



trentvineyard.org

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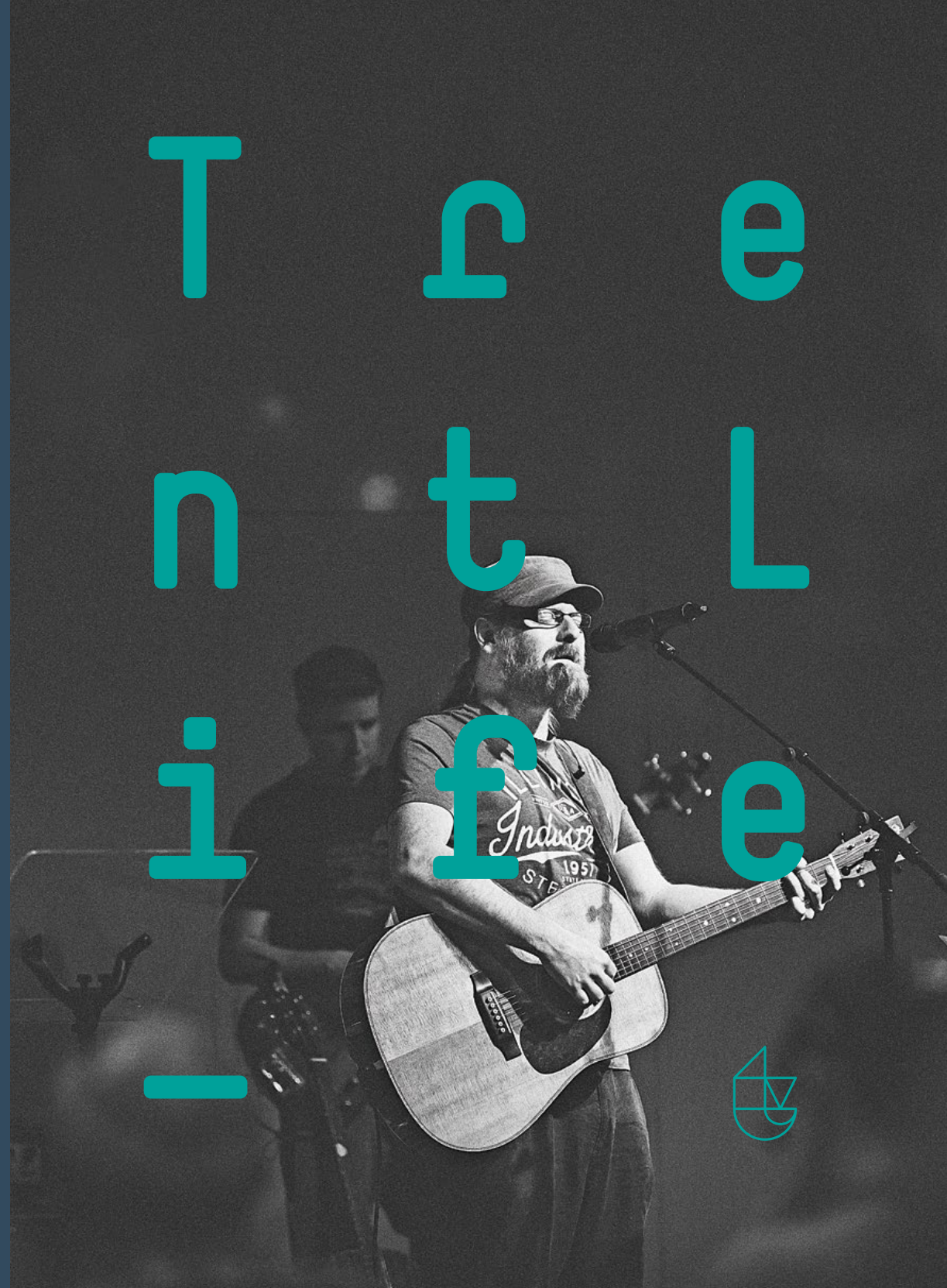
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Trent Vineyard is a church where everyone's

Welcome



John and Debby Wright
Senior Pastors

We're delighted you're interested in
knowing more about life at Trent Vineyard

This magazine is full of stories, articles, photos and details to give you a glimpse of what we're all about.

How to get involved

There's a lot to get involved in and something for everyone, so once you find an area you like the look of and want to find out more, we'd love to hear from you. You'll find contact details in the directory section towards the back.

Explore further at trentvineyard.org

You can get a feel for what to expect, find out what events and courses are on and also watch our Vision and Values talks which give you an idea of what we're about (hard copies of these are available on request too).

Our Vision

— **God has called us to build a growing, regional, biblically based church in Nottingham which will in a creative and contemporary way, in the power of the Holy Spirit, worship God and communicate the gospel with compassion and generosity.**

We aim to make, train and equip disciples to be effective in the extending of God's Kingdom, to develop leaders, to plant new churches and to contribute to the blessing of the whole Body of Christ.

Where do I start?

Sunday Services

If you're exploring faith or looking for a church in Nottingham to call your home, we'd love to meet you at one of these events:

Morning and evening services every week.

Alpha

A chance to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed environment.

Newcomer's Meals

Enjoy a welcome meal and meet some of our leaders, including our senior pastors John and Debby, and hear their personal story.

Making yourself at home

page 8

Come along on a Sunday.

page 10

Join a small group.

page 12

Find somewhere to serve.

page 26

Give a portion of your income regularly.



Start - your journey

“I started to get a new perspective on some problems that I had felt controlled my life and who I was.”

Jannette's story

My housemate played a significant part in my journey as she was already part of Trent and she invited me along and was my table host at Alpha. She made everyone feel very comfortable and treated every question I had with respect.

I came to Alpha with quite a lot of questions, wanting to find out about Christianity, understand the creation story, find out about the holy trinity and learn why people pray and how it is done. How to read the bible was also a big question, as I had no idea where to start. I also wanted to find out about more difficult questions around topics such as science, creation and suffering. Completing the course helped me answer a lot of these questions and generate hundreds more!

Having the time to catch up with others on your table before the talk, and then reflect on the talk afterwards with my table was such a great way to meet new people and it had a real impact on me personally.

There were several discussions throughout the course where I started to get a new perspective on some problems I had felt controlled my life and who I was. As a result of attending the course, I no longer feel so overwhelmed by these issues. There is still a long way for me to go, but I know God is helping me every step of the way.

Some time after Alpha, some of the people I'd met there got involved in a small group, which I went along to and am still part of today. Being part of a small group has really helped me ask many more questions, find out more about God and grow closer to Him.

Meeting Jesus was a very important moment for me and I keep recalling that moment in my mind because it was so special. I've become even more aware that God is a part of my life and it feels wonderful. I'm starting to understand what it means to trust in God and to follow Him and serve Him, which I hope will be the next step in my journey.

Alpha To discover a bit more about who Jesus is, come along to our Alpha course. It's an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. Typically, the Alpha course has around 8 sessions and includes a bite to eat, a short talk and time to chat it through with others.

Sundays

"For where two or three gather in my name,
there am I with them." Jesus, Matthew's gospel

We meet at 10:30am and 7:30pm and each service lasts about an hour and a half.

Things get going from about half an hour before the service. We have plenty of parking with a team in high-vis jackets to guide you to a space.

To help you settle in, we offer free tea, coffee, juice and donuts. Our café is also open serving quality coffee, homemade food and cake.

What to expect during our services

We start with a time of worship for about half an hour followed by a short welcome, news and a break. Then there's a talk based on the bible, including our experiences of following Jesus, that's practical and relevant to everyday life. After the talk, there's an opportunity to be prayed for.

What happens after our services

At the end of our services, you can get another cup of tea or coffee. The cafe will be open after the morning service. After the evening service, our bar will also be open where you can grab a drink and enjoy the afterhours' vibe with music and a variety of food to try.

Bringing the kids

Vineyard Kids (morning services only) is the place for little ones from babies to school year 7. Trent Youth is for anyone in school years 7 to 13.

Accessibility

The building is easily accessible and we have a number of disabled car parking spaces. Every second and fourth Sunday evening service is fully signed from the right hand side of the stage using British Sign Language.

Worship

**"freely giving our love
to God in all that we do"**

Worship is more than music. To us, it's the act of freely giving our love to God in all that we do and we believe that giving ourselves in worship is the key to finding Him at work in our lives.

Music is just one of the many ways we worship at Trent Vineyard. During our Sunday services we love to sing songs to God, giving thanks for all He is and has done in our lives and telling Him how much we love Him.



Hannah's story

I had been doing the 'church search' during my first few weeks at university and a friend invited me to the Trent freshers' small group on campus. They were so welcoming. It helped me make my mind up about which church to join. My small group became a place where I could be known, loved and supported, and it made the transition from a small local church back home to a huge church here a lot less daunting.

The last year has been tough. My Dad has been battling cancer since I arrived at university. I opened up to the group one evening and ever since they have been praying for my whole family and checking up on me regularly. One week in particular, they clubbed together to get my shopping (plus a few extra goodies). It made me realise that when they said they were there for me, they meant it.

Small group is community. It is an extended family to me. It is a place where I can totally be myself. It is a safe place I can go to each week and be honest about how I'm feeling – where I've learnt it is okay not to be okay. I love being part of a group of friends who, whether we're experiencing highs or lows, can walk through life together.

"It made me realise when they said they were there for me, they meant it."

Small groups: living life together

Small groups are at the heart of Trent Vineyard. We're committed to being more than just a large group of people who gather on a Sunday and small groups are the best way to provide community as we grow in our relationship with God.

We have plenty of groups at different times and locations. Most groups meet weekly and have between 6 and 20 members. A typical session might involve catching up, looking at the bible, prayer and worship, or finding practical ways of demonstrating God's love for those around us by getting out into the community. Some groups enjoy organising social activities like weekends away or meals together.

We also have a number of special interest groups based around a particular activity or interest including a number of fitness and lifestyle groups.

You'll find that each group is different and we would encourage you to find one that works for you.

"... They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts..." Book of Acts

Small groups

Serve —



We want to be the kind of people who generously give our time, energy, skills and resources to serve God and extend His kingdom. Church is not about a few people doing all the work and everyone else watching. It works best when everyone takes part and shares the ownership, responsibility and passion, so we can serve our city with generosity and compassion.

One of the best ways to feel at home at Trent Vineyard and meet others is to get involved. There's plenty to get involved with. Each year, around 200,000 voluntary hours are given by our church members to serve others. Whatever your personality, skills or talents, there's something for everyone from helping on a Sunday to getting involved with one of the projects we run or have partnered with including The Arches, the Soup Run or Street Pastors.

If you're new...

The best place to start is on one of our Sunday teams, which will give you a chance to meet people, understand the heartbeat of the church and also offer a welcome to others who are new. Great places to serve include; car parking, refreshments and set up.

Cedric: Sundays team

What do you enjoy most about serving at Trent Vineyard?

One team, one dream, right? I enjoy working with my team and if it wasn't for them turning out early on Sunday mornings, we would struggle to seat all the people we do. I take my hat off to the team, without them it wouldn't be possible.

The Sunday team is a good place to start to learn about how the church functions and a good place to serve. You have a designated week that you serve and weeks you don't, so it never becomes laborious.

What was the best thing about this Sunday?

Last week, we had some baby dedications on Sunday, which brings more challenges. We had more visitors than normal due to all the extra family and friends. We had to work to keep making sure people got seats. The best thing about it is welcoming new people and helping to give them a positive, fresh feeling about how we do church, especially for those who very rarely go.

Serve A-Z

20s - 30s

We hold events through the year, including parties and BBQs, all aimed at providing a place of connection and community for those in their 20s and 30s. One thing is for certain; food is always involved!



Alpha

Alpha is a course for people exploring faith, see page 7.

Arches

The Arches is a resource centre providing practical help and support for those in need across the city, including furniture, clothing, children's equipment and a number of community groups. See page 18.



Afterhours

After our evening services, we encourage people to stick around to have a drink, enjoy some good food and meet some new faces. The after-hours team help to make sure there's always plenty of food, great conversations and an opportunity to get to know new people.



Baptism

We hold several baptism services each year. The team helps organise them and helps anyone considering baptism feel welcome.



Connect

Our aim on the connect team is to help newcomers feel at home. We're around every Sunday service at the connect area where visitors can meet us and get information about the church.



Creative Network

For those interested in art, design, media, music and all things creative. We meet regularly to share and inspire one another.



Discipleship

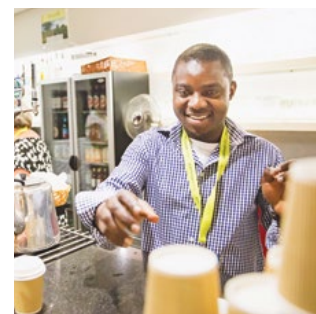
For those who are new to faith, we have a number of discipleship groups that help you get started on a journey with Jesus. These include 'more' groups, 'Jesus is', and new believer small groups.

Discipleship Year

Join around twenty others in getting stuck into the life of the church by voluntarily serving two days a week. It's a community-forming, character-building and life-changing year!

Discipleship Year plus

DY+ is for those (35+) interested in growing closer to God and growing in experience and gifting within community whilst serving the church.



Facilities

If you enjoy practical work then there are opportunities to help the facilities team during the week. Whether it's helping with cleaning, maintenance or keeping the plants tidy, the facilities team would love to hear from you.



Girls' Room

We organise events where women can gather together and also invite friends. Our urban markets are great fun and a good place to pick up some bargains.



MADO (Making A Difference Overseas)

We meet regularly to pray, Skype and support groups who have gone out from Trent Vineyard or other churches on missional work around the world. Areas involved currently include India, Zimbabwe, Japan and the Middle East.

Marriage :

Events and Courses

Marriage is something we value highly as a church, and we organise a number of events and courses through the year to support and invest in marriages.

Marriage :

Pre-marriage Course

This course provides engaged couples with time and space to build some useful tools that will help them start their marriage on firm foundations.

Media

The media team are behind most of the videos, images and sounds that you see on a Sunday or on our website. If you're interested in developing your skills in this area, there are lots of ways to get involved.



Men's Events

Good food and good company; our men's events provide an opportunity for men to get together and encourage each other.

Becka: Vineyard Kids team

Vineyard Kids is a fun and exciting place for kids up to school year 6 to learn about Jesus, whether on a Sunday morning or during the week.

On a typical Sunday morning we host several hundred children across a number of different groups. We also run midweek groups and larger events throughout the year like firework displays, our mega mornings, day trips and weekends away.

If you're passionate about young people being inspired and living out their faith then get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.

What does a typical morning in Vineyard Kids look like?

Busy, crazy, exciting! The team arrives early to set up rooms and pray, ready for the children to arrive. They are signed in and then they get involved with games, craft, stories, playing outside, worship and prayer. After a fun morning, set down begins. We usually have around 300 children from babies up to school year 6 on a Sunday morning and every week we have new families who need settling in and questions that need answering, but the teams are amazing and it's a lot of fun.

So what was the most exciting thing that happened this week in Vineyard Kids?

We have started asking a couple of kids from Megabites (those aged 4 to end of reception year at school) to help out with the kids worship. They go to each room and help the worship leader lead the kids, singing songs with actions. It has such an amazing impact on the other children. After worship in our group for 3 year olds this week, the children prayed for each other and a child's head got better. It's so amazing that 3 year olds get to pray for healing too.

What do you love most about it?

The fact that every week we get to be part of hundreds of children's lives. I love it when I get a text or email telling me how this has spilled out into their home life, school or nursery and how they are not restricted to just loving God on a Sunday.

How did you first get involved?

It was a long time ago. A friend was leading a week in 1s and asked me to help out. I loved it. Getting to spend time with the kids, play silly games and tell them how much Jesus loves them. It was right up my street!

Serve Vineyard Kids



The

Arches

The Arches is a practical resource and support centre for those in need across Nottingham. We aim to provide an environment of compassion and care, where people feel they can belong and are accepted; where they can build a sense of self-worth and confidence. We want to be a place where we can be generous with our time, energy and practical resources; where we can go the extra mile. The Arches provides practical support in the form of clothing, furniture, food, household goods and child and baby equipment. To find out more, visit thearchesnottingham.org

**"The Arches felt like home...
we were introduced to Trent
and here we are today.
It's a big happy family!"**

The
Arches
Project

LISA

Kevin and Lisa's story

Kevin: We had a house fire and Lisa moved into her mum's house with the children. A friend said I could stay with him and he happens to come to Trent. Whilst I was staying with him, he offered to bring us to The Arches to enquire about getting help with furniture.

Lisa: We'd lost everything in the fire. They gave us beds, clothes for the children... everything we needed.

Kevin: The Arches felt like home. A few weeks later we were introduced to Trent and here we are today. It's a big happy family!

Later on, a guy who helped in the kitchen was away and a volunteer at The Arches passed on the word that I'd be someone who could get involved. We were happy to help.

Lisa: I've asked to help out in Vineyard Kids on a Sunday. Someone on the Vineyard Kids team emailed recently to say they'd like me to join the team, so I'm just about to start helping there. Sunday is the highlight of my week. My friend came to church recently and we prayed for her. I put my hand on her shoulder and experienced the power of God.

Kevin: It feels like I've come back to the faith I knew when I was little, because when I was a child a minister fostered me. The Arches worked like a magnet to get me to the church at Trent. I feel like I've experienced God through coming to church.

Serve A-Z

continued from page 15

Ministry on the streets

The team go out into Nottingham on Saturday mornings to offer to to pray for people they meet and have time to chat.



Nightstop

Nightstop involves volunteers taking in homeless young people on a night-by-night basis for a few nights at a time.



Nottingham Citizens

Trent Vineyard is one of the founding members of this alliance of institutions which work together on issues of justice.

Prayer

Everything we do as a church is underpinned by prayer. There are regular prayer meetings and gatherings including weekly pre-service meetings and Tuesday morning meetings.

Prisons

The prisons team visit a number of Nottingham prisons, helping with small groups and Sunday services.



Power to Change

A 6-week course providing a safe, positive environment in which to explore and address negative thinking and behaviour.

Soup Run

The Soup Run team are out in the city centre on Friday evenings sharing food and hot drinks with the homeless.

Street Pastors

Street Pastors go out onto the streets of the city centre on a Friday and Saturday night and seek to practically demonstrate God's love to those on a night out.



Students

Love.Serve.Party. We're a family of students passionate about sharing God's love, serving our community and having a lot of fun while we do it. Join us as we gather together in small groups, for all-in community at our Chase events, at our annual Weekend Away and more!



Sunday teams

If you're new, these teams are one of the best ways to meet people and get stuck in.

Refreshments - welcoming everyone with beverages, something tasty and a smile.

Car Parking - Helping visitors safely find a space and making sure everyone knows where to go.

Hosting - It takes a mini army to set up the room for a Sunday service and we need you on board!

The Lighthouse Group (TLG)

Trent Vineyard work in partnership with TLG to run a small school within our premises for young people on the verge of permanent exclusion from school. If you have a passion for believing in young people and helping them fulfill their potential, we would love to meet you.

Theology

Our understanding of the bible is at the foundation of what we do as a church. If you're passionate about theology, get in touch.

Trent Debt Advice

We provide a free debt counselling and support service for anyone in need of advice around money.

Vineyard Kids

Is the place where hundreds of children come to worship, learn about Jesus and have fun on Sunday mornings and lots of events through the year. Find out more on page 16.



Vineyard Kids - Toddler Haven

On Friday mornings the church corridors are filled with the sound of toddlers bringing their mums and dads to Toddler Haven for soft play, activities and games. There are refreshments and opportunity for parents to chat too.

Vineyard Kids - Bumps to Babies

This group meets on Thursdays to support one another and share experiences of being pregnant or having a new baby. For pregnant or new parents.



Worship Network

The worship network is a community of people involved, or interested in getting involved, with worship across the church. Whether that's in kids, students, youth, small group or wherever. We have two main meetings a year and run a number of training session throughout the year, including introductory courses for various instruments, jam sessions, worship leader training, song writing and opportunities to learn new songs.



Trent Youth

Trent Youth is all about inspiring young people to love God, love others and change the world! It's a lot of fun and is for all young people in school years 7-13 with a number of different events on throughout the week and residential trips. To find out more see page 22.



“Some of the things they say or ask make you sit back and think: I’ve never thought about it like that.”

Youth

Trent Youth is about inspiring a new generation to love God and express love towards others. We have a few places throughout the week where those in school years 7 to 13 get to hang out, worship, chat about the bible and spend time with God.

Dave Reynolds: Trent Youth team



What is the most exciting thing about being involved in Trent Youth?

Having the opportunity to hang out with young people, encourage them and seeing lots of them have their lives changed by meeting with Jesus. It’s inspiring to see the passion some of the young people have for Jesus and the energy they bring to that. It’s also great to be able to have an excuse to play silly games with them that aren’t normally acceptable as an adult!

What sort of things do you get up to?

I started helping on Sunday mornings and gradually got more involved. I now lead a boys’ small group, lead on Sunday mornings and help take the group to trips and events like DTI (the national Vineyard youth conference). As a team, we have a lot of fun serving the young people and usually spend our time talking to them about their week, worshipping and chatting about Jesus. There’s also always plenty of pancakes, games and, for me, a lot of football.

Everyone knows working with teenagers can be hard – why do you do it?

Teenagers see the world in such a different way and they often inspire me. Some of the things they say or ask make you sit back and think, “I’ve never thought about it like that.”

I was their age once (not that long ago) and it’s a very difficult time. Having a positive support system around you at that point in your life is vital. I want to be there to support these young people and to encourage them to share their faith with their friends. I gave my life to Jesus as a teenager, as did many of my friends. I want to be part of seeing many more young people do the same.





Café

Weekdays 9am – 4pm
Sundays 9am – 3pm &
6pm – 7:30pm



Voucher

1 free regular hot drink



*Serving top quality coffee,
delicious homemade food & cakes*

cafe@trentvineyard.org @CafeTrent



Watch and listen
to our Vision and Values Talks:
trentvineyard.org/talks

We are so thankful for the generosity of those who give to Trent Vineyard, providing the church with the resources to do things well and to demonstrate God's love outside this church in practical ways.

To find out more about giving at Trent Vineyard go to trentvineyard.org/giving

or get in touch by saying hi or filling out a card at the connect area on a Sunday

Giving

"I've appreciated the way the church uses the bible to explain the principle of generosity, which I've applied personally. I feel like I've been on the receiving side of our church's generosity in so many ways. It's simply a part of our culture here." **Marie**

"After meeting with one of our young people for a mentoring session, I asked him if he was going to be at the youth service on Sunday. He said he was and asked if we were still taking an offering for the India-based children's charity we're linked to. When I confirmed we were, he said: 'Great! I've had some money saved for a while and have been wondering what would be a good thing to spend it on.'" **Ben**

"The challenge to live generously is one of the most exciting parts of my walk with Jesus. It's a real adventure to go out on a limb and then see what God will do. The teaching in the Vineyard continues to challenge us to live generously and recently it has made me reassess my stewardship of other treasures as well as money, in particular my time and my home." **Lizzie**

"When we first came to Trent we didn't have much and we knew just one couple. However, we picked up that generosity was a part of Trent's vision, so we decided to be generous with what we had. We've found that being generous with our money, time and energy has allowed us to feel part of the overall vision and helped us build relationships with people from all walks of life." **Matt & Lizzy**