Beyond Church
Doing Life
Being Christ

EBF Mission Conference

EBF Mission Conference Webinars
1900 – 2030 CEST
19th May
2nd June
16th June

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A Call to BE the Church BEYOND the CHURCH

To be the Body of Christ in the neighbourhood with those who wouldn’t go to a church
A Call to DO LIFE alongside people beyond the church

To live life in the local neighbourhood, to be friends with those beyond the church and to join in with what God is already doing through his Holy Spirit
A Call to BE CHRIST alongside people beyond the church

To live life openly with those beyond the church as authentic disciples having the ‘same attitude as Christ Jesus’ (Phil 2:5)
7 Underlying Principles

- Bless unconditionally
- Live incarnationally
- Listen
- Make friends
- Lay down our lives
- Keep on going
Follow God’s call – however inadequately – to lay down our lives for a community.
Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, “If any of you want to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it.

Mark 8:34-35

There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

John 15:13
LAY DOWN OUR LIVES

- Missional
- Unconditional blessing
- Nurturing faith
- Joining with the Spirit
- Being family
- Outward looking
- Laying down our lives
- Authentic, not perfect
- Partnering with others
- Engaging with brokenness

- Inclusive – belonging – acceptance
- Stowe-ical – keeping on, keeping on
- Solid at the core, blurry at the edges
- Geographically-focussed
- Love
- Food and drink together
- Guilt-free, permission-giving
- Community
- Being friends
- People of Peace

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Some Personal Challenges...

- Open House
- People falling out with each other
- The Parable of the Sower
- Raising Indigenous leaders
- Over promising
- Vicarious trauma

- Taking the blame
- ‘God in the light, God in the dark’
- Church & community blurred lines
- Council & political affiliations
- Tiredness
Who we ARE not What we DO

..there are no missional structures, only missional people.
Stefan Paas
Break Out Groups

Read together Philippians 2:5-8, Mark 8:34-35, John 15:13

Let us pray with and for one another that we may have the mindset of Jesus; that we will Be Christ in our neighbourhoods.

Share struggles and words of encouragement.

Are there things that God is drawing to your attention that you need to share with the EBF family? Please write in the chat box.
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- Lay down agenda
...in terms of what Church might look like..
What is Church?
We are still exploring that question.
We were Church from Day One
Church is...

Mission

Worship

Discipleship

Community

(See Frost and Hirsch)
Church is...

Worship  Mission  Discipleship  Community

Only if all at the same time?
What is Church?
Is all of this/some of this/none of this church?
Baptism in the garden paddling pool (followed by a pool party)
‘Baby’ Blessing in a tent in the community

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Pamper Night

A word from God
Grew into a Regular Event
A symbol of Loving and Serving the Community
A picture of God’s Kingdom

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Stay and Plays
Children’s Activities

Film Night
Community Days

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Community trips
Weekends Away & Wild Wichelstowe
Community Dinner feeding families in half term
Listening to God and Community

- Activities emerged contextually from local community
- Underlying theology rooted in God’s word, scripture, doctrine (and denominational tradition)

Deconstructing Church & Reconstructing Church for Mission
The Church Gathered

- Monkey Time
  What made you smile?
  Where have you seen God?
- Sing
- Eat and Drink
- Scratch Drama
- Discuss
- Shared Prayer (4 Headings)
The Stowe Sharing lunch & life - becoming a family

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Celebrating becoming a BUGB Church – part of the Baptist Family
January 6th 2013
Listening to each other’s experience of God, discussing the bible and drinking coffee at the community centre
The Church Scattered

Being Christ – living out our DNA as the body of Christ in the neighbourhood

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Keep on Going 😊

In for the long term – as a team
Continue to serve, bless and share faith – some join in, some leave, some move out, some make friends, some break friends..

The Parable of The Sower
Disciple those who journey
Keep on Going 🌼 Share the DNA

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Underlying Principles

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LIVE INCARNATIONALLY
LISTEN
MAKE FRIENDS
LAY DOWN AGENDA
LAY DOWN OUR LIVES

KEEP ON GOING - BE SNAKEY!