



Diocesan Youth Ministry Facilitator Report to Waiapu Diocesan Synod 2012 Jocelyn Czerwonka

It has been another exciting year in Waiapu Youth Ministry and I am continually amazed at God's leading and visions that are put before us. I believe we are all called in one way or another to support and nurture the faith of the young people before us, after all, that is what we all promise every time a young life is baptised in our church. Below are some highlights from the past year.

Leadership Training For Youth - L T 4 Youth, to be launched at Waiapu Synod 2012

"Raising up confident young people who are committed to faith, service and leadership"

L T 4 youth is a new vision for Waiapu and an exciting new opportunity for parishes to partner with young people. It is all about 'Raising up confident young people who are committed to faith, service and leadership' and to do this young people need the commitment, support and encouragement of their parishes. This is an opportunity to walk alongside young people as they work on the 5 modules based on the '5 Marks of Mission'; Telling Our Story, Faith Formation, Serving Others, Social Justice and Care of Creation. L T 4 Youth is designed for youth 14 years and older and will take approximately 2 years to complete. It will involve participation in both the parish and community and attending workshops and camps run by the Diocesan Youth Team. Parishes will be encouraged to find mentors to support participants and help them achieve their goals. Every parish can be involved whether there are 1 or 50 young people. Support will be offered to parishes by the Diocesan Youth Ministry team.

Black Dove

It has been encouraging to get to know Rev Richard Vialoux, new vicar of Mt Maunganui. Richard has introduced us to 'Black Dove', similar to L T 4 Youth but beginning at intermediate school age. Black Dove was originally the vision of a small group of young Anglicans in Auckland. Black Doves have various 'flight levels' to achieve based on commitment, faith, worship and service. It has been exciting to see how both Black Dove and L T 4 Youth have been a vision to different Christians in different places and are now coming together in Waiapu. Through discussion we have been able to see how L T 4 Youth and Black Dove complement each other so well, and we believe offer a positive way forward in youth ministry. A small 'working group' has been set up to introduce both Black Dove and L T 4 Youth to Waiapu. Those who begin as Black Doves will be able to dovetail into L T 4 Youth when they reach the age of 14.

Year Long Youth Interns

Seini Tawa and Brendon Bryon-Kay, our 2011 youth interns were farewelled in December. Both enjoyed their year living and working in three different Parishes in Waiapu and successfully completing their EIDTS (Ecumenical Institute of Distance Theological Studies) papers. This year we welcomed as interns Hayden Simmiss and Saachi Kepa. Hayden is based at St Luke's Havelock North, attending a year-long Youth Development course and assisting at Kiwi Adventure. Saachi is now in Rotorua, having spent her first placement in Napier at the Cathedral. She is working on a 'Music in Ministry' EIDTS paper and experiencing a wide range of ministry opportunities. Rev Bill Bennett was the feature of her last paper as she researched a NZ hymn writer.

Top Parish 2012 - Top Parish continues to attract young people from all around the Diocese for a weekend of fun, fellowship and worship. Once again it was held in Rotorua at Keswick as it will be in 2013. We are hoping that Hawkes Bay will be able to find a suitable venue to host Top Parish in 2014. Everyone enjoys moving around the Diocese but finding venues has been a major challenge.

Three Tikanga Youth Pilgrimage - The Amazing Pilgrimage October 2011

Young people from all 3 Tikanga gathered at Keswick in Rotorua for the second Amazing Pilgrimage. This was organised with a small working group from Te Manawa O Te Wheke, Pasifika, the Toru

Youth Commission and Waiapu. These events continue to inspire and encourage us as we seek to walk together as a 3 Tikanga Anglican Church. The pilgrimage helped to build relationships through worship, journeying together around 12 stations and taking time to get to know each other and find out more about our different Tikanga.

Three Tikanga Youth Synod

5 Waiapu representatives attended the Three Tikanga Youth Synod held in Auckland. This year young people were given the opportunity to take part in open and honest discussions of their choice through the Polynesian process of Talanoa. Topics included: mentoring and discipleship, youth suicide, teenage pregnancy, alcohol and drug abuse, keeping young people engaged with Church, understanding the Treaty of Waitangi and resource sharing. It is encouraging to see young people who are strong in their faith working together to seek to find ways forward in sometimes difficult circumstances. Each Tikanga nominated 2 young people to be representatives on the Tikanga Toru Youth Commission. Their names will be taken to General Synod for confirmation before they begin to serve on the Commission.

General Synod / Te Hinota Whanui July 2012: As I write, Waiapu youth are being well represented at General Synod in Fiji. Brendon Bryon-Kay was elected by the Waiapu Youth Synod and approved by Diocesan Synod as the Waiapu General Synod Youth representative. Saachi Kepa and Hayden Simmiss (our youth interns) are attending, as 'youth stewards'.

'Invigorate' July 2012 Christchurch

This year the national youth forum met under the name of 'Invigorate' with the hope that this forum would be about new vision, new ideas and a new way forward for future national youth events. There was much healthy discussion and debate and also a certain amount of grief as we grappled with letting go of the past and looking forward. No conclusive decisions were made and discussions will be ongoing. Waiapu can be proud of our two Youth Forum Executive representatives, David Harris and Simon Holmes-Dawson who did a wonderful job working with the national team to organise the event. Others who attended from Waiapu were Sandi Hall, Saachi Kepa, Hayden Simmiss, Tafadzwa Chikono and myself. Bishop David also attended as Youth Bishop.

Waiapu Youth and Families Committee This committee meets 4 times a year for oversight of youth, children's and families mission and ministry in Waiapu.

Other happenings:

Anglicans@Parachute – Waiapu continues to support this
Youth and Children's Leaders Training Weekend – Taupo
National Diocesan Youth Workers gathering hosted in Rotorua
Involved in Waiapu Leadership Group
Farewell to John Heberton as Anglican Youth Network Facilitator
Ongoing contact with National Diocesan Youth Facilitators and Tikanga Toru Youth Commission
Attended combined Clergy Conference with Tairāwhiti
Biggest personal highlight for Alex and I was becoming grandparents to Mykah Grace Franklyn!
A big thank you to everyone who journeys with us and supports Youth Ministry in Waiapu.

Jocelyn Czerwonka