

Youth/ Young Adult Ministries

It has been a year of learning to be flexible and pivot when need be.

There have been a few changes to our team this year. We farewelled Charlotte from the Mental Health role and have welcomed in Guy Cowan to finish the project off. Of course, Spanky moving to Nelson has been a sad farewell. We have been greatly encouraged to have Cherie Dirkze start in the Safeguarding Officer role and have already appreciated what she brings to our team.

Since the last Synod report the main activities/ events have been the following:

- Young Adult Worship Nights have continued to grow since they started at the beginning of 2020 in both attendance and development of musicians and worship leaders. The space is appreciated and well attended by many of our young adult. This year we have also started having youth worship nights once a term in the T.C. We are thankful to Guy and Paul for their continued leadership and discipleship of musicians.
- The Abbey 2020 was set to be in Waikanae in August however covid meant the national event had to be cancelled the week before and it got moved to an online day event. Due the fact everyone was tired of being online we decided to run a one day event here in ChCh using a mixture of online content and in person talks. About 70 people attended the day and it was fantastic to be together for the first time in months, although we missed being able to be in Waikanae together with the rest of NZ.
- Deeper Camp was held at the start of November and was targeted at Intermediates Year 7-9. Due to the uncertainties of Covid we decided to make the camp able to be run in level 1 or 2 which meant reducing it to just one night. A fantastic weekend was had by the young people and youth leader's as they worshiped, listened to talks, and did lots of fun activities. One night and a full day into Saturday evening worked so well that we are running Deeper with that format again this year.
- The Kiln – Communication Series was run over a 4 week period of Monday nights in Term Three. The purpose was to help upskill our Youth Ministers and key young leaders in their ability to speak and communicate well.
- The first Pilgrimage Pilot was held at the start of February for our key youth leaders/Youth Ministers. We stayed at Little River and tried different activities over the three days on Banks Peninsula to see what would work well with young people. More Pilgrimages are set to happen later this year.
- It was great that Easter Camp 2021 happened. We again had a good turn out in Anglican Party Central. The great set up with an APC green hosted many competitive volleyball games. Our groups reported young people making faith commitments at camp and reaping the benefits of having the big event to help strengthen and develop youth groups.

Activities planned for 2021-2022

- Young Adult and Youth Pilgrimages
- Dodgeball Competition
- Sports Competition
- The Abbey in Waikanae
- Deeper Camp
- Young Adult and Youth Worship Nights.

Issues going forward include how to continue to create and grow sustainable youth ministries, best practice health and safety standards are being met, and developing youth leaders for sustainable youth work.