



WELCOME TO CHURCH

 transformation
centre
MOUNT ZION COMMUNITY CHURCH

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HELLO THERE!



Isaiah 43: 18 - 19

“Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Welcome to church. I hope and pray your visit with us will be a great blessing. If you are with us for the first time, you are especially welcome.

My name is Nick Serb and together with the team of elders, I am privileged to serve God in this church. It is my desire and prayer that today you will encounter God in worship. I also hope that you will find the church welcoming so that your fellowship with us may be a good and pleasant experience.

I know visiting a new church for the first time, can be a bit overwhelming. Here, at Transformation Centre, we have intentionally built a culture that is casual and friendly, where you can truly be yourself. We are an informal and family friendly church. The music usually combines both familiar and not so familiar songs. The preaching is Biblical, dynamic and conversational.

I invite you to join us in our God given vision to see our nation transformed for His glory.

Be blessed and I hope you will come back to visit again.

Handwritten signature of Nick Serb

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OUR PURPOSE

We exist in order to introduce everyone, everywhere, to the transforming power of God.

We believe that real transformation affects the whole of us: body, soul and spirit. This transformation brings freedom. As Free Methodists we desire to see people being set free, living in freedom and bringing freedom to others.

God's purpose for us has been a growing passion over the last 10 years. This passion and dream is to see the church and our community transformed by the power of God. This begins with a renewed commitment to God and His Word.

We believe that Christianity is not a mere religion, but a lifestyle.

In the following few pages you will be learning about our values (the things we value as Christians and followers of Jesus), our mindset (the thinking behind all of our activities) and our calling (the command of Jesus to make disciples, not converts).

We also believe in a real and honest type of Christianity. As a church we want to be real about where we are and where God wants us to be. There is no point in pretending to be what we are not. We all need transformation and God is the only One that can do that.

BE TRANSFORMED TO TRANSFORM

THE PAST

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

2 Corinthians 5: 17

THE PRESENT

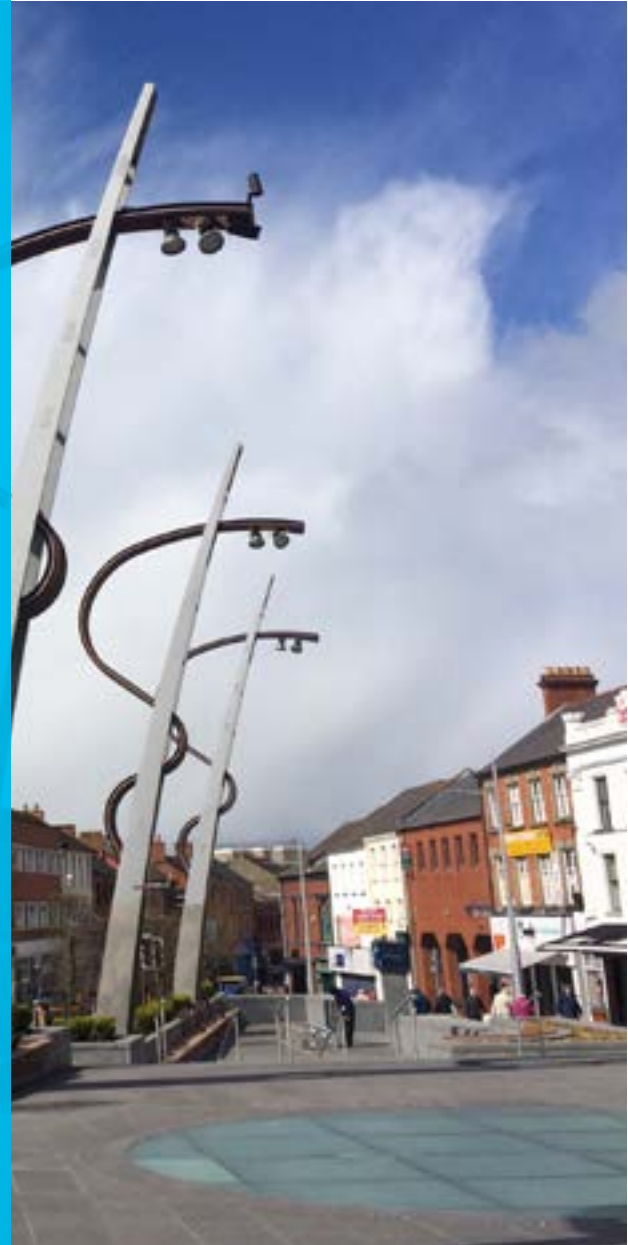
“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Rom 12: 2

THE FUTURE

“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”

Philippians 3: 20, 21



OUR VALUES



Sometimes going forward must begin with going back. In Christ, life begins with death. That is why we want to define our values by going back to Acts 2: 42

The book of Acts was not given to mock us. We have it as the standard of what church must be like. In this section, the elders aim to lay down the values that should define us as we go forward.

Be transformed To transform.

Change for change sake does not accomplish anything. ***We know that transformation that matters happens in the heart.*** We want this message of transformation to be reflected in all we do and say.

As a church, we emphasize the need for a spiritual transformation dealing with our past, empowering the present and securing our future. In the Bible, the word transformation is another word used for sanctification.



TEACHING

We value good, solid biblical teaching based on the apostle's doctrines. We must continue to treasure the word of God as the foundation of all our activities and practices.

FELLOWSHIP

We know that church is not a building but the people. We value informality and reverence at the same time. It is important that we maintain a 'family like' atmosphere as we worship together.



UNITY

We value the fact we belong to something much bigger than us or the Free Methodist denomination. We promote unity in the Body of Christ. This is reflected in communion: one bread - one body.

PRAYER

We value prayer as being the power engine of all we do. Answered prayer depends on biblical teaching, fellowship and unity. We can do nothing without prayer and we must do everything with it.





OUR STORY

STEP ONE

A group of 24 believers met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Urey who lived in Gregg Street. After prayer they decided to establish a fellowship of the Westleyan tradition. The group first met for worship in the Boys Hall, Wardsborough Road, and became known as The Lisburn Christian Fellowship.

1969

STEP TWO

In the same year the fellowship became part of the Free Methodist denomination. On Sunday 14th December 1969 a new Free Methodist Society came into being. The denomination has its roots in America, with doctrinal principles based on the teaching of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism.

1969

STEP THREE

The fellowship had purchased a manse in Tonagh Park, and work had commenced on the erection of the first church building, a portable wooden structure, situated in the middle of Gregg Street on the right hand side. The new fellowship took on the name of Mount Zion Free Methodist Church.

1970

STEP FOUR

The foundation stone of the present church building was laid by the Rev. Victor S. J. Trinder, on 11th February 1978 and the church was dedicated on 30th September 1978. The church is situated 50 yards further up the street from the original site and the original wooden church was re-sited at the rear.

1978

STEP FIVE

On 9th February pastor Nick Serb was installed as the new minister. It was after much prayer and seeking God, that the first draft of a vision for Lisurn was developed under the name of Metanoia Centre. (Greek for changing of mind / repentance). It included a "Drop In" for young people, a Coffee Shop and Counselling Services.

2007

STEP SIX

In September 2009, the church reached out to over 2,000 people during Transformation Days. That week Andrew became a Christian. Slowly, the vision for the Transformation Centre was taking shape

2009

STEP SEVEN

In January 2010 the "Drop In" opened at the Laganbank Retail Park. Over the following 5 years we contacted around 200 young people. This ministry made us realise how disconnected the church is, away from the harsh reality of people's lives in the community.

2010

STEP EIGHT

Under the ministry of Pastor Nick Serb, a native of Romania, the church became known as Mount Zion Community Church. The church had also purchased the properties at 135 and 137 Gregg Street which became the church office and ministry centre.

2011

STEP NINE

By this time the vision of the Transformation Centre developed and we began to dream of what it would mean if the whole community and the country could be transformed by God. As a result, Transformation Centre became a legal entity.

2013

STEP TEN

As the vision of the Transformation Centre grew and developed, the church understood it is God's doing and so the whole ministry of the church came under the name Transformation Centre. The church continues to grow and reach people for Christ.

2017



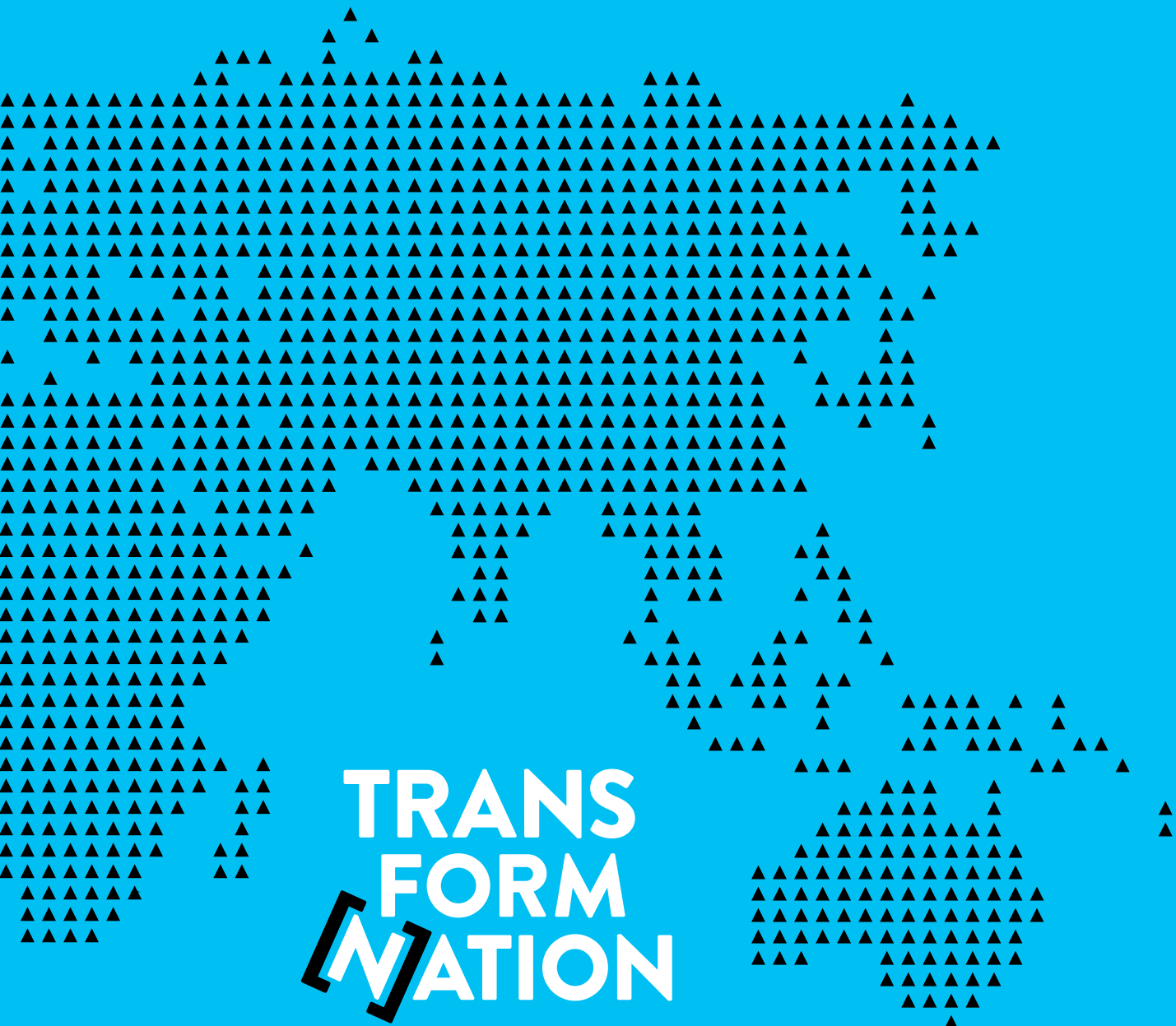
OUR CALLING



John Wesley

“I look upon all the world as my parish; thus far I mean, that in whatever part of it I am, I judge it meet, right, and my bounden duty to declare unto all that are willing to hear, the glad tidings of salvation.”

Journal, June 11, 1739.



TRANS FORM [N]ATION

OUR FOCUS

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.
Matthew 20: 19 - 20



"MINISTRY IS WHAT WE ARE, NOT WHAT WE DO!"

We want to be a church like Ephesus, with Biblical doctrines and practices, but we also want to be a church like Antioch; ready to send out those whom the Holy Spirit chooses to send as missionaries.

We must be a church passionate about mission. Being missional is being Biblical.

There are several mission agencies and individuals that we support, in prayer and financially. To make the difference between the missionaries our church is responsible for and those we desire to associate with, we created two categories.

TRANSFORMATION MISSIONARIES

- they have to be members of the church
- be accountable to the church leadership
- to uphold and promote the values of the church
- be supported in prayer and financially (to the degree of their need and circumstances)
- keep in touch with the church with updates

ASSOCIATE MISSIONARIES

- to be known to the church as a whole
- to be part of a mission agency known to the church leadership
- to update the church on their progress
- to be part of the prayer and financial support (where and when possible)
- to be in agreement with the values of the church

OUR MINDSET

Everything we do, our activities, must be driven by the Biblical mindset that sets the message of transformation at the core of our activity (salvation, sanctification and glorification).

TRANSFORMATION THAT MATTERS HAPPENS IN THE HEART.

There are two elements that constitute our mindset in ministry:

1. Transformation brings freedom. We cannot afford to become busy and forget that God's purpose for us, as a church, is to see people transformed by God and living in freedom. We have a simple message: God sets us free, we must live in freedom as we bring freedom to others. That is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

2. People come first. Ministry should never be limited to resources, buildings or strategies. Ministry is about people. People are our reward and joy. They are the only thing we can take to heaven with us. Ministry is about people being transformed so others can be transformed.



BODY



SportWorks

We value the health of our body, soul and spirit. We encourage people to take part in sporting activities as a way of keeping our bodies healthy.



HigherGround

We want to provide a community space where people can enjoy healthy food with quality coffee and tea. [This project is to be redeveloped soon.](#)



InclusionWorks

This is a project for those with a physical and/or intellectual disability and their parents. We understand the value of belonging within a community.



ShelteredHousing

As a church we would like to be able to provide temporary accommodation for the homeless or those in need of recovery from addiction or abuse.

- Set -
Free

Living
Free

Bringing
Freedom

SOUL



PrayerWorks

Prayer is the power engine of everything we do. We meet regularly, on Wednesdays, to pray for one another, for the church and the community.



MusicWorks

Our music ministry is developed to encourage the church to worship and not just sing songs. We want to encourage all those with a musical gift to get involved and grow in their service to God.



Care and Counsel

We have a team of dedicated volunteers to support you in your time of need. Whether you have a mental health issue or simply struggle with difficulties in life, we want to be there for you.



CaringWorks

Loneliness is one of the main causes to a poor mental health. The Friendship Club has been creating a space for people to get together and fight against loneliness.



LeadershipWorks

Every church must be led by a group of spiritual leaders who understand their responsibility and fulfil it with joy. This project is not just about church leadership, but any leadership.



Family Support

We value family as being the foundation of our society. A healthy and loving environment at home will create healthy characters in our children.



EducationWorks

This is a project that supports Primary and Secondary school children with their Reading and Writing skills. It also develops courses for the elderly on basic computer and internet skills.



CreativityWorks

We want to encourage people who are creative or passionate about arts and to use their creativity and artistic skills to share the wonderful message of grace and transformation.

SPIRIT



KidsforGod

This is a ministry for children who are taught in an age appropriate environment from nursery age to year 1 in high school. Join us on Sunday at 11.00 am or Friday night at 6.30 pm.



YouthforGod

Youth for God reaches out to young people in our community. Impact Youth meets every Friday while A.C.E. (for over 18s) meets every other week on Saturdays.



MenforGod

The purpose for this ministry is to revive the men of Ireland. The men meet every other Monday night for discipleship, prayer and fellowship.



WomenforGod

The purpose for this ministry is to create an environment for women to support one another, learn together and grow in their faith and love for God.



MediaWorks

This is a ministry that takes the message of transformation through the power of the Gospel and creatively spreads it on the internet and the social media.



ChurchPlanting

It is all about spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ and taking the Gospel to places that are in need. This means locally and all over the world.



DiscipleshipWorks

The great commission was given to us to make disciples not converts. Back to Basics and Small Groups are our main ways to disciple new believers.



MissionWorks

This ministry covers the sending and supporting of missionaries as well as organising and overseeing mission trips (short or long term), locally and around the world.

OUR VISION

As a church we must always promote a Real and Honest Christianity.

This kind of Christianity ignited the greatest church planting movement in the world, under the leadership of the Apostle Paul and his team. We know our mission focus is the world. We want to start here in Lisburn first and then the whole of Ireland.

As you can see this vision is much bigger than our local church. We use

the name Transformation Centre to describe the whole vision.

With this in mind, our vision is sure: we want to see God transforming our nation and use us to plant churches which are to be centres of transformation. We invite people to encounter God and be transformed, while giving Him all the glory.

Our church planting strategy is simple and it is based on the model found in the Book of Acts.



First Priority: Prayer - Every church planting movement must be born and sustained in prayer. As we learn to discern to the voice of the Holy Spirit, He will guide us where to go and what to do. Our prayer is that our city and nation will know God. This is the only thing that will transform and regenerate a broken and sinful world.

Second Priority: Planting- The seed is the Word of God that needs to be planted. We will be seeking people of peace, someone willing and ready to open their house to the Gospel and invite others to join them. Then we will focus on multiplying leaders, groups and ultimately churches.

Third Priority: Partnering - We must follow the move of the Holy Spirit and join others who are passionate about the same values as we are. We recognise we are part of the Body of Jesus Christ. We cannot reach everyone, everywhere on our own. That is why partnering with others is important.



OUR TEAM

God has never given a vision to a committee. However, every God given vision needs a God given Leadership Team. They must be called by God to lead, gifted by the Holy Spirit to serve and recognised by the church so they can exercise spiritual authority. These are all important Biblical steps to church leadership.

Transformation Centre, as a church, is led by a team of faithful elders. The elders are often be joined by two very humble and faithful women who serve with them ensuring a godly leadership environment and accountability. Among the elders, the pastor is responsible to oversee the work and provide leadership and vision.

The elders are supported by a group of committed and faithful deacons who make ministry possible. They are gifted by God in works of compassion and administration.

Each ministry department is lead by a core team and the ministry leader keeps close contact with the elders and the pastor. The blessing of each ministry is the team work. The load is shared and people are encouraged to exercise their spiritual gifts with wisdom and accountability.

All our ministry leaders are trained, mentored and tested before they take any spiritual responsibility.

The current team of elders is constantly looking at identifying spiritual gifts and to mentor the next generation of leaders, ensuring the same standard of spiritual maturity for generations to come.



NICK SERB

Pastor - teaching and preaching / overseeing the overall vision.



NORMAN WRIGHT

Elder - overseeing the work of the deacons and administration.



IRENE CUMMINGS

Accountability - looking after the visitation list and providing counsel.



ANDREW IRWIN

Elder - overseeing the youth work and outreach in Lisburn.



NORMAN MOORE

Elder - leading the prayer ministry and providing wise counsel.



RUTH LAMKI

Accountability - holding the elders accountable and connected.



MALCOLM CLEGG

Elder - teaching and leading prayer meetings / providing leadership.



STEPHEN MEGRATH

Secretary - behind the scene / taking minutes and keeping records.



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