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The Point AGM 2023 Youth Ministry Report

Sundays

In Sunday youth sessions this year we've focused on 3 main teaching topics: 1) prayer, 2) mission and 3) social justice. Much of this has been delivered by our brilliant youth team, and we've had a number of guest speakers, particularly for the mission topic.

We've had 45 different young people attending our Sunday youth sessions, with on average 25 coming each week.

Midweek Groups

Our midweek youth groups, which meet on alternate Wednesdays, are Nova (for school years 7 to 9) and Coda (for school years 10 and above).

Nova meets at the Emmanuel Centre in Ditchling, and our youth have enjoyed getting to know some of the youth from Holy Trinity Hurstpierpoint who've been coming along to Nova since January.

Coda has met at various venues over the year, and we've been very blessed to have been generously offered a new venue for this term at the home of one of our church members.

Team

Our youth are brilliantly served by a small but very committed team of volunteers who support me across the different groups we run. Thank you to Amelia, Eb, Ian, Jo, Josh, Julia, Kim, Lisa, Michael and Rosie who have all served on the team this year. Recruitment is underway to increase the capacity of our team.

New Groups

Two new groups have started this year, which some of our youth attend:

- Connect is a new group for those in school years 5-8, aimed at helping the year 5 and 6s to get ready for transitioning to youth in the future.
- Scuba is a discipleship group, aimed at older youth and focused on more in depth Bible study and prayer.

Schools Work and the Hub

The Point is part of the Hub team, which is a network of local church youth leaders. Together we run various activities in our local secondary schools. I have had the privilege of spending time in 4 local secondary schools so far this year: Burgess Hill Academy, Downlands Community School, Hurst College and St Paul's Catholic College. I've helped to lead assemblies, lunch clubs, away days, sixth form seminars and as a Hub team we have run the Youth Alpha course with two entire year groups in one school.

Other Events

One focus this year has been on our forthcoming mission trip with YWAM to Herefordshire in the summer. Ten of our youth are coming on the trip, and have been involved in helping me to run fundraising events to raise the money we need for the trip. We have been hugely blessed so far by God's provision in this and the generosity of people at The Point.

The Hub runs various events throughout the year, which I help to plan and lead, including a United weekend event in the autumn, and smaller Reunited events on Friday evenings. These events aim to form the bridge between our schools work and our regular youth groups.

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