

Regional Youth Coordinator Report for Synod AGM 2010

Aside from the fact that in the latter part of 2009 I was on maternity leave after having my beautiful baby daughter Ella Christine, I spent a lot of the year establishing myself in the position and meeting the fantastic and passionate youth leaders we have in this region. In February the annual FaithFest was held in Tapanui and hosted by the fantastic people from 'Crunchtime' youth at Tapanui Church- on-the-Way. In September we held a youth leaders training day called 'regional connect' at Calvin Church in Gore which was a great success. We had a keynote speaker and various workshops to inspire and equip us for youth ministry.

This year I am excited to introduce 'Youth Leaders Networking Breakfasts' around the Synod region. Four times a year we will hold a breakfast/brunch in Dunedin and Southland that will give all youth leaders a chance to meet each other, share ideas and resources and be inspired by a guest speaker as well as enjoy some fantastic food. We held our first ones in March which were well attended and we got good feedback from those that came.

In April we will be holding our youth leadership training camp called 'Going Somewhere' which is for 15-22 year olds with leadership potential who would benefit from a discipleship course that will grow and develop their leadership skills. Unfortunately we had to cancel the camp last year due to lack of interest - we are really hoping to get a good number of registrations for this years camp because it really is a fantastic course. I have just been part of a national working group put together to review and develop the content of the course so it is now fresh, relevant and even better than before! Make sure your young people don't miss out on this excellent opportunity.

In September we will be looking to hold another regional connect networking and training event for youth leaders and youth pastors since last years one was a huge success.

I continue to put out a monthly email update to all that have subscribed to it and that keeps everyone up to date with what is happening. For those that do not subscribe, the website has been a fantastic way to keep everyone informed.

So far I've had a great start to 2010 and I want to reiterate what a fantastic and passionate bunch of youth leaders we have in our region and what a privilege it is to serve them. We must look after them well to ensure they are giving the best they can to our precious young people.

Blessings,

Stephanie Redhead