



2nd March,

Dear Parents and Youth,

Ref: Youth Ministries at All Saints 2018

I pray this letter finds you in the grace of Christ. I am writing to bring you up to date on what the structure of our youth ministry at All Saints will be in 2018. Over the years, we have tweaked and responded to what we have sensed the Lord calling us to focus on – and therefore should come as no surprise that as seasons change – we must also adjust in response to that.

1. Friday Night Youth Lounge

The Youth team conducted a review of Friday Night Youth Lounge in Term 4 last year, with input from our teenagers. As a result of continued low and irregular engagement on a Friday night it was apparent to us that this pattern of Friday Night Youth Lounge was unsustainable. So, as a leadership team, we have prayerfully decided to limit **Friday night Youth Lounge to a once-a-month gathering** for a season. (Please see Flyer attached for more information). I understand that this might be distressing for some – especially to those who have had a regular Friday night youth ministry for as long as they can remember, or have concern about how their young people might continue to engage with the Christian Community. I invite you to speak with me about how this is impacting you and your family. Remember – this is for a season. As we work through these issues together and prayerfully – we will reach the solution God has for us together. Please also see VCYC flyer attached – we will be in attendance as a youth group.

2. Growth Groups

I have always said that Growth Groups are the spine of our Youth Ministry. It is more crucial now than ever to have our young people actively engaged in their discipleship. **Growth Groups are weekly** groups of same-gender and roughly same-age high school students getting together weekly with a youth leader to read the Word and pray – and apply these to active life situations. It is a place of active support of one another and the pursuit of God. If your young person is not in a Growth Group, please consider how you might encourage them to be in one. We are serious about supporting you in the spiritual formation of your teenagers. Please talk to the relevant growth group leader for more information or to give feedback in this area.

3. Church

In 2017, we ceased to have a once-a-month “Youth Service” in the evening, seeking to integrate (rather than segregate) our young people into the life of this church. This continues to be the case in 2018 as we encourage our youth to serve with the gifts God has given across appropriate ministries such as leading in public worship, Children and Families Ministry, Messy Church etc. In 2018, on the first Sunday of the month, Youth Leaders attend the 10:30am service and meet with teenagers who attend that service. This format is much the same as Growth Groups.

4. Breakfast Club at Greensborough College

We continue to run a **weekly Breakfast Club** at Greensborough College this year. This is attended weekly by well over a hundred students. Students from the school also help in preparation and serving – under our supervision. What a blessing!

Blessings,

Akhil Gardner

6PM Pastor

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