

IGNITE, IMMERSE and the like

We have been really encouraged since the introduction of our new service structure in September.

Ignite – kids church for all the family – has been meeting in the newly equipped Guywood Centre with the focus of the teaching for 5-11 year olds. The venue has been pretty full and the children especially have certainly enjoyed the experience. We have also had visitors most weeks who have coped well!

On Sunday mornings in church, there has been more time and space for coffee and fellowship between the services and the extra time has also allowed us to re-locate the band for the 10.45 service. Because there is not the same pressure to finish by a certain time (for the next service) there is more freedom for prayer and waiting on God.

Immerse is a new expression of church that has begun on Tuesday evenings. The atmosphere is relaxed as people meet around tables and the format is best described as a cross between church and cell – there is worship together and teaching input but also discussion and prayer in groups around tables. There have been 40-50 people at each of these gatherings.

Despite these encouragements, it would be true to say that most of us don't like change and we know that some people are finding the changes difficult. Though some are thoroughly enjoying Immerse, others are feeling a loss of their old cell group. Though some are loving Ignite, others are wanting more adult input. We would want to encourage people to try different things and decide what best meets their need.

It may be that for some Immerse is not the answer and that they want to go back to meeting as a cell. If others in their cell want to stick with Immerse, we may need to reform some groups. All of that is possible. For those at Ignite who want adult teaching but don't want to commit to Immerse, why not come to the 9.15 service and then go on to join the family for Ignite at 10.30?

We are very fortunate that our staff and buildings give us different options – unlike many churches - so we continue to be thankful to our gracious God as we seek to press on together. Please be patient and give things time to develop and settle down. We will have a time for feedback and discussion later in the term.

8th Oct 2006
Share
st chads romiley

St Chads Church Office
1-5 Stockport Road Romiley
Stockport SK6 4BN 430 4652
stchads@romileylifecentre.co.uk

Vicar: Tim Barlow: 430 4841
Associate Vicar: Tom Parker: 494 0547
Curate: Jane Beaumont 01457 853053

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 9th

3.30pm Climbers
6.00pm Basecamp
7.30pm Alpha

Tuesday 10th

6.00pm Explorers
7.45pm 'Immerse' in church

Wednesday 11th

11.00am Holy Communion
2.30pm Mothers' Union

Thursday 12th

6.30pm Thirst
8.00pm Youth Cell
7.45pm Cell Leaders Zones

Sunday 15th

8.00am Early Communion
9.15am Parish Communion
10.30am Kids Church 'Ignite'
10.45am Morning Praise
7.00pm Be A Hero (in church)

CHURCH OFFICE

Please note the church office will now be open 9am – 5pm Monday to Thursday. Messages left on the answering machine will be picked up on Fridays.

BE A HERO VENUE CHANGE

Please note that this is now in church NOT the Lifecentre.

TIM AND ELEANORE

Tim and Eleanore have been invited to minister at a church near Seattle. They will be leading a Marriage Course over 2 weeks, a 3 day Marriage Retreat and working with the church staff team. They will be away until 27th October. Please pray for them.

NEW TEACHING SERIES *LIVE A WORTHY LIFE*

'As a prisoner for the Lord, I urge you to live a life worthy of *the calling you have received.*' *Ephesians 4:1*

Oct 8 Only one thing is needed
Oct 15 When the going gets tough
Oct 22 Watch your tongue
Oct 29 Get rid of bitterness
Nov 5 Visiting speaker 'John Coles'
Nov 12 Visiting speaker 'Simon Basoga'
Nov 19 Keep the unity of the Spirit
Nov 26 Be a risk taker!