

E-bulletin to NWC networks: August 2011

Dear Friends,

I know the year is not nearly over yet, but if you're anything like me when it comes to the Church year it feels like the end is about August and the beginning is September. I guess it has something to do with when the school starts back and the holiday season is over. Well as I reflect back on this very full year I can only thank God for the amazing things he has done and the surprises that he has brought.

The first New Wine Cymru Leadership Conference turned out to be a massive surprise for me. I and the NWC team were thrilled with the excellent turn-out, but we also prayed and hoped that the vision, strategy and teaching outlined in the conference would be well received by all who came. So we have been hugely heartened by the encouragement and positive feedback we have had from so many who attended. (Thanks so much to all who wrote or spoke to us afterwards).

So what was the surprise then? Well it was the astonishing sense of love and unity that was manifest at the conference. I have rarely been in conference where the unity felt like an anointing! The level of warmth, fun, family feel and sense of enjoyment being together was tangible.

In many respects I shouldn't have been surprised, as Clem Ferris who was at the conference as an invited prophetic minister did prophesy this very thing the Sunday night before the conference started. He prophesied that God would pour out so much blessing at the conference for the nation that it would flow from the head to the hem. The blessing would be the anointing oil of unity that would reach to all, even to the hem of the garment (Psalm 133) so all would be included.

Clem went on to say that this blessing and unity at the New Wine Conference would become true of Wales too!

I can only say I have rarely witnessed a prophetic word birthed so quickly and tangibly as I did at the conference. I say birthed, because the conference was really just the beginning of something for Wales, not the fulfillment.

With that in mind can I encourage all of us to journey together across the regions and networks for the sake of mission, unity and the purposes of Jesus.

Please pray for us as we look to see new networks developed in Mid Wales and South Wales set up to complement the existing networks in North Wales, the Valleys, South West and South East Wales.

Please keep checking the website (www.newwinecymru.co.uk) to keep up to date with dates of your regional gatherings. All you need to know is there.

Finally can I give you advance notice of some very exciting news! John Burke, the former Director of Ministry for Willow Creek and now Pastor of Gateway Church, Austin USA is coming to Wales to give us a leadership day on 27th September at Cornerstone Swansea 10-4pm. He is flying in from Portugal on his way home just for us!

John has grown the Gateway church from 13 to 3,000 with a primary focus on the postmodern unchurched person. John's mission context and culture has many similarities to our own challenges in Wales and the rest of the UK.

He is also the president of Emerging Leadership Initiative (ELI), a non-profit organization founded to help establish a multiplying network of missional churches that envision, equip and empower young emerging leaders to plant innovative churches.

He is the author of No Perfect People Allowed and Soul Revolution. I know John personally and he really is a humble and grounded guy, I'm sure you will like him a lot.

This leadership day is a rare opportunity to hear from someone who has really made church work for the 21st century person. So can I encourage you to put it in your diary – it's going to be great day.

Have great summer and see you in September onwards.

On behalf of the NWC team,

Julian
New Wine Cymru

NEW WINE CYMRU VISION AND CORE VALUES

Vision

Our vision is to see Jesus' Kingdom impact and change Wales in all spheres of life.

Strapline

Local Churches Changing Nations

Core values

The Priority of Relationship – with Jesus and one another as the foundation for all ministry.

Local Church life that is missional, welcoming, relational, accessible for all generations, and builds family and community life.

Servant Church, incarnate in the community, modelling Kingdom life to transform society.

Inspiring Worship that is passionate, intimate, culturally appropriate and facilitates encounter with God.

Anointed Leadership that is visionary, courageous, humble, consistent, full of faith, and that builds missional churches.

Strategic Mission, as modelled by Jesus to his first disciples, that is kingdom centred, holistic, inspired and empowered by the Spirit, concerned with justice and care for the poor, and encourages new church planting initiatives.

Orthodox Theology with doctrine and ethics founded on the person, teaching and work of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible.

Bible-based Teaching and training that is thoughtful, relevant, facilitates encounter with Jesus, and equips for everyday life and ministry.

Personal Discipleship that models Christian love, prayerfulness, holiness, integrity, accountability, humility and generosity; that brings healing and enables us to serve like Jesus.

Every member ministry that discerns and empowers each person to express God's presence and love through the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the "naturally supernatural" ways modelled to us by Jesus.