

**WE'RE
BACK!**

Well . . . we never really went away!

Welcome to our June 2019 newsletter. First of all, our sincere apologies for the large gap between our last newsletter in September 2018 and this one. It may have seemed that we had in fact gone away, but the ministry is still very much around and committed to working with the young people of Tillydrone. So, what has been happening since September 2018?

Our youth worker Curtis Sangbarani felt the call of God to move on to another youth ministry, working in schools on the south side of Aberdeen, and left our ministry in Tillydrone in the middle of October 2018. We were, as a Board of Trustees, considering with Curtis what the Holy Spirit would want us to do to strengthen our existing work and develop new initiatives individually and with sister ministries. Curtis moving on was very much a catalyst to a deep and prayerful focussing of minds on what the future was to be for the ministry and what it would look like. The following are the main confirmations and aims to come out of that time.

- Our focus and commitment is still very much for and with God's work among the young people of Tillydrone.
- We were very heavily impacted by the fact that there are many young people, particularly boys, who do not have a stable role model to which they can look to. While we felt that it was obvious to us what the need was, we committed it to God in prayer. As a result, it was confirmed to us that the immediate way forward was to step out in faith and recruit another male youth worker.
- We were also to use the time to assess and strengthen our Board of Trustees and improve where necessary the behind the scenes support of the ministry.
- We were to formalise the very close working relationship which has evolved over the last seven years or so between our ministry and that of The Lighthouse Resource Centre.

The process of moving forward with our aims with what was, for a while, very limited resources was longer than we would have liked. However, we are now in a stronger place and are delighted that God has led us to the man (introduced below) that He chose to join the ministry as our new youth worker. We are enthused and excited as we move forward into this new season for our ministry and look to our God to do great things among the young people of Tillydrone.

Meet Matthew, Our New Youth Worker



Meet our new youth worker Matthew Hamilton. Matthew (21) hails from Newtownards, County Down in Northern Ireland. Matthew is related to Steven Hamilton who was very much the pioneer of our ministry's initial work in Tillydrone.

Matthew has a strong faith and passion for reaching young people and sharing the gospel with them whatever their nationality, ethnicity or background. He comes with a strong background of leading youth work in his home church, running youth camps and working with young people in other areas of the UK and abroad. Having met and spent time with Matthew, his passion and enthusiasm is very obvious, and it has to be said contagious. In the short time we have known him, he has already come up with some new ideas. We look forward with anticipation to working with Matthew and seeing what God will do among us through him.

Prayer is key to our ministry, please pray with us for:

- God's wisdom and blessing to be given to us in this new season of the ministry.
- Thanks for all the work Curtis did with us, blessing on the young lives he touched, and God's grace and encouragement for his new job.
- Matthew and his family in Northern Ireland as he leaves them to move over to Aberdeen to take up his role on 1 July 2019.
- Matthew as he acclimatises to the area, its people and settles into his new environment in Tillydrone.
- Wisdom and leading for both Matthew and the Board of Trustees as we prepare for and recommence our ministry among the young people of Tillydrone in partnership with The Lighthouse Resource Centre.
- Clarity and wisdom in formalising and strengthening our partnership with The Lighthouse Resource Centre.
- Our own Board of Trustees as we adjust to and move forward with the revised individual background ministry support responsibilities we have taken on.

Prayer Points



*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." (Isaiah 3 : 5-6)*

As a ministry, we have had the truth of those words proven over and over again. May you too as our valued supporter rest in the promise of those words.