

Youth Work... The Mail Out 8th Mar 2011

but as a Young Person I benefited immensely through the love and care that my own Youth Leader offered to me, he gave me the confidence to realise that I was actually worth something - because he listened. Friends it is a real privilege to work with young people (lets never loose site of that) and if we can make a difference by investing in them... then I believe this world will be changed for the better.

Thank you all for your invaluable work... news about the future of the Diocesan Youth Officer post will appear on the Diocesan Website (www.coventryanglican.org).

The following may be of some interest...

Student Youth Worker Required (part 1)

St. Nicholas Church, Alcester, in partnership with the Centre for Youth Ministry are seeking a Student Youth Worker In order to: Develop the existing church outreach to young people in the town; Pioneer new initiatives; Potentially work with local schools; Build on our excellent relationships with other community organisations. Recruit and train a team of volunteers who will eventually take over the work. In return we offer: Excellent accommodation; A monthly bursary and expenses; An opportunity to study for a BA honours degree in Youth and Community Work and Practical Theology; A generous budget for 3 years. This post offers a once in a lifetime opportunity to pioneer Youth Work in a bustling market town in South West Warwickshire and therefore we are looking for someone with relevant experience. For more information please contact The Revd Canon David Capron on 01789/764261 or e-mail: canon@caprons.co.uk

Student Youth Worker Required (part 2)

St Nicholas Church, Kenilworth, Warwickshire seek a committed person who wishes to train for Christian Youth Ministry (CYM) through study at the Midlands Centre for Youth Ministry. St John's Nottingham or the Oxford Centre starting September 2011 whilst coordinating and developing the churches youth ministry. This church is offering a student bursary, tuition fees and assistance towards accommodation and food to the successful candidate. Please apply to Revd R. Awre, The Vicarge, 7 Elmbank Road, Kenilworth, Warks. CV8 1AL. Tel: 01926 854367. www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Soapbox Projects SoapBox is a charitable trust registered in the United Kingdom that provides opportunities for people to go on short-term mission projects in some of the poorest communities throughout the world. Formed in the mid 80's by Steve Flashman, SoapBox became a charity in the early 90's and started a programme of short-term projects in 1993. They have a ChildCare programme that operates in the countries where they have practical aid projects. They assist UK churches in operating their own short-term programmes. They also have an involvement with UK prisons and schools. Form ore details about Soapbox please click on the following link: www.soapboxtrust.com/Soapbox_Trust_2010/Home.html

Frontline Conference for Youth and Young Adults

Renewal Christian Centre in Solihull is hosting a Frontline Conference for Youth and Young Adults Conference on 15th and 16th April. This will include inspirational preaching, challenging seminars and practical workshops that will enable Young People to be the difference in the world. Guest speakers are Sophia Barrett and Jim Wilkinson. For further details check out the website <http://www.frontline.fm/conference/> or ring 0121 711 7300

Fr Paul Messam from Blue Coat School in Coventry has sent the following...

A Step-by-Step plan for how to get more Young People into Church

1. Be genuine. Do not under any circumstances try to be trendy or hip, if you are not already intrinsically trendy or hip. If you are a 90-year-old woman who enjoys crocheting and listens to Beethoven, by God be proud of it.
2. Stop pretending you have a rock band.
3. Stop arguing about whether gay people are okay, fully human, or whatever else. Seriously. Stop it.
4. Stop arguing about whether women are okay, fully human, or are capable of being in a position of leadership.
5. Stop looking for the "objective truth" in Scripture.
6. Start looking for the beautiful truth in Scripture.
7. Actually read the Scriptures. If you are an Anglican, go buy a Bible and read it. Start in Genesis, it's pretty cool. You can skip some of the other boring parts in the Bible. Remember though that almost every book of the Bible has some really funky stuff in it. Remember to keep #5 and #6 in mind though. If you are evangelical, you may need to stop reading the Bible for about 10 years. Don't worry: during those 10 years you can work on putting these other steps into practice.
8. Start worrying about extreme poverty, violence against women, racism, consumerism, and the rate at which children are dying worldwide of preventable, treatable diseases. Put all the energy you formerly spent worrying about the legit-ness of gay people into figuring out ways to do some good in these areas.
9. Do not shy away from lighting candles, silence, incense, laughter, really good food, and extraordinary music. By "extraordinary music" I mean genuine music. Soulful music. Well-written, well-composed music. Original music. Four-part harmony music. Funky retro organ music. Hymns. Taize chants. Bluegrass. Steel guitar. Humming. Gospel. We are the church; we have an uber-rich history of amazing music. Remember this.
10. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
11. Learn how to sit with people who are dying.
12. Feast as much as possible. Cardboard communion wafers are a feast in symbol only. Humans can not live on symbols alone. Remember this.
13. Notice visitors, smile genuinely at them, include them in conversations, but do not overwhelm them.
14. Be vulnerable.
15. Stop worrying about getting young people into the church. Stop worrying about marketing strategies. Take a deep breath. If there is a God, that God isn't going to die even if there are no more Christians at all.
16. Figure out who is suffering in your community. Go be with them.
17. Remind yourself that you don't have to take God to anyone. God is already with everyone. So, rather than taking the approach that you need to take the truth out to people who need it, adopt the approach that you need to go find the truth that others have and you are missing. Go be evangelized.
18. Put some time and care and energy into creating a beautiful space for worship and being-together. But shy away from building campaigns, parking lot expansions, and what-have-you.
19. Make some part of the church building accessible for people to pray in 24/7. Put some blankets there too, in case someone has nowhere else to go for the night.
20. Listen to God (to Wisdom, to Love) more than you speak your opinions.

Midlands Centre for Youth Ministry is running the following training event...

Looking at Behaviour with Bev Palmer

Monday 4th July 2011 10.00 am - 3.30 pm.

This training day is an opportunity to look again at the reasons '*why young people do what they do*' by exploring some important factors

Bev believes that ALL challenging behaviour is ONLY an attempt to get needs met, so identifying the need is in part the solution to the problem.

Understanding the 'Physiology of Emotions'

Learning about 'Toxic Shame' and its detrimental impact

How using 'Transactional Analysis' as a communication tool can impact positively on behaviour

Looking at Cognitive Behavioural approaches to deal with crisis situations

Using 'Creative' methods to engage young people with complex needs

Coffee from 10.00 am, Cost: £15 including lunch. Please book in advance by contacting Gill Benson at the address below. *Gill Benson*

Midlands Centre for Youth Ministry St John's College Nottingham Ltd Chilwell Lane, Bramcote, Nottingham, NG9 3DU

Tel: 0115 9683222.

And finally...

Taize 2011

After the success of last year's youth pilgrimage to Taize, we are going to do this again. Are you aged 15-29 Join us and about 3000 others on a trip to France and meet people from around the world, worship together, discuss issues of faith and life and most importantly have fun. The trip is from Saturday 6th August to Monday 15th August and the cost is £175 for travel, food and accommodation. For further information contact Stella on 024 7661 0296 or email chacethedog@sky.com

First Sunday Leamington Spa

First Sunday is a monthly celebration of all God means to the youth of Leamington and all around. They aim to provide a place that inspires us all to live our lives for God at school, college, uni, everywhere. First Sunday exists to belong to all the youth in and around Leamington, to unite us and give us opportunities to grow in gifts and love of our amazing God.

The event takes place at Leamington Spa Baptist Church (Chandos Street) on the First Sunday of each month from 8-9.30pm. I whole heartedly recommend this fun, creative spirit filled and vibrant Youth Event.

Junction 7 (Uplifted)

J7 is a monthly worship event for secondary school students & church youth groups. An opportunity to engage with God & fuel faith through spirit filled worship, relevant & thought provoking teaching & video clips and games. The event takes place on the 3rd Sunday of each month @ Queens Road Baptist Church in Coventry between 7.30-9.15pm. For more details check out: www.covyfc.org.

Elevate

“Dynamic youth event with relevant teaching, lively worship, and an evangelistic heart” 11-16 year olds
6:00pm-8:30pm 3rd Sunday of every month. Elevate is ran by Rugby Youth for Christ and is held at: the New Life Church, Railway Terrace, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 3EN. For more details please click on:

<http://rugbyyfc.com/>