



URBAN SAINTS

Dear Friends,

I hope you are all doing well.

I wanted to send a brief update and share some changing news about the journey of Missional Generation.

Over the past few months, the Trustees and I have been on a significant journey of prayer, reflection, and discernment as we sought God's direction for the future of Missional Generation. Whilst this has been a challenging season, it has also been one in which we have seen God's faithfulness, provision, and kindness in remarkable ways.

As many of you know, a significant part of our work has been employing and deploying Pioneer Youth and Children's Workers into local churches. Alongside this, we have developed resources, invested in youth and children's leaders through networks and training, supported national charities and denominations, and created opportunities for children and young people to encounter Jesus.

From the beginning, our vision has never simply been to employ staff. It has always been to **resource the local Church**. Whether through people, training, research, partnerships, or digital innovation, our desire has been to help churches confidently disciple the next generation.

As we reflected on the changing landscape of ministry, we sensed God inviting us to strengthen the local Church in a new way. Although saying goodbye to members of our staff was incredibly difficult, we were able to support the churches we served in employing those workers directly. Today, every Pioneer Youth and Children's Worker continues serving children and young people through local churches or partner organisations locally. Looking back, what first felt like a difficult transition has become a wonderful reminder that God's plans are often greater than our own.

Throughout this season, one theme became increasingly clear: **We Resource**. That simple phrase has continued to shape every conversation about the future.

During this process, Urban Saints approached us to explore how the work, learning, relationships, and resources developed over the past 13 years could become part of their future vision. Following a significant period of prayer and review, the Trustees concluded that the strongest long-term future for the vision God entrusted to Missional Generation was for me to become part of Urban Saints.

As a result, **Missional Generation will formally cease operating as a registered charity on 31 August 2026.** Whilst the charity itself will come to an end, the ministry relationships, resources, and vision developed through Missional Generation will continue through Urban Saints, creating new opportunities to strengthen and resource churches across the UK.

As part of this next chapter, I began serving in July as **Chief Mission Officer** at Urban Saints. This new executive role has been created to lead the development of mission, resources, schools work, digital innovation, partnerships, community engagement, and national networks, building on everything Urban Saints are doing over many years.

What excites me most about this new role is the opportunity to help Urban Saints continue equipping the Church for the future. Together, we will develop practical resources, training, research, and digital tools that support local churches, youth and children's leaders, volunteers, schools, and ministry networks as they help more children and young people discover and grow in faith.

I would love the opportunity to share more of this journey when we next meet or talk again.

Thank you for your friendship, encouragement, and partnership over the years. Whether you have prayed, partnered with us, attended a network, used a resource, or simply cheered us on, you have played an important part in the story of Missional Generation. Hannah and I are deeply grateful for the way so many of you have encouraged both the ministry and our family.

We look forward to continuing to serve alongside many of you through Urban Saints and believe the best days of resourcing the Church to reach the emerging generation are still to come.

With every blessing,

Ben Jones
Chief Mission Officer
Urban Saints