

Children's and Youth Ministry in the Central Circuit

Youth Ministry Report compiled by Pastor Jochen Volker

Most Congregations in the Central Circuit have their own children's and youth programs. Currently two congregations have employed children's and youth pastors. Unfortunately due to the many pastors vacancies in the circuit not all congregations could be reached to submit a report of the work happening in their congregations.

Church of Peace - Hillbrow

The Church of Peace youth is a youth group that was formed in 2010. The youth members assist in the Sunday operations of the church. They sing during the church services and partake in charitable activities such as collecting clothing and other accessories for the homeless and children's homes. The youth also helps the Outreach Foundation with its program called Kids Week.

Kempton Park Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

GENERAL

Our philosophy is a family-based youth ministry. We realise that the success and sustainability of youth work in our congregation will be determined by the buy-in of our parents. We have an active youth group, made up of about twenty (20) young people varying from age 12 – 17. We meet with them on a weekly basis at our Coffee Cabin, held every Saturday evening 17h00-18h30. We also conduct regular house visits. We have also completed the following:

- Three (3) skills development sessions
- 2 x Movie Nights
- Social outing

FUTURE PLANS

Our planning for the next three months is as follows:

- Youth Adventure Camp: 22-24 September.
- Skills Development: (date not yet set) on 'How to Budget'
- Movie Night: 13 October 2017
- Youth Social: 29th of September
- Dedicated youth service x 2: (dates not yet set)

CHALLENGE

The biggest challenge is to synchronize with the various school programmes. Through our youth we have at least seven (7) schools represented. The school programmes already place a major load on the shoulders of parents; hence the challenge is to find a balance not to overburden parents with our youth programme. Another related challenge is the commitment of parents to constructively take part in the family based youth ministry.

Vanderbijlpark

Children's (Kid's) Church Report for 2016/17

The Children's Church better known as Kid's Church is split up into 3 different classes.

- The first class (Church with Wings) is for the very young and the Wings for Life children. There are approximately 4 to 10 children in attendance each week.
- The second class is for children between the ages of 8 to 11 years old and their curriculum is the *Xstream* series provided by Scripture Union. There are approximately 4 to 8 children in attendance each week.
- The third class is for kids between the ages of 11 to 14 years old with Scripture Union providing the course material named *The Grid*. There are approximately 3 to 4 children in attendance.

Kid's Club Report for 2016/17

Kid's Club is held every 2nd Friday from 17h00 to 19h00 hours with approximately 6 to 14 children in attendance. Our program is also designed to include The Wings For Life Special Needs School children. The material used is sourced from the internet. Besides the spiritual message, there is always Praise and Worship singing and fun activities relating to the theme which the children enjoy. The early evening is also completed with the children enjoying different active games and sports.

Teens for Christ Report for 2016/17

The program for high school children is held every 2nd Saturday from 18h00 to 21h30 (22h00) with approximately 10 teenagers attending. The course material used is The *Substance* syllabus (Volume 4), provided by Scripture Union. Presently we are busy with (Volume 3.) During the evenings it is nice to see the kids engaging in discussion relating to the biblical theme. After the spiritual input, which lasts anything between 1 and 2 hours, with fun activities relating to the theme always included, the evening is rounded off with various forms of fun activities such as cards, pool, table soccer and even some hotly contested soccer games.

Confirmation Group 2016/17

Ten teenagers started confirmation classes in early February. Of this group half of them have joined the congregation via their association with The Wings For Life Special Needs School. The classes are held each Sunday during the normal English Service. The course material covered is, "Investigating the Truth - The Divine Drama."

IT (investigating the truth) Camp

On the 11 to 13 August 2017 a group of nine teenagers spent the weekend at the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Concordia, Hakboslaagte School Hostel (Lichtenburg Area) where they had the privilege to learn more about our Lord Jesus Christ.

The theme of the camp was THE LORD'S PRAYER .

Ideas

At present we are focusing on special needs for children in the community. The Wings Life Special Needs School has sixty four learners and there are plans to increase the current educational facilities offered by the school.

It would also be nice if there was more interaction amongst the different congregations at youth level.

We never had a Kailager Camp last year and the possibility of there being no camp again this year is relatively good.

West Rand Lutheran Community Church - Roodepoort

The West Rand Lutheran Community Church (WRLCC) has a community based Children's and Youth Ministry.

Incredible Kids

Together with a team of about 100 Co-workers our Children's Pastor Isabeau Weyer reaches out to more than 400 children in our community every week. She is the spiritual leader of both Joyland Nursery School and Riverbank Primary School where regular weekly devotions are done with a team of up to 8 volunteers mostly from Germany. Occasionally they also visit the more than 10 primary schools in the community and around 300 children (ages 5-11) from these schools partake in the weekly 'Incredible Kids' program on a Friday afternoon (14:30- 18:00).

The annual highlight is the 'Incredible Winter Week' with up to 300 children. This is a fun filled program of games, teaching, worship, small groups and crafts which stretches over a whole week from Monday to Saturday, ending in a family Service on Sunday.

Holyculture

The Youth Pastor Kgomotso Ramoroka has a team of about 15-20 Young Adults assisting him in the Youth outreach ministry which is called **Holyculture (HC)**. Most children automatically move from Incredible Kids into the Youth Ministry and also become co-workers in the children's ministry when they are in grade 7. The youth meets on Fridays from 19:00-21:30. Currently around 200 teenagers from the community are regularly reached. The highlight of the Youth ministry is the annual youth camp at Kailager with up to 140 Teenagers.

Both ministries are active in the Sunday services and many parents have found a home in the congregation through their children and teenagers.