

HOPE⁺

CHURCH RHONDDA

Sarah Lawrence | Missionary in Tonypandy | October 2015

Hope Church Rhondda is a small church plant in Tonypandy that has been running for over 2 years. It is made up of a community of people who long to see Jesus transform the Rhondda. I have been a part of this church for over 1 year and work closely with them living out their vision of loving God, each other and the Rhondda.



The Valleys are beautiful but poverty stricken. From addictions and broken families to large scale unemployment: the South Wales Valleys are not exempt from a lot of the problems that face modern day Britain. People flooded to growing valley towns during the mining industry, but when the industry collapsed people's livelihood was removed leaving many without jobs and without hope of change.



There is also a great deal of spiritual poverty in the Valleys, and although hundreds of chapels are left because of the 1904 revival which swept through Wales, many now lie empty. God broke my heart for situation in the valleys and my response was to move into the area and understand the community in order to reach people with the gospel. It's a hard place to talk about Jesus but

God is moving and our church is slowly growing as people see us live out our faith.

What do I do to see Jesus made famous?

Youth Work

- Run a fun weekly youth group that is a safe space for young people where they will hear the gospel
- Schools work including promoting Hope Youth and assemblies with other churches
- Discipling teenage girls in church: encouraging them be everyday followers of Jesus
- Support vulnerable young people through difficult family situations through prayer and mentoring



Church outreach

- Run events for the community that introduce them to Jesus and welcome them into a family e.g. carol service, summer kids club, nativity photo booth, foodbank
 - Disciple and practically support vulnerable adults who we meet in the community
 - Regular prayer walks, praying for opportunities to talk about Jesus to local people

Community work

- Involved in local groups such as RCT Fairtrade and a local panel providing grants to the local community
- Blogging to positively promote the Rhondda - *My Rhondda Bucket List*.



Support of St Michael's - I am SO grateful for all the support that St Mike's provides me, as well as being incredibly lovely when I come back. Thank you!

For prayer: Please pray for everything above, especially working with vulnerable adults in the community. Many of them are so lonely and are in desperate need of a community of people who will show them Jesus' love. Also please pray for me as I continue in Tonypany long term, that I would see fruit and people turning to Christ.

To be added to my monthly prayer newsletter please email: sarah_lawrence_91@hotmail.co.uk
Church news: www.hopechurchrhondda.co.uk or www.facebook.com/hopechurchrhondda

