sun	10 <sup>30</sup> -12 <sup>00</sup>	We have an All-Together Worship on the fourth Sunday (There is no separate children's provision on this Sunday). (StP)	APS
		Lord's Supper on first and third Sundays (StP)	
Mon	14 <sup>00</sup> -16 <sup>00</sup>	Monday Matinee (MC)	HCC
	19 <sup>00</sup> -20 <sup>00</sup>	Prayer 4 Revival (EB)	HCC
		Elders' Meeting (MC)	
	20 <sup>00</sup> -21 <sup>30</sup>	The Wider Leadership Team are invited to join the elders on the second Monday of each month to pray and think through opportunities and challenges in ministry and mission.	HCC
Tue	06 <sup>30</sup> -08 <sup>00</sup>	Tuesday Upper Room Prayers (SC)	HCC
	16 <sup>30</sup> -17 <sup>45</sup>	Rock Solid (For ages 8-13) (SaP)	Meeting Place
	09 <sup>45</sup> -11 <sup>00</sup>	Hattersley Prayer (SG)	The Garry's place
	Various	Life Group Meetings (StP)	Various
Wed	13 <sup>30</sup> -14 <sup>30</sup>	Medical Pilates (SC)	HCC
	18 <sup>30</sup> -19 <sup>30</sup>	Creative Drop-In (For ages 10-16) (SiD)	The Hub
	19 <sup>30</sup> -21 <sup>00</sup>	Lifecentre Youth Group (High School Age) (SiD)	The Hub
	09 <sup>30</sup> -11 <sup>30</sup>	The Meeting Place (JoF)	HCC
Thu	10 <sup>00</sup> -11 <sup>30</sup>	Ladies' Prayer & Bible Group (MarieP)	Eileen's Place
	18 <sup>30</sup> -20 <sup>00</sup>	Kids 4 Christ (K4C) (For ages 8-11) (JimT)	HCC
		During school term-time only.	
	20 <sup>00</sup> -22 <sup>00</sup>	Worship Group (StP/SC)	HCC
Fri	16 <sup>00</sup> -17 <sup>30</sup>	Adventure Club (for ages 8-14) (SiD)	Various

## Miscellany

### Not in a LIFE group ?

LIFE small groups meet most weeks and are a place to pray together, explore the bible and enjoy fellowship in a relaxed and friendly setting.

Please speak to Martyn or Steve if you want to know more

## Curry Time



**Spice Girls Curry Night**  
**Monday 3rd February**  
**7.45 pm**

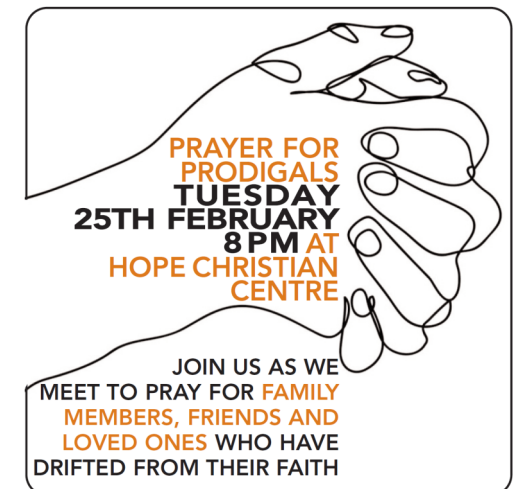
If you wannabe there just turn up as there is no need to book

Herb & Spice Dukinfield SK16 5PN  
£11 Buffet or à la carte  
**Sue Dray**



**Mighty Men's Breakfast**  
**Saturday 8th February**  
**from 8 to 9.45.**

Please let Martyn Catterall know if you will be there for catering purposes



**March Insight Copy Deadline**  
**Sunday 23rd March**

# February Diary Dates

***LIFE Group Meetings most Wednesdays and Thursdays  
at various times and locations***

***26th Jan to 1st Feb***

***Week of Prayer and Fasting***

***Sun 2nd***    APS    10.30 am    Morning Worship and Lord's Supper

***Mon 3rd***                    7.45 pm    Spice Girls Curry Night (Herb & Spice)

***Tue 4th***    HCC    8.00 pm    Life Group Leaders' Meeting

***Sat 8th***    HCC    8 to 10 am    Mottram Men's Breakfast

***Sun 9th***    APS    10.30 am    Morning Worship  
BAL    3 to 4 pm    Silver Sunday Service at Balmoral  
LC    4 to 5 pm    Silver Sunday Service at Lowry Court  
HCC    7 to 9 pm    Search The Scriptures

***Mon 10th***    HCC    8.00 pm    Wider Leadership Team

***Tue 11th***                    8.00 pm    Youth Work Leaders' Meeting (at Sam's)

***Sun 16th***    APS    10.30 am    Morning Worship and Lord's Supper

***Sun 23rd***

***March Insight Copy Deadline***

APS    10.30 am    All-Together Worship  
APS    12.00 noon    Hope Family Lunch (after morning service)

***Mon 24th to Fri 27th***                    Life in The Spirit Conference (Swanwick)

***Tue 25th***    HCC    8.00 pm    Prayer \$ Prodigals

***Sun 1st March***

***March Insight available in print and online***

APS    10.30 am    Morning Worship and Lord's Supper

***For details of other regular meetings and events, please see inside Insight***

**Event Location Key**  
LC    Lowry Court

**APS**    Arundale Primary School  
**BAL**    Balmoral Care Home

**HCC**    Hope Christian Centre  
**MAG**    Magdalene Centre