

Report on Kings Kids for AGM 2016 - 2017

We are thankful to Catherine Storey for all she has done over the years for Kings Kids, and were sad to say goodbye to her in September.

With Catherine's departure the leadership of Kings Kids took on a new direction. The first meeting of the new Kings Kids team was on 28th September. The 3 session leaders were Vikkie, Sue and Charlene, and the 'support team' was made up of Zena, Ginny, Fiona, Jan, Lynn, Pam, Naomi, and Dan.

Since then Azariah has joined the 'helpers' rota and we've been pleased to welcome Mandy on board as one of the session leaders which means we now have a healthy team of 4 session leaders who take turns to lead, plus 2 'helpers' per session.

Since October we have put together our own syllabus using the online Scripture Union syllabus as inspiration. We are not following a specific book or material but plan individual sessions ourselves.

Between October and September we taught the children stories from the gospels. On December 18th we had the first of our all-age services led by Kings Kids. From January to March we covered more stories from Luke's gospel, some psalms and the story of Moses' birth. On March 26th (Mothering Sunday) we had a 2nd all-age service.

As in the past numbers vary, making planning difficult at times. Overall numbers are up somewhat.

Report on work with Youth for AGM 2016 – 2017

Engage

This group (for young people at secondary school) continues to meet fortnightly on Sunday mornings and is led on a rota basis by Lewis, Roger & Deanna. 2 of the Kings Kids joined us in the summer as they moved schools. Numbers vary between 2 and 6. For a number of sessions early on in 2016 we used the First Steps booklets which introduce the basics of the Christian faith. More recently we have been following the readings/themes of the main service, sometimes adding video clips from the internet with the aim of bringing the stories alive to the young people.

Roger has taken different ones of the group to a Deanery Youth Service which happens 3 times a year, where a number of young people from different Anglican youth groups from across town attend and participate.

More recently we have started a monthly Friday night-in where the young people go to a church members' home for chat, food and games, and also we have had one Saturday night out when we went to Laser Zone in Gladstone Road.

Youth Drop-in

This runs every Thursday evening, except school holidays, from 6pm to 7.30pm with a purpose of providing a safe, secure and friendly environment for the youth (those aged between 11-16) from the estate.

There is table tennis, pool, table football, a Wii console (until it got stolen!) available each week in the small hall and also sometimes bigger ball games are played in the large hall. Sometimes there are more creative activities available, decorating biscuits, icing cakes, making pizza, more "arty" stuff. Sometimes the young people take part; sometimes they just chat, chill, drink hot chocolate and take photos of each other on their phones!

Numbers can vary from half a dozen to almost 30, you never quite know. It is led by professional local youth worker, Rhoda Lawes, who is funded by the money from New 2 You. Charlene is on the rota most weeks and then other volunteers from the church or linked to the church are on a monthly rota. Normally there are 4 in total on team but we have always said 5 would be preferable, so any new expressions of interest are always welcome.