

Youth/Young Adult Ministries 2022-2023

The 2022-2023 year was another mixed bag with many cancellations still happening due to covid but with some great gatherings happening as well. With the conclusion of the Mental Health Educator funding, we finished the project by producing the Mental Health Strategy 2022, which highlights some helpful initiatives we can be doing as a diocese.

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

- Cathedral Worship Nights
These continued once a month despite some having to be cancelled due to covid.
- Unplugged Retreat/Pilgrimage July 2022
A great few days was had at Little River receiving excellent teaching from Strahan Coleman.
- Unplugged Retreat November 2022
Following the silent retreat format, a reflective, unplugged weekend retreat was enjoyed by all.
- A night at The Abbey 2022
Due to covid a one-night event was held with great worship, teaching and prayer space (and doughnuts).
- Games Night
A successful trial of a fun evening with youth group's competing in different games and activities.
- Mental Health First Aid Training
This was run by Steppingstone Trust; it was a very helpful two-day training.
- Project Management Training
A resourceful training to help people to be better equipped to run events, and youth groups.
- Deeper 2022
One night camp/day event for Intermediates and families, great worship, and teaching and of course all the fun group activities.
- Easter Camp 2023
APC had a great vibe, and everyone loved being back at camp together.

Activities planned for 2023-2024

- Games Night (replaces the Dodgeball Competition)
- The New Thinker's Banquet—for youth reps for synod
- Young Adult Retreats (Unplugged) July and November
- The Abbey 2023—back in Waikanae
- High School gathering
- Deeper 3-4 November
- Young Adult Worship Nights at the Transitional Cathedral—First Sunday of the month

Issues going forward include fostering growth and development of children's—intermediates—young people—young adult—families in parishes where there has been very little progress in this area for many years. Growing and developing youth workers is still a challenge—there is not an ample supply of youth workers but where it does work well is when parishes have grown and developed their own leaders. Pathways to disciple all young leaders continue to be a focus.

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