

Being More Intentionally Intergenerational in Messy Church

WELCOME

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Being More Intentionally Intergenerational in Messy Church

- Connecting/Overview
- Messy Church: What it is and isn't
- Being Intergenerational: More than all ages together
- IG Intentionality in MC: The 5 P's and Embedded Intergenerationality
- Wrap-up



Connecting with one another

A Quick Survey

- Making Disciples in Messy Church (Paul Moore)
- Messy Discipleship (Lucy Moore)
- Messy Together (Martyn Payne)
- Intergenerational Christian Formation (Allen & Ross)
- Engage All Generations (Cory Seibel)
- Being an Intergenerational Church (Farrant & Philip)



Messy Church

- What Messy Church looks like
 - monthly gathering
 - Messy activity, celebration and food
 - time and place chosen intentionally to encourage local community participation

Messy Church

- Messy Church *Values*
 - All-age
 - Celebration
 - Christ-centred
 - Creativity
 - Hospitality

Messy Church

- Messy Church values ***contextualised...***
 - Local community
 - Your church
 - Wider denomination
- Messy Church values ***expressed...***
 - Messy activity
 - Messy celebration
 - Messy food

Messy Church

- What it ISN'T – a “program” for “children”
- What it IS
 - congregational planting
 - multi-age discipleship community

Messy Church as Multi-age, Discipleship Community

My passion for Messy Church is to see more disciples of all ages and more discipleship communities living out their discipleship in response to God's gracious invitation to abundant life.

I wonder what you long to see for Messy Church?



Messy Church

What has surprised you?

What has been affirmed for you?

What's buzzing in your head around "Messy Church"?



Being Intergenerational



Being Intergenerational

Intergenerational is not just a fad or a good idea...

***An intentionally intergenerational environment
is more likely to encourage and sustain
lifelong discipleship
for all ages***



Being Intergenerational

Intergenerational is...

- ***Not*** just about children
- ***Not primarily*** about what we do
- ***Not*** something that just happens



Being Intergenerational

Intergenerational is...

- Not just about children, its about *people of all ages*
- Not primarily about what we do, its about *who we are*
- Not something that just happens, it requires *intentionality*



Being intergenerational

“Two or more different age groups...together learning, growing, living in faith through in-common experiences, parallel learning, contributive occasions, and interactive sharing” - *James White*

The challenge is *creating and deepening*
intergenerational relationships



Being Intergenerational

“Intentional intergenerational strategies...encourage interpersonal interactions across generational boundaries...sense of mutuality and respect is encouraged between participants” – *Alan Harkness*

Intentionality

Respect



Being Intergenerational

Intentional intergenerational relationships are marked by

Mutuality (all benefit)

Equality (all are valued equally)

Reciprocity (all give and receive)



Being Intergenerational

Is far more than being more inclusive of younger generations

Is more than being in the same space at the same time

Involves much more than what we do in worship



Being Intergenerational

Encompasses all we do as a community, our...

- Caring
- Praying
- Learning
- Celebrating
- Serving
- Ref. *Generations Together*



Being Intergenerational

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Being Intergenerational

What has surprised you?

What has been affirmed for you?

What's buzzing in your head around "intergenerational"?



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

A good first step to becoming more intergenerational is looking for more opportunities to proactively bring together people of different ages



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

- Planning
- Preparing
- Presenting
- Participating
- aPpraising



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

Putting it into practice...

- a. Identify your starting point
- b. Increase degree of intergenerationality in individual phases



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

a. Identify your starting point eg. Messy Celebration

What's the current situation re...

- Planning
- Preparing
- Presenting
- aPPraising



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

- a. Identify your starting point
 - b. Increase degree of intergenerationality in individual phases
- eg. increase number of generations
- eg. intentionally deepen relational connections



b. Increase the degree of intergenerationality in individual phases eg. Messy Celebration

How could you increase the number of generations involved and intentionally deepen relational connections in Messy Celebration...

- Planning
- Preparing
- Presenting
- aPPraising



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

- Quickly identify one other significant activity in the life of your Messy Church.
- Jot down how many different generations would usually be engaged intentionally in each of the Planning, Preparing, Presenting and Appraising phases.
- Notice which are currently have more generations represented and which have less.



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

- Notice which are currently have more generations represented and which have less.
- Choose one “P”, maybe one of the areas with less, and explore how more generations could be involved.
- Choose one “P”, maybe one of the areas with more, and explore how deepening the relationships might be possible.



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

- Becoming more intergenerational involves proactively and intentionally bring together people of different ages
- Identify your starting point
- Increase degree of intergenerationality in individual phases through...
 - increasing the number of generations involved
 - intentionally deepen relational connections



The 5P's and Embedded Intergenerationality

What has surprised you?

What has been affirmed for you?

What's buzzing in your head around “embedded intergenerationality”?



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- Being Intergenerational: More than all ages together
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 - Planning
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 - Presenting
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Being More Intentionally Intergenerational in Messy Church

- What's at least one thing you might do as a consequence of this Workshop?
- When someone asks you what was helpful about this Workshop, what might you say?



Being More Intentionally Intergenerational in Messy Church

A final comment...

- Your Messy Church sits with-in a broader local church ecosystem
- The more you can encourage being intergenerational in the broader system, the easier it will be in Messy Church
- Helpful resources to assist can be found at...
<https://uniting.church/intergenerational/>



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THANKS FOR BEING HERE

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