

Catherine's Youth for Christ News.



We're about seeing young people's lives changed by Jesus.

Summer 2021

Hello. I hope you are keeping well and enjoying some of the freedoms that the changes in restrictions have brought. As I write this the government have decided to keep restrictions in place a little longer but we remain optimistic that they'll be opportunities to get together again soon.

Youth for Christ Head Office has re-opened and staff phased back. I returned to work in the office in May. All our teams have a day when they are based from the office so that we keep numbers low, we have social distancing and cleaning processes in place to keep everyone as safe as we can and we are doing lateral flow tests twice a week. As an administrator I am part of the core team who are always office based. We are still working flexi-furlough and I am working four days a week until the end of August, hopefully back to full time in September.

Youth for Christ have worked diligently in this season to engage with young people in a safe way, whether that's digitally or in person following social distancing guidance. Good News stories involve continued investment and coming alongside young people in their circumstances. One of our Local Ministries recently hosted an online Alpha for Youth course for a group of local churches to help them keep their young people engaged, growing and moving forward in their faith. Not knowing if the young people would respond, the team were delighted when around thirty young people logged on to actively participate. They worked to a tight schedule and made the experience as interactive as they could, not shrinking back from the difficult questions raised by the course content.

Over the course of ten weeks, there were significant moments where young people grasped the breadth, depth and width of what it means to follow Jesus. One young person said **"This is life changing – it is so much more than what I thought it was!"**

We are so grateful to all our supporters who continue to stand with us. I am continuing my secondment with our Partnerships team working a couple of days with them each week, keeping in touch with our supporters. It's opportunities like running online Alpha with young people that are only made possible through people's prayers, financial support and partnership with the local church. We are incredibly thankful.

We recognise that for many the economics are a little tougher at present, and we are so grateful for your support. We cannot continue our work without your involvement. I would love more people to join my personal support team and help me raise funds towards the mission of Youth for Christ. If this is something you feel you can help further with then do get in touch. You can contact me at Youth for Christ by telephone: **0121 502 9620** or email: catherine.green@yfc.co.uk or visit my page on our website yfc.co.uk/catherinegreen/.

Thank you. Catherine x

PS: We also have an online prayer calendar available each month for anyone who wants to pray regularly for our work yfc.co.uk/prayercalendar/



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Registered Charity 263446. SC039297
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myLife

In 2012, myLife was launched - a portfolio of character-based life skills courses looking at topics such as money management, communication, preparing for work and managing emotions. myLife has been run in many settings including schools, alternative provision sites and custodial environments. Having seen the positive impact of myLife on the young people who've engaged with the courses, we have been working to refresh and develop the resource. Our hope is to see young people acquiring essential life and relationship skills whilst developing positive character attributes with the support of youth workers, tutors or chaplains who are cheering them on and demonstrating God's love for them with words of hope and encouragement.

Youth Updates are a regular way of keeping you in the know when it comes to youth culture. Join Hannah and Beth, as they endeavour to help youth workers unpack three new youth-relevant topics and the ever useful 'word of the month'. Head to yfc.co.uk/youthupdates/ for the blog and podcast or find us on Spotify as 'Youth Updates' by 'Youth for Christ'.



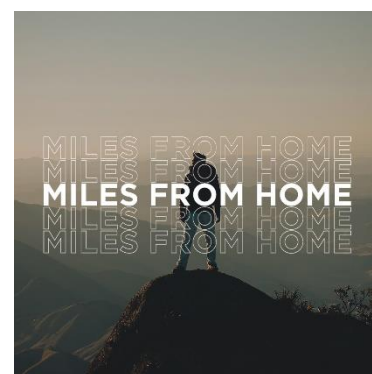
Pray Through May

Youth for Christ ran our month of focussed prayer for young people - Pray Through May. Through prayer we can reach into the lives of young people we have never even met and usher them towards Jesus. We started with our National Prayer Day on Friday 30th April and we were joined by Mike Andrea (24-7 Prayer) and Canon J. John (Philo Trust). There were daily prayer prompts and videos released throughout May to help Youth for Christ workers, and supporters come together in prayer for young people. yfc.co.uk/praythroughmay/

Miles From Home

This summer Youth for Christ will be going Miles From Home - walking, running, climbing, cycling and paddling rivers to raise funds. They'll even be a team tackling twenty four peaks in the Lake District. This coordinated event will run nationally and locally. It is born from our heart to see young people's lives changed by Jesus - to see them journey from being far away from Jesus to finding their home with Him.

Miles From Home is led by British Youth for Christ with involvement from Youth for Christ Local Ministries around the UK. Find out more yfc.co.uk/milesfromhome/



Schools Work Conference

We are aiming to hold a pilot schools work conference for Youth for Christ workers in September. Run by our Head of Schools Work, Bev Smith, it's an opportunity to get Youth for Christ workers together and share our expertise. It's a pilot for a more regular schools work event and running events in a COVID safe way.

