

## **St Marks' Youth Ministry Report 2017**

The Youth of St Mark's are a group of brilliant young people at an exciting phase of their lives.

They are also quite a diverse group each with their questions, doubts, strengths and challenges. The numbers of youth on a Sunday varies quite a bit with some very regular and other less so. We split into a College age group and a Lycee age group when we have enough youth and enough leaders. Typically, we have around 10 youth, but it has been as many as 16 and as few as 5.

There were no baptisms or confirmations among the youth during 2017 but a number of the youth will be baptised on Easter Sunday 2018 in a public declaration of their faith in Jesus.

On Sunday mornings during the spring we did a series on spiritual warfare and then since September we have been studying Luke together.

During the year we had a couple of sleepovers with the youth where we had food, games, worship and teaching. The older youth also attended Pulse Paris a French language Youth for Christ event aimed at young adults. In September we also went canoeing together.

The Fusion events which had previously brought together the youth from various Anglophone churches in the area for games, food, teaching & worship did not take place during 2017. There is however an event planned for 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

It is worth noting that as well as there being a ministry to the youth there is also ministry by the youth. The youth of St Mark's minister to the rest of the congregation by leading worship, helping with tea and coffee and doing the projector amongst other jobs.

A Youth Policy is available to set out how we do things with the young people, if you want a copy of this let me know. If you want to know more about what we do with the youth talk to me, talk to one of the other leaders or talk to the youth.

The current youth leaders are myself, Eric Kvaalen, Felicia Plesca, Matt Collis, Vivian Socket and Hiroko Schoch. These people also have other responsibilities inside and outside the church hence have limited availability. Please pray that we might have the right mix of leaders for the future. If you think that you might be being called to help with the Youth please talk to one of the youth leaders.

Please pray for the youth, they are at a critical time in their lives as they move between childhood and adulthood and from following the faith of their parents to making decisions of their own. Pray for a continuation of their walk towards maturity in their faith and a deepening of their discipleship. Pray also for the leaders, that we may find the right ways to support and lead the youth, engaging effectively with all the youth and helping them to move on in their walk with the Lord. Pray also that the youth may be a good influence on each other, ministering to one another and bringing out the best in each other.

Alan Kendall