

Building a missional church



Lent Course 2017

"It is not the Church of God that has a mission in the world, but the God of mission who has a Church in the world." (Tim Dearborn)

Our series this Lent is intended to help us reflect on how we may need to be different ourselves in order to reach a changed society around us with the good news – a living relationship with God.

We will reflect on what makes 'church' church and where our practice may need to change while still keeping a biblical core to all we do together.

The series is made up of five sessions:

- **Our changed context** – what impact do current values have on the way we must spread the gospel?
- **A changed calling** – the position of the church in society has changed radically; how do we move from maintenance to mission?
- **Changing recognition** – what does it mean to engage in cross-cultural mission and who it is we will be engaging with.
- **Changing church** - what exactly is church and what can we learn from different ways (some known as *Fresh Expressions*) of being church?
- **Community of change** – Lesslie Newbigin noted that the only interpretation of the gospel is "a congregation ... who believe it and live by it". How do we achieve that?