

Youth work APCM 2019 Report

Overview

In May 2019 our new Youth Work Enabler Lee Buck started. Since then we have seen old leaders step down and new leader appear. We have also tried to bring all the youth teams together, to meet each other and help to work across the parishes. We have had Dan Jenkins run 2 training sessions for our leaders. Its been a great year for Lee getting in place and meeting all the young people.

TGI's

TGI's started back up again after finishing at the end of last year. The youth club has seen some old members return and new ones join. We have had a regular number of 20 young people attending sessions. We also ran our very first BEAT THE PARENTS evening. This was Christmas themed and invited parents along to compete against the young people in a quiz evening. We also promoted May Camp, which helped us sign up 25 young people for May Camp 2020. We have also been able to get a regular team of leaders in place to engage with these young people.

CIA

CIA which is now known as The Core, is the Sunday school for St Mary's. Since Lee Buck started, we have gone to 3 Sundays a month instead of 2. We have seen a regular 4-7 on Sundays unless the choir joins us then the groups grows to about 15. We have looked at the bible and an overview of it. We also did a Christmas drama which was recorded and voiced by the children in the Church.

Illumin8

This is our Sunday school for Holy Trinity. This group only ran once a week. Now it runs twice a month. 1 session works around the choir. They have breakfast together then join the choir. They then come out for teaching and re attend the Church at the end. On the other week they stay out and discuss a topic/question which the young people want to investigate. This group has a had 8-10 young people attending and engaging in these sessions.

Café Connect

Cafe Connect has continued to engage young people from all the Churches and even a few other Churches. It's a lovely community and a safe space for young people to question, deepen their knowledge and express their faith. We have had a few feedback sessions to make sure Café Connect stays exactly what young people want. We did lose our Worship

leader for Café Connect. But we have continued with worship from the laptop, although there are plans for next year to look at getting a youth band together.

Youth Alpha

This year Lee and Rebecca Tuck started a Youth Alpha Course. The group started with a large number (33) but slowly dwindled down to a smaller and more manageable size. This has allowed us to have, closer connections with our young people and learn where they are with their faith. These sessions have allowed us to talk more freely about our opinions on faith in a safe space. We look forward to continuing these sessions in 2020.

Cell Groups

We have 2 Cell groups one runs for year6-8/9 the other runs from 9/10-13. We have allowed year 9's the option to join friends who may be older and join the older Cell group, or stay behind with friends. We have started to go through the Storylines material which was made for small groups by Soul Survivor. They have been watching the videos that go with the series and going through themes throughout the Bible.

May Camp

We had 9 young people attend May Camp 2019 and had 25 signed up for 2020. Chris Robertson organised and lead our group to May Camp. Lee Buck had just joined us before May Camp 2019 and this was his first encounter with the young people. There were too many positives to take from May Camp, reaching the semi-finals in football, growing friendships, growing in our knowledge of God, worship, Memories and much more. May Camp can be the first time God is introduced to these young people which makes this even a huge part of our youth work year. Some of our young people also said they never knew there was worship like this, that was at May Camp

Soul Survivor

This was the last ever Soul Survivor after 25+years. Chris Robertson took leadership over this as Lee had just came into post. There was a lot of older teens that were still in our youth system or had fallen away from Church. This was great to help bring them closer to God and back to Church. A great time was had by all. Most of our young people felt Gods presence, which is always really encouraging. For some of our young people and leaders this is a real fulfilment of the Holy Spirit and get them and ourselves ready for the new academic year. We look forward to a summer camps in 2020.

Lee Buck

Youth Work Enabler