

## Youth/Young Adult Ministries

Well, another year has passed during covid times. We noticed at the start of this year that our people were tired, so we have been focusing on supporting and pastorally caring during these times of uncertainty and change.

The younger persons mental health project has had another role change at the start of 2022 because Guy was successful in landing a teaching role and had to finish up with us. William Jamieson has taken on the role part time to finish up the project funding by the end of 2022 and to help complete the mental health strategy.

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

- Cathedral Worship Nights have continued to grow and develop despite covid cancelling some over the past year. The space is appreciated and well attended by many of our young adults/ youth/ adults. Paul has helped to grow the team of musicians over the past few years which has added much depth and expertise in the team.
- A dodgeball competition was able to be held at the end term two 2021. Youth groups enjoyed gathering at the Graham Condon Centre to verse each other in rounds of Dodgeball.
- The Abbey 2021 was set to be in Waikanae in August but again was cancelled due to the covid lockdown- this time just three days out. The team ran some Abbey Online sessions for three consecutive Saturday's which many of our youth workers engaged with.
- Deeper Camp was cancelled because they had rescheduled The Abbey to be held on the same weekend. However, the rescheduled Abbey date was again cancelled. We were able to hold our Deeper deposit at Woodend over to 2022 though.
- The Pilgrimages that were planned to happen in September and October were cancelled due to covid. People did not feel confident/ safe to sign up/ covid levels meant we could not go ahead.
- An Unplugged Silent Retreat for young adults was held at the end of November. Ten young adults gathered at Little River for the weekend and partook in times of silence, spiritual direction, and prayer rhythms.
- Easter Camp 2022 was cancelled. Due to Canterbury being right in the peak of covid youth groups decided to do their own smaller activities for Easter and engage with their parish Easter Celebrations.

Activities planned for 2022-2023

- Young Adult Retreats (Unplugged) July and November
- Youth Ministers/ Young Adult Retreat over The Abbey cancelled weekend 19-21 August
- Sports Competition 23 September
- Children/ Intermediates Gathering 4-5 November
- Young Adult Worship Nights at the Transitional Cathedral – Second Sunday of the month
- Mental Health First Aid Course
- Project Management Course
- Communications Training

Issues going forward include how to continue to create and grow sustainable youth ministries, continue to develop best practice health and safety standards across the diocese and parishes, developing youth leaders for sustainable youth work, and of course support and resource youth and young adult groups, and gatherings during covid times.

Sammy Mould – Youth and Young Adults Team Leader  
Paul Hegglun – Under 40's Ministry Consultant