

Youth Report

Unlimited 11-15 Overview

Since September the Unlimited youth team have been pushing for improvements to make the group more suited for the young people. Not only have we been reviewing the types of activities we have been putting on for the youth, but have also been focusing on how we lead as individuals and as a team. As a result we are all meeting once a month to discuss, develop, and grow as youth workers. Since September we have also increased the size of the team. This has allowed leaders to be put on a rota system, giving individuals the time off to prepare for the upcoming weeks they are running. This is benefitting the young people greatly as the activities we prepare are much more organised and better thought out. It also releases our leaders to focus on their strengths and bring to unlimited a friendlier environment for the young people to come into.

One of the main focuses for this year's youth program is to build up closer relationships. With this in mind in each of the groups, we are building in more time to socialise with the young people, and to get to know them. This is a big change from our previous activity driven program. This will hopefully allow more time for the young people to open up and also is a key time for us to share the gospel.

Unlimited 11-15 Successes

Since September we have experienced a fair amount of growth. This is mainly due to the fact that many young people have moved up from Livewires. The young people that have just come up have created a whole new dynamic to the group. Starting from a young age we have been able to begin going through the Youth Alpha course sessions in a cafe style night, to give the young people a good foundation in Christ.

Through the life of Unlimited it has been largely a population of un-churched girls, however within the last year we have seen more boys integrate into the group. Whilst we still have a few more girls we are now getting a healthy mix of the two. For the first time in the last ten years we have a fairly even ratio of boys to girls attending weekly.

This year we have been able to start using some of our own young leaders to assist in running unlimited. This is developing their leadership skills greatly and getting them the exposure to work in a good team setting. This is also great for some of the other young people to aspire to. I am hoping that we will start building up a proactive group of young people who we can release into ministries in the church.

The new structure of the programme will also be allowing for time for the young people to prepare and get involved in some of our upcoming youth services this year, giving them more exposure to church.

Unlimited 11-15 Aims

Within the current year we are hoping to boost attendance, disciple young people, introduce more youth into church, and prepare them as the next generation of leaders.

We will attempt to do this by:

- Finding more resources, conferences, training events for our youth workers.
- Bring a stronger teaching of the word of God.

- Allowing for more time to socialise, mentor and disciple the young people
- Integrate young people into church through our youth service
- Helping the youth find a suitable identity and ministry in church.
- Introducing more technological advancements for team collaboration and advertisement (such as text updates).

Young Leaders Overview

Through our time together as a team of young leaders it has been a wonderful experience to work together. As a group we have decided we are going to start opening up our Sunday evening to all who are regularly attending church that are age 11+.

We plan to create a healthy environment for young people to come together in a church setting, to deepen their faith in Christ Jesus and create a unity within the Sunday morning young people. In true young leaders style we are hoping to also encourage the young people to use their gifting's to get involved in our youth services.

This year we will be building on the teaching young people receive from Sunday mornings and will be spending time team building.

Young Leaders Successes

I'm sure a lot of OCC members have seen the work the young people have produced in just a couple of cracking events. This has been put together with their own ideas and lots of time to practice dramas, dance, sermons, videos, and other areas of interest. Within this time they have also been practising their leadership and organisational skills in order to work well in a group setting.

Since young leaders has started we now have a group of people that enjoy spending time together, are willing to get involved in church activities and enjoy learning more about Jesus Christ.

Young Leaders Aims

As a team we have the following goals for this year:

- To encourage the youth to take more of a lead role in leadership opportunities.
- To build on the successes of Young Leaders' as a structure for future youth services.
- To help young people transition into Oasis Christian Centre and find their identity within the church.
- To create a better environment for accountability, discipleship and mentoring, in a one to one and group setting.

Joshua Baker