

Collection Summary

ID Number: CS 328

Title: Jesus Fellowship

Extent: 3 Folder(s)

Span Dates: 1989-1994

Language: English

Geographic Location: Northampton, United Kingdom

Abstract: This collection consists of publications produced by the organization.

Historical Notes: The Jesus Army is the identity that the Jesus Fellowship Church uses in its outreach and street-based work. It is a neocharismatic evangelical Christian movement based in the United Kingdom, that is part of the British New Church Movement. Jesus Fellowship was founded in 1969, when Noel Stanton (1926–2009), at that time the lay pastor of the Bugbrooke village Baptist chapel near Northampton, East Midlands, was inspired by a charismatic experience which led him to successfully expand the congregation, largely by appealing to a younger generation of worshippers. The Jesus Fellowship has grown considerably and there are now approximately 3,500 members in around 24 congregations in various cities and towns of the United Kingdom. The Jesus Army frequently engages in evangelism in public places, seeking through outreach to demonstrate the love of Jesus and the moving of the Holy Spirit. The slogan of the Jesus Army is "Love, Power and Sacrifice". Jesus Fellowship operates much like the house church movements, or the more radical elements of the larger, more conventional churches. It was affected by the Charismatic Movement of the late 1960's and early 1970's and influenced by the Jesus People movement in the United States. There are various aspects of the Jesus Fellowship's way of practicing Christianity that are distinctive when compared with more conventional churches. In the early years of the Jesus Fellowship, a residential Christian community was founded for its growing membership. Initially, a large Anglican rectory in Bugbrooke was purchased and renamed "New Creation Hall". Several members of the Jesus Fellowship moved in and it became the first center of a community lifestyle. By 1979, several other large houses in the surrounding area were purchased and "New Creation Christian Community," as the entire community was named, was established, with some 350 residents. There are around sixty New Creation Christian Community houses in the United Kingdom with about 700 people, about 25 percent of the total membership of the Jesus Fellowship, living in them. Motivation for the Jesus Fellowship's venture into residential communal living and the sharing of possessions came primarily from their interpretation of Biblical descriptions of the early church. The Jesus Fellowship's community has many features in common with other charismatic Christian intentional communities and part of the initial stimulation towards starting the New Creation Christian Community came from the Church of the Redeemer, Houston, Texas, established by the Episcopalian priest Graham Pukkingham. New Creation Christian Community is one of the largest intentional Christian communities in Europe, charismatic or otherwise. **Sources:** [Jesus Fellowship](#)

Selected Search Terms

Subjects: Communal living; Collective settlements; Housing, Cooperative; Commune; Christian life; Christian ethics; Christian stewardship; Jesus Army; Evangelistic work

Administrative Information

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Contents	Date	Container	Folder	Location
Flyers about Organization	1991	Filing Cabinet	Folder 1	Filing Cabinet 14-B
Jesus Army Newspaper. Northampton: Jesus People. no. 16 (Fourth Quarter, 1989)	1989	Filing Cabinet	Folder 1	Filing Cabinet 14-B
Jesus Army Streetpaper. Northampton: Jesus Fellowship Church. no. 17 (First Quarter, 1990) – no. 35 (Third Quarter, 1994)	1990 - 1994	Filing Cabinet	Folder 1	Filing Cabinet 14-B
Jesus Lifestyles. Northampton: Jesus Fellowship Church. no. 10 (Fourth Quarter, 1989) – no. 20 (Second Quarter, 1992)	1989 - 1992	Filing Cabinet	Folder 2	Filing Cabinet 14-B
Jesus Lifestyles. no. 21 (Third Quarter, 1992) – no. 29 (Third Quarter, 1994)	1992 - 1994	Filing Cabinet	Folder 3	Filing Cabinet 14-B