

Youth GENESIS

Prayerletter – Winter 2012

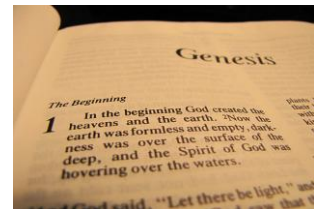


IS HERE!!

Dear Friends,

After several months of prayer and hard work, we're excited to finally bring you "Youth Genesis"!! The Genesis Youth Trust Ltd (known as "Youth Genesis") has been formed by Churches in Brixham who are committed to working with young people at risk in the community of Brixham and beyond. Over the summer and autumn period, the *new* Directors of the Genesis Youth Trust have been busy completing application forms, attending meetings, having discussions and have been listening to the consultations done with young people. With everything in place to legally operate as a new company, Youth Genesis is ready to continue God's work in His kingdom by inspiring young people with a vision for life!

So why "Genesis"...? Well, the story starts back in February this year when I was discussing the idea of a charity with a group of non-churched young people. The young people asked "why a charity?" I explained to them that the good folk of Brixham URC have been legally underwriting (I did explain what that means to the young people too!) the youth work project for a few years, so it was time to place the responsibility of the work in the hands of an ecumenical (... and I explained that to them as well!) Trust. The young people then replied: "Ahh...". Armed with the knowledge of what a charity is and what ecumenism means, the young people turned to the Bible (cos' that has all the answers)! During a discussion about the local churches wanting to meet the needs of young people in the community as well as supporting them, one of the young people said "That's it... GENESIS!" With rest of the group giving surprised and interesting glances at one another, the young person with the Bible said "It's at the beginning – new life, a new direction – that's where this project is helping us to go. A new vision for life." So my friends, that's how we roughly ended up with "Youth Genesis". Simple huh??



Welcome to Saidie...

Many of you will know Saidie from her previous work that she has done with the Churches Youth Work Project since February 2009. It was a real joy to welcome Saidie to the staff team in September as a part-time Youth Support Worker based in Brixham at the United Reformed Church (URC). Saidie has taken over as Team Leader of "The Place" Youth Drop-In which is based at the URC on Monday and Friday evenings from 7-9pm. Saidie has been working with young people to



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develop a programme of activities and learning opportunities that aims to engage other young people in the town. Since the start of term, the young people have done art workshops, cooking sessions, craft evenings, information sessions with South Devon College as well as looked at issues around lifestyle choices. Currently, the young people are looking at organising quiz nights and working towards a Christmas event... I hope that involves food too!



Cooking pasties at The Place – yum!!

Working with the Police...

Since the beginning of September, through working with young people at The Place and The Zone, the team have noticed a high number of young people who are regularly using drugs. The impact of this has seen young people involved in anti-social behaviour and sadly, often being criminalised for their offences.

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Young people at “The Place” during a Monday session

I have teamed up with the Police and have been working closely with a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) in Brixham. Through working together, we have identified a small number of young people at risk. Both the PCSO and I have conducted home visits with young people – the aim is to explore their behaviour and look at how it impacts on the community. Often, the young people don't realise, but through the discussions and with parental support, the young people are helped to understand the impact that their behaviour has on others. Of course, this often deals with the symptoms and not the cause, so... *(onto the next article)*

Brixham “Young Mentors” Town Group

In the September edition of the Churches Youth Work Project Prayerletter, you may remember me mentioning about the Torbay Youth Mentors project that we have been setting up with Torbay Youth Service...

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The young people who have had home visits or who have been identified as at risk, have been getting involved with the Brixham Town Young Mentors Group. The group have so far been meeting at the URC on Tuesday evenings to discuss ideas on how they can become a “voice” in their community. The young people have decided to make a film: “Life in Brixham: A Young Persons Point of View”. The young people are currently working on a story board along with applying for funds to purchase equipment that will enable them to make the film – which they eventually hope to screen at a community event!

1st Brixham Boys Brigade

In November this year, Youth Genesis welcomed the 1st Brixham Boys Brigade in affiliating to the Trust. The 1st Brixham Boys Brigade Company has been serving the Brixham community for over 50 years with it’s work with young people. The Brixham Company are now based at the United Reformed Church, in New Road, Brixham and are running on a Monday evening from 5.30pm (Anchor Boys – aged 5-8), 7pm (Junior Section – aged 8-11) and 7.30pm (Company Section). Frank Tozer has brought himself out of “retirement” to head up the Company as Captain.

Frank and his team of Officers and volunteers held an Open Evening event at the United Reformed Church in Brixham on the 5th November to welcome new and existing members to the sessions held at the new venue in New Road. The evening was very well attended by members of the community as well as supporters from Brixham Baptist Church, who have been involved in the Boys Brigade Company over the years.



1st Brixham Boys Brigade Open Evening at The United Reformed Church, Brixham

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Calling all Supporters!

The Trust would like to express their sincere thanks to the many supporters who have regularly given financially to the work of the Churches Youth Work Project while it was underwritten by Brixham URC. The Directors of Youth Genesis will be contacting you shortly to ask if you are happy to change your covenant to the Genesis Youth Trust Ltd. If you support the work of Youth Genesis through prayer, but would like to make a regular financial donation, please contact Phil Heath, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Genesis Youth Trust Ltd, on 01803 853495.

Please pray for...

- **Young people who are involved in substance misuse** – that they turn away from using drugs and alcohol and engage in more positive activities.
- **The 1st Brixham Boys Brigade**, that they feel settled in their new base and continue to grow and inspire a Christian lifestyle in the boys who attend.
- **The partnerships that have been formed with the police**, other agencies and churches – that these partnerships will grow to enhance the work that improves the lives of young people and the community.
- **All young people who Youth Genesis works with**, that they will be inspired by God to feel His love and walk in His way.

Some Diary Events...

- 28th November pm** Partnership meeting with LiNX.
- 6th December pm** Youth Genesis Directors meeting.
- 8th December** Level 2 Youth Work Training & Boys Brigade Training at Brixham URC.
- 13th December pm** Youth Genesis Christmas Meal Event.
- 18th December pm** Youth Genesis Staff Team meeting at Brixham URC.
- 23rd December am** Jonathan is speaking at Furrough Cross URC.
- 25th December am** United Christmas Day Service at Fore St. Methodist Church, Brixham.
- 13th January 2013** Jonathan speaking at Central Church, Torquay.
- 11th March 2013** Jonathan is speaking at Upton Vale Baptist Church, Torquay.

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Weekly Activities

- Mondays** 7-9pm – The Place Youth Cafe at Brixham URC (11-17 yrs)
5.30-6.45pm – Anchor Boys Brigade at Brixham URC (5-8 yrs)
7-8.15pm – Junior Section Boys Brigade at Brixham URC (8-11yrs)
7.30-9pm – Senior/Company Section Boys Brigade at Brixham URC
(11-19 yrs)
- Tuesdays** 7-9pm – The Zone Youth Club at Fore St Christian Centre (11-17 yrs)
6-7.30pm – Brixham Young Mentors Project (13-19 yrs)
- Wednesdays** 5.30-8pm – [Street Based] Detached Youth Work Project (11-19 yrs)
- Fridays** 7-9pm – The Place Youth Drop-In at Brixham URC (11-17 yrs)

Thank you for your prayers

Jonathan Oliverio – Youth Work Co-ordinator

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