

APCM PARISH YOUTH WORK REPORT 2017 - Judi Cox

2 Chronicles 7: 14. If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Psalms 139: 23. Search me, God and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

John 15:5. Without Him = I can do nothing!

Psalms 127: Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.

THIS YEAR:

4 Terms down: Can be hard to think of new ways to present APCM report! Rhythm or Rut? Career Speed Dating @Tanbridge. What love about my job? What is difficult? How did I get into it? How easy is it to get promoted? According to the papers, I am the 'Council Chief'! ☺

What's Amazing!

I had already started preparing this report using the above verses. Inviting questions.... Then asking myself – Parish Youth work: Strengths? Weaknesses? My dreams? Goals? Feeling this year needs to be a year where it would be good to take time. Stop? Listen! Challenged by the above verses to be humble. Pray. Seek His face. Be challenged by others!

Tanbridge - more questions. Reassured: What I love about my job outweighs the challenges.



Verses reminded me: I am accountable to you/the church, and ultimately – the Lord! I need to report to you, but the Lord has always journeyed with me throughout my youth work journey. He knows my heart, my thoughts, and my anxieties. With Him – I don't need a report, and promotion has never been important to me – I just long to be where He wants me, working for Him! So far – that has always included working face to face with young people in churches and within the community. Wherever He leads.

My key verses: Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain! Without Him, I can do nothing! Blessed are those who trust in the Lord/confidence is in Him! Jer 17:7.

2017 Need to be humble. Recognise Lord's leading. Give time to hear from Him. He knows everything. (Past. Present. Future.) Trust Him.

2017 needs to be a season of Praying/Seeking His face/listening.

Time to explore honestly: Strengths + Weaknesses/Nightmares +Dreams = Goals/Plan.

Youth work continues with 4 streams of work:

Church Young People: Café. Cells. TGI. Camps. Growing Leaders. Confirmation. Alpha.

Community Young People: YST. Eliv8/Early Intervention. Catalyst Mentoring. YMCA. Forum

Support of Parish Youth Leaders: Vision & Plan. Training. Prayer & Share. Retreat.

Mission work: Home & Abroad.

I have already written down my thoughts on what I feel the Parish Strengths, weaknesses, dreams and goals might be, and I won't share them.....because I need to hear from others.

HOWEVER: like to close with a small example of one of my biggest dreams/long for more!

To see **all 4 streams of the Parish Youth work** merging together **super- naturally!**

Parish Mission: Our YP will GROW UP in their relationship with God, GROW TOGETHER as Christians/parish, and Grow OUT as they witness to God's love to others.



Sleep Easy Sleep Out for the YMCA – it happened! A sign of God's Kingdom. His heart!
Church YP/Leaders spending time/building relationships with community YP, and through this – being/doing mission together! As ONE WHOLE COMMUNITY! SHOWING ONE HEART – I BELIEVE, HIS HEART, for others!! I long, and will look, for more of these opportunities!!