

# 2022/23 UPDATE

FAITH IN YOUNG PEOPLE



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**It seems a distant memory when during the first lockdown we were asking God how we respond missionally to the challenge of Covid. And whilst coronavirus is still with us, the mission of Message Wales continues. Methods change but the essential nature of our calling remains;**

We are a worldwide movement passionately sharing the love of Jesus Christ in words and actions with the hardest-to-reach young people and communities.

As you read about the activities of our Message Bus, prison outreach, Love Where U Live, WILD, Street Pastors, LIFT, and schools missions, I am sure you will be inspired and encouraged. 2022 saw me celebrate my 60th birthday! I must admit when I responded to the calling of youth ministry in 1989, I did not for one moment think I would have the incredible privilege to still be involved all these years later. Of course, now I am part of an incredible team and in Wales, led by Mat Walls, we have one of the best! So, as you read can I encourage you to pray a bit more for the work, perhaps volunteer and maybe even give financially, because without wonderful people like you we cannot get the work done.

God bless you



**Gary Smith**

UK Hubs Director, The Message Trust



Our primary goal here at Message Wales is to reach as many as possible with the good news of Jesus. We aim to share the gospel to 10,000 people a year through our mission, youth & schools work, prisons ministry, Street Pastors, bus sessions and outreach event. Of course, we will engage with, support, pray for and serve countless more than this over the year, and every day presents new opportunities for us to share the love of God with the people of Wales. I am so very proud of our team and all they do to bring transformation to communities across Wales, and with your support, I'm sure we can reach thousands more with the amazing life-transforming good news of Jesus!



**Mat Walls**

Wales Hub Leader, The Message Trust



Outreach event  
in Caerphilly with  
Message bus

# MISSION

Our primary goal is to share the good news of Jesus. We have a changing line-up of events, programmes and projects, but the one thing that never changes is sharing the gospel. Our team are dedicated to working in partnership with local church, and find creative ways to reach the lost, least and the last. We have a particular focus towards young people, broken communities and those on the margins, but our

work goes beyond these to try to reach all of Wales.

Highlighted here are some of our main ways in which we share the gospel, but if a church or community have a vision for reaching out where they are, we'd love to hear from you and find a way to work with you.



## SCHOOL

Our schools team deliver cutting-edge RE & PHSE lessons in secondary schools across South Wales. We use our Respect ME programme to cover subjects like bullying, sex & relationships, and self-esteem, plus the recent 'No More Knives' lessons created to help schools tackle knife crime. Our RE lessons look at forgiveness, identity and more. All our lessons aim to be relevant, relatable and help schools fulfil criteria from the ESTYN curriculum.

Recently we've also been using our schools resources in youth groups and as part of prison education programme for young offenders too. Plus, for extra impact, our Message bands can be brought in for a schools week, adding music and an end of week evangelistic gig to our schools work options.

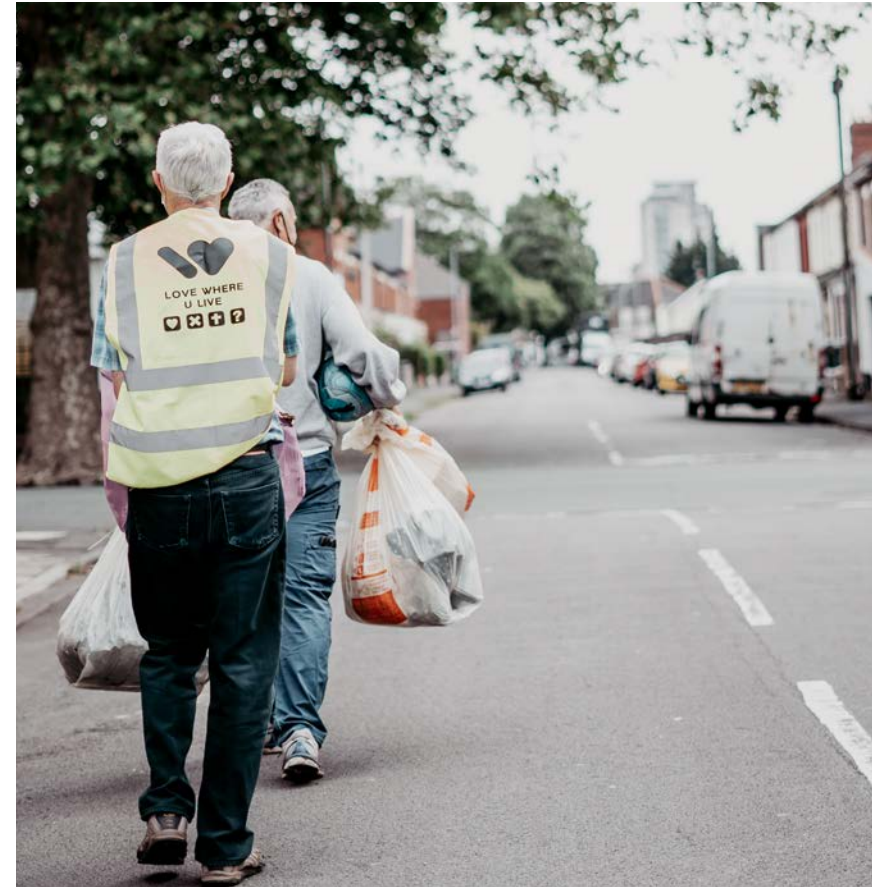
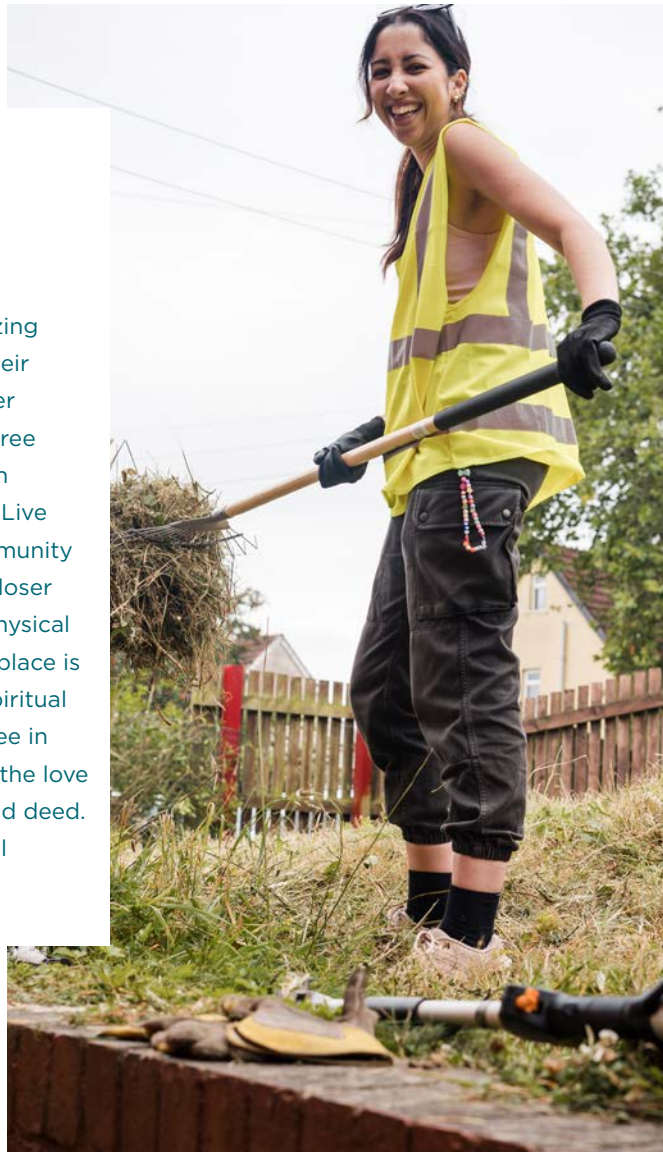


**Do you work in education?**

Get in touch with our schools team and  
find out how we can help?

## LOVE WHERE U LIVE

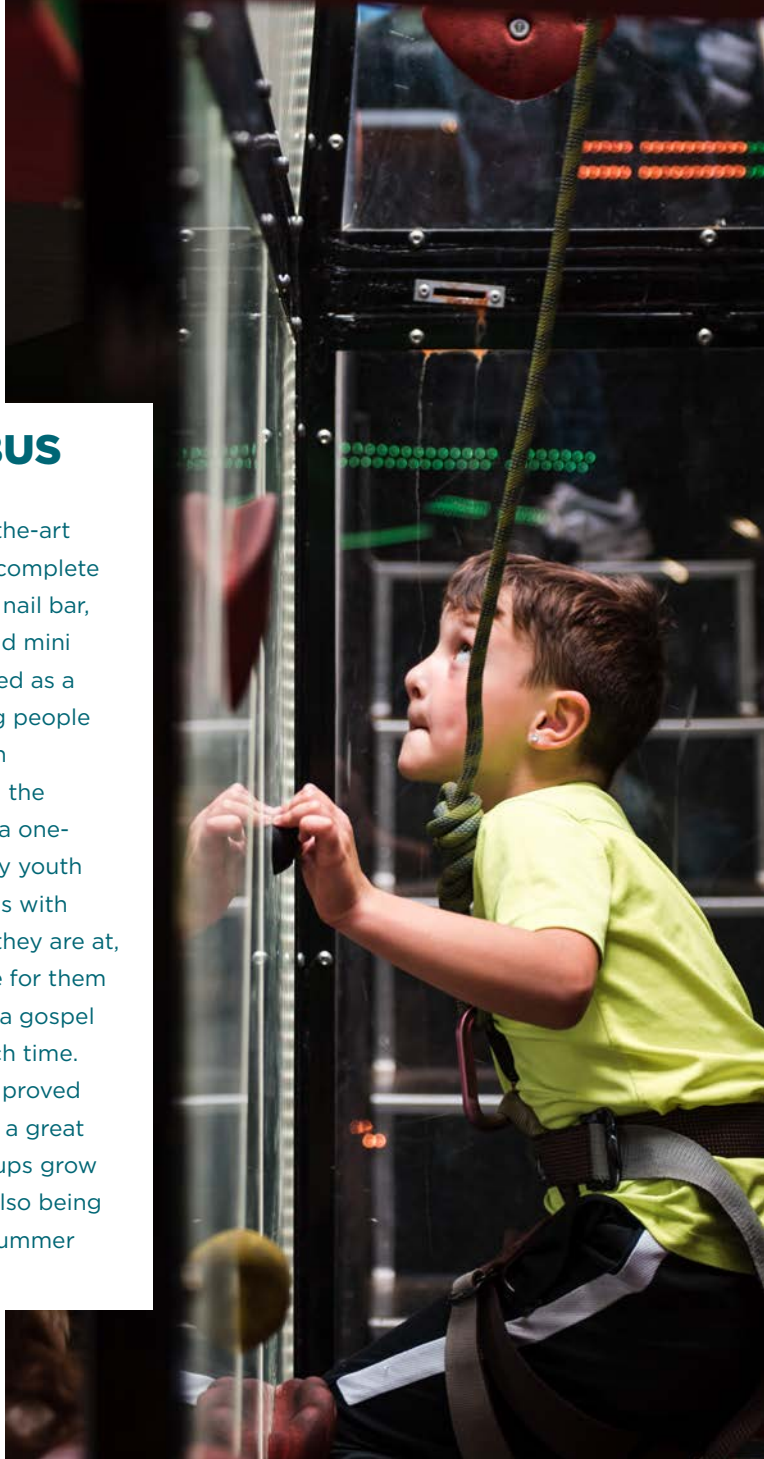
Each year we partner with churches to bring an amazing week of social action to their communities. Through litter picking, garden cleaning, free fun days, prayer & so much more, each Love Where U Live week helps bring the community together and the church closer to their community. The physical transformation that takes place is a great reflection of the spiritual transformation we often see in people's lives, as they see the love of Jesus shown in word and deed. Want to know more? Email [info@messagewales.org](mailto:info@messagewales.org)



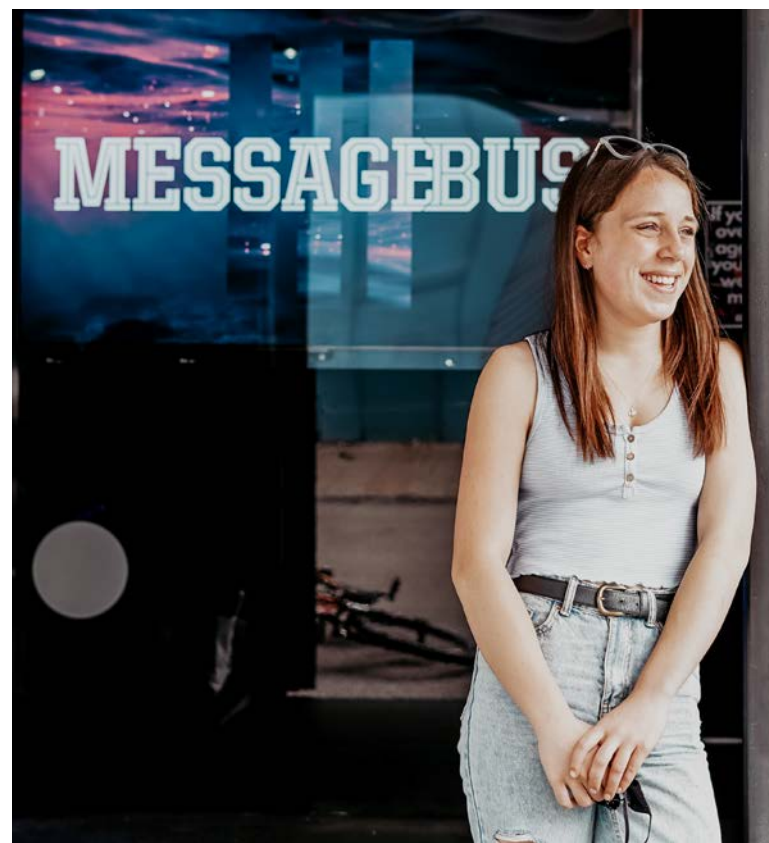


## MESSAGE BUS

Our bus is a state-of-the-art mobile youth centre, complete with games consoles, nail bar, table-top activities and mini kitchen. The bus is used as a bridge to reach young people on the streets or as an attractional activity in the community. Whether a one-off session or a weekly youth night, the bus engages with young people where they are at, providing a safe place for them to hang out and hear a gospel centred 'God slot' each time. The Message Bus has proved hugely popular and is a great way to see youth groups grow or launch, as well as also being used in schools and summer festivals too.



Talk to us about  
booking the bus  
[walesbookings@message.org.uk](mailto:walesbookings@message.org.uk)



## OUTREACH WEEKS

From singing carols in the street off the back of a trailer, to sending our highly skilled Academy students to help run outreach events, our team are always ready to get stuck in, speak at events, or try innovative ideas.

In 2022 we have supported weekly youth groups, led ministry at summer camps, spoken at youth events, supported community outreach & jubilee weekend celebrations, detached youth and so much more. If you have any outreach planned, or would like help to run something, get in touch – our team are always ready and willing to help.







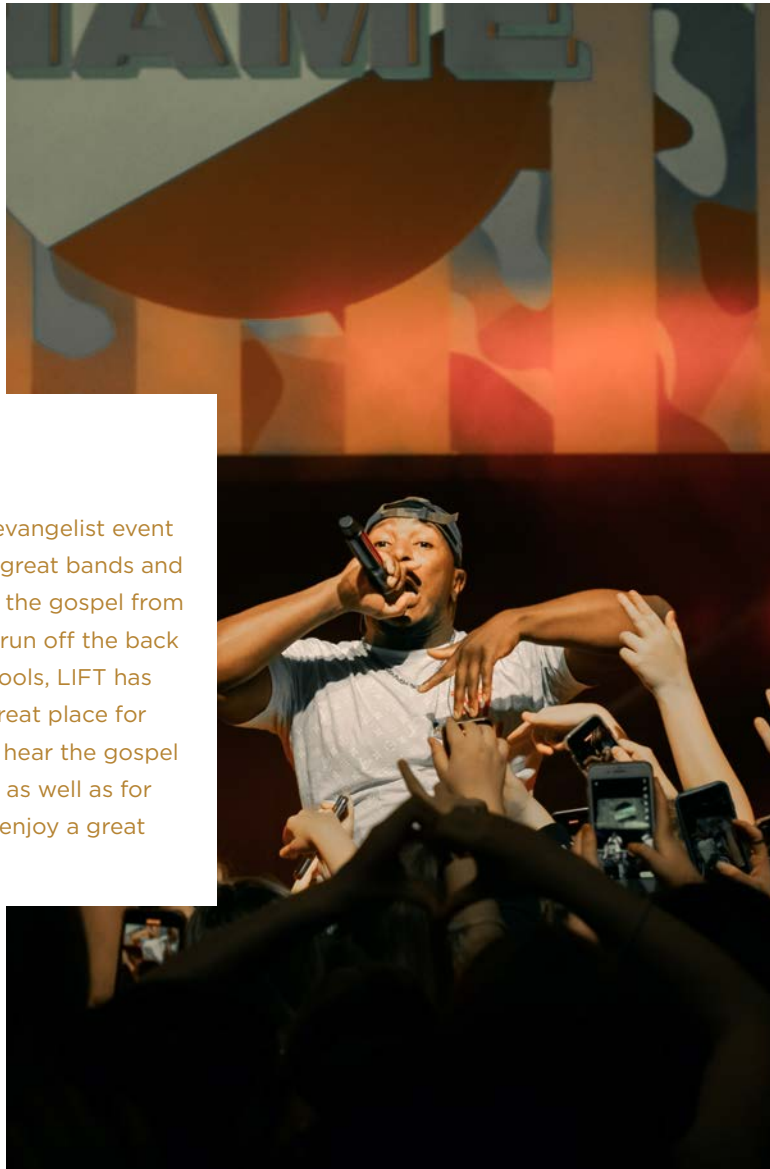
Tuesday Night Live

# YOUTH EVENTS



## LIFT

LIFT is a termly evangelist event with music from great bands and a chance to hear the gospel from the stage. Often run off the back of mission in schools, LIFT has proven to be a great place for young people to hear the gospel for the first time, as well as for youth groups to enjoy a great night out



BRINGING YOUNG PEOPLE  
CLOSER TO JESUS

## YOUTH NIGHTS

New for 2022, Message Wales is working in partnership with churches across Cardiff to put on youth gatherings to inspire, spur on and galvanize young people from across South Wales. These evenings of worship and celebration, held across the city, are run by a core team of youth leaders with input from young people themselves. We hope as we create this space to celebrate God together, we will see a new generation of young people rise up and strengthen their faith to go again.





## WILD YOUTH GROUP TOUR

Launched in 2021, these activity based evangelistic events have been a great way to gather young people from communities together for a fun-filled night with a gospel message and follow-up courses. Available to book all year in South Wales and with a view to take it on tour in 2023, WILD truly is a Wales-wide resource for reaching young people.

**£25 A MONTH** COULD ENABLE  
US TO KEEP OFFERING  
OPPORTUNITIES LIKE THESE,  
REACHING AS MANY YOUNG  
PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE WITH  
THE GOSPEL.







Community Grocery

# COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

We are committed to long-term support and investment into communities, which is why we do so much more than run evangelistic events. The Message runs Eden teams, who provide long-term on-the-ground support to some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in Wales. Our Community Groceries in England have become beacons of hope, support and an amazing way to connect communities with their

local church as they provide families with affordable food.

Our prison leavers support and enterprise programme has provided lasting change in the lives of many. We want to see many more of these types of programmes in Wales, and are committed to seeing new Eden Teams, Community Groceries and prison leaver programmes established in the years to come.



## STREET PASTORS

The Street Pastors are teams of volunteers who head out onto the streets of Cardiff city centre from 10pm-4am each weekend, helping those most in need. From providing a friendly face or advice, to supporting those who are too drunk to take care of themselves, our team look after, pray with and give out water to dozens of people every shift. The team, all of whom are committed Christians, play a vital role in supporting South Wales police and the emergency services, showing the love of God through their kindness and action.



**£10 A MONTH WILL HELP COVER THE SUPPLIES OF FLIPFLOPS AND WATER WE GIVE AWAY EACH NIGHT TO THOSE IN NEED.**



**Could you become  
a Street Pastor?**

We run comprehensive training and provide all the support needed for you to join the team. We are keen to recruit more Street Pastors so if you would like to know more, or would like our Street Pastor

co-ordinator to come and speak to your church, email [cardiff@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:cardiff@streetpastors.org.uk)

## EDEN

Over the years we have launched several Eden teams across Wales, where urban missionaries move for the long-term into some of the toughest and most deprived communities to live sacrificially, share the gospel and build authentic community, alongside the local church. We are committed to seeing even more teams sent into the hardest-to-reach, often forgotten corners, of Wales and raise up a whole new generation of 'homeland missionaries' to bring the light in the darkest places. Through our long-term commitment to communities, and support from the wider Eden network across the UK, we want to continue to make a real difference for those most in need.



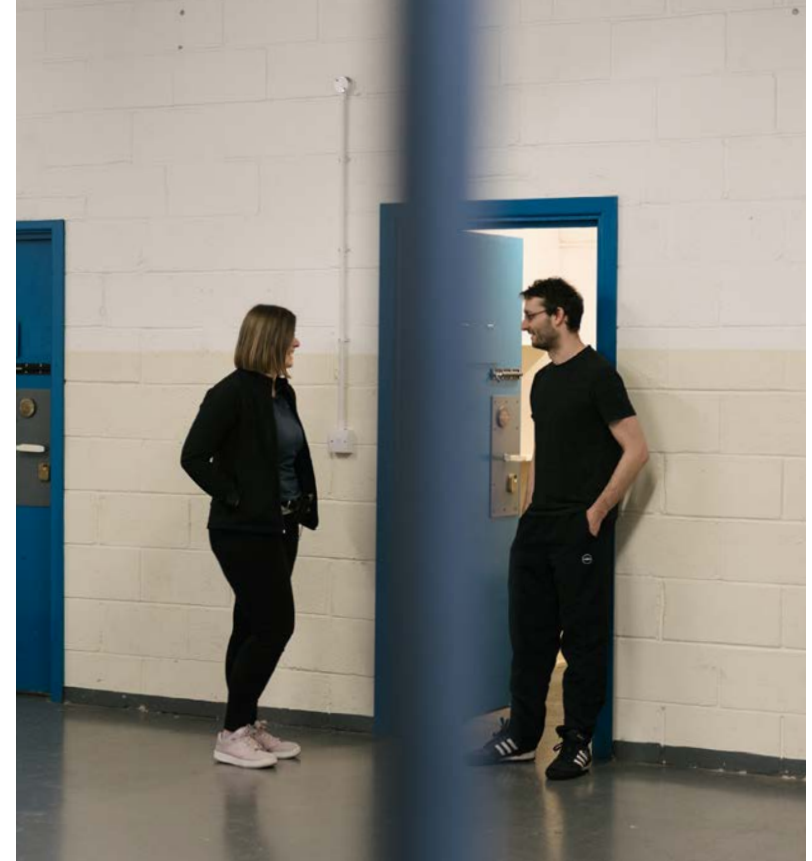
We are actively seeking churches to partner with us to launch new Eden teams. If you have a heart to reach these communities or you are from a Church working in these areas, contact us: [info@messagewales.org](mailto:info@messagewales.org)



## PRISONS

Our prisons team are dedicated to seeing real-life transformation for prisoners and prison leavers in Wales. Currently we work full-time in HMP Cardiff and Parc prison, Bridgend, running Bible studies, Alpha courses, discipleship programmes, detached outreach on the wings and lots more support. We also do our best to help those who make a commitment in prison, to find a church, who will support them upon their release.

We have seen so many amazing stories of transformation through our prison outreach programme and hope to grow this to more prisons in Wales in the coming years.



**COULD YOU GIVE £20 A MONTH  
TO SUPPORT OUR PRISON WORK?**  
Go to [message.org.uk/donate](https://message.org.uk/donate)  
to give one-off or regularly\*

\*and please state it's for Wales in the comments box

# GET INVOLVED

## STAND WITH US TO REACH A GENERATION



### Pray with us:

We believe there is power in prayer, which is why we are an organisation that moves forward on its knees. Every day we begin with prayer together as a team. Once a month we spend a whole morning in prayer and worship. During these mornings, we have a guest speaker, hear mission updates, thank God for all He's done and pray for our different ministry areas. We would love for you to join us and stand with us in prayer for this movement. You can also sign up for our bi-monthly prayer calendar at [message.org.uk/pray](https://message.org.uk/pray)

### Volunteer with us:

We have so many exciting projects and events coming up, and our heart is to serve alongside people who are just as passionate about seeing God move and change lives. Whether that is through stewarding at an event, helping on the Message Bus, joining an Eden team, serving as a Street Pastor or more, we need an army of committed volunteers to help us to get the job done. If this could be you, please contact us about volunteering opportunities.

We've seen God's faithfulness time and time again this year. We're trusting and believing in Him for more testimonies of transformation. We wouldn't want to do this without you! If you are able to partner with us in any of the following ways, **please get in touch**.



### Give financially:

God has been so faithful in his financial provision for Message Wales. We value every donation that is made to us, no matter how big or small. In order to keep following God's call, we need more financial support. If you feel that you can get on board with the vision of Message Wales and are able to give a donation or become a regular supporter, we'd love to hear from you.

[message.org.uk/donate](https://message.org.uk/donate)

*(\*and please state it's for Wales in the comments box)*



If you are interested in supporting us in any way or want any more information, please don't hesitate to email [info@messagewales.org](mailto:info@messagewales.org) or call us on **02920512247**

