

Prayer

Your support in prayer is critical to our ministry, please pray with us!

Give thanks for:

- The huge success of the Mission/Community Week in July, contacts made and that some of the folks who attended are now coming along to church and some of the regular weekly groups.
- The way in which The Lord continues to work in the lives of those young people we seek to support and serve, for the relationships and for the trust which has been built up.
- The twelve young people, and the team who will be going with them, being willing to go on a weekend away together. May they indeed be blessed.

Pray for:

- The contacts made at the Mission/Community Week will be maintained, strengthened and grow; and that those folks would come

to know the reality of Jesus Christ in their own lives.

- That the 12 young people who will have attended the Youth Weekend Away (22 to 24 Sep) will have had a blessed time at The Compass Outdoor Centre and that these young people would come to know Jesus Christ as their own Lord and Saviour.
- Guidance and wisdom for Matthew and the team as they consider what the best way forward is for Friday Night Youth Drop-in.
- For the identification and recruitment of additional volunteers, people with a passion for the souls of young people, for Riverbank Primary SU (would like to recruit another two), but also for the various other groups which are held each week.
- That our Father God would move His spirit among the young people of Tillydrone and enable them to know Jesus Christ for themselves.

Thank you!

We thank you for your prayer support and interest in the ministry of North East Scotland Youth for Christ. It is truly great to know that there are people out there praying for what God does through us in the Tillydrone area of Aberdeen.

Please spread the word about our ministry and consider giving financial support. Sign up for the Newsletter and find out more at our website www.nesyfc.org.uk.



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Newsletter

Welcome

Hi, and welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter to give you an update on what has been happening as we seek to serve and support young people in Tillydrone.

It has been a very busy few months for Matthew and the youth team as we have seen The Lord at work among our young people. We have seen a strong core of kids coming along to the various groups being run and continue to see a gradual increase of those coming along and in their engagement with what the groups are about.

Strong relationships are being built up and strengthening with our young people and also with their parents. We count it a great privilege and responsibility to work and support these precious young people.

During the first week of the summer school holidays we took part in hosting the second Mission & Community Week to be held in Tillydrone (pictures here and inside). We even had some folks come over from Northern Ireland to help us out. The week was hard work but was a great success and the feedback from Tilly folks, young and old, has been very positive and has shown how much it was appreciated.



Twelve young people + leaders are away to The Compass Outdoor Centre at Glenshee on 22-24 September. This has become an annual event and one which is very much looked forward to by the young people. It will be a great time for them to enjoy space, friendship and fun away from their, at times difficult, normal environments.

Yes, things have been going largely well, and we see The Lord at work among the young. It has not been without its challenges and as we look, as much as we can do, into the future we trust that our Lord will continue to walk with and provide for us as carry on the ministry we have been called to. He is the same Lord that came through for Elijah in 1 Kings 17:5-24 and that same Lord will surely come through for our ministry and the young people of Tillydrone.

Tom Cowie, Chair of Trustees

Update from Matthew

We catch up with our youth worker Matthew Hamilton on a busy Summer and how regular activities have been going since.



IN SCHOOL GROUPS

Five-a-Side Football

Riverbank five-a-side football continues to meet every Thursday at 3pm after school, with a group of around 15 P5-P7 kids coming along. This group is purely relational with no set talks and is just somewhere for the kids to come have some fun and exercise. It has been great to get to know the kids and build good relationships with them. It has also been encouraging to see a lot of them coming along to, and engaging well in, other groups such as Radiate and Riverbank SU.

Riverbank SU

Riverbank SU runs each week on a Thursday in Riverbank Primary School with 15 - 35 kids attending each week. We are currently looking at Acts and the lives of the apostles. The kids engage really well and the way they answer questions and recite memory verses is very encouraging. We do however need additional volunteers to help run the group effectively.

Northfield Academy SU

Northfield Academy SU meets each week on a Friday lunchtime in the school with around 10 - 15 young people regularly attending. We play board games and have a short talk, based around big questions from the Bible, e.g., 'Who is Jesus', 'What is Sin'; 'What is the Holy Spirit' etc., at each session. We have been very encouraged with the level of engagement the young people have with the talks and the questions they ask.

OUT OF SCHOOLS GROUPS

Radiate

The format and entrance age (now P3-P7) of Radiate, our weekly kids club, has been changed and we have been really encouraged to see attendance numbers grow to 20+ kids attending and engaging really well each week.

We have been going through some of Luke's Gospel and various moments in the life of Christ, finishing with his death and resurrection. This series has given rise to some questions from the kids, such as "What is sin?"; "How can Jesus' death mean that we can be forgiven?" etc. There is also space for the kids to raise life issues and any other questions which they may have.

Illuminate

Illuminate (S1 - S3) meets on a Wednesday night at 7:15pm, with a typical session starting with tea/coffee and some food, moving on to games and then into a time of Bible study, the session finishing in a relaxed manner with chat space for young people to raise any life issues and questions they wish.

We have had a very steady past few months with around 10-15 young people from S1 to S3 coming along. We have been very encouraged to see the same young people coming along each week, eager to learn and eager to grow. We look forward to how Illuminate will develop as we go through the new term.

Friday Night Youth Drop-In

Friday Night Youth Drop-In has been a challenge over the past months with a sharp drop in numbers of young people attending.

This has been a matter of prayer for us and we are continuing to seek the Lord for guidance as to our options including whether to keep the Drop-In running or to better use our resources elsewhere. Any young people who do currently attend are involved in other groups such as Illuminate so if we were to stop the Drop-In, we would still have contact with them. We would appreciate your prayers over this situation.

One-to-One Support

Our team of 4 volunteers continue to meet regularly with around 10 young people for one-to-one support sessions. This gives the young people, many of whom come from chaotic and dysfunctional backgrounds, the opportunity to relax, have fun and chat about stuff that's going on in their personal lives or at school. It is also an opportunity for those

young people who are Christians to have discipleship and fellowship with an older Christian.

PANNA Cage Football

The Cage football season got off to a brilliant start and we have run the Cage several times now since the summer began with around 25 young people out at the sessions. It continues to be a great opportunity to mingle with kids and young people, get to know them and build



relationships and has also led to some good conversations with parents who come along to support their kids. Unfortunately the wet weather over the summer has hindered Cage use, however we are hoping to get a few more sessions in before we stop for the winter.

Summer Mission 2023

The Tillydrone Summer Mission/Community Week was held 10 to 14 July in partnership with Donside Community Church, The Lighthouse Support Centre and some friends who came over from Northern Ireland to help run the week's events. The aims of the week were twofold: to bring the gospel to the community of Tillydrone and to provide something fun for people of all ages. The week was a huge success and we are very encouraged that the contacts made have

been maintained and we pray and trust that these will grow stronger.

During the week we ran - Kingdom Explorers Holiday/



Lunch Club - P1-S1 (mornings) (pictured here); Parents & Toddlers Group (mornings); Cage Football & Boxing/Fitness Training (afternoons); Youth Group (evenings); Men's Curry Night & Women's Evening (Tuesday & Wednesday evening respectively); Family Fun Evening (Friday) (pictured on front page). We estimate that we had 250 - 300 people across the week events with a further 450+ at the Family Fun Evening.