

St. George's Dagenham

December 2018

SOUND (youth club for 14-18s)

The leaders at SOUND our midweek group for 14-18s have been pretty stretched this term.

Please pray for perseverance and strength and for a new leader to join the team.

TGI's (youth club for 11-14s)

We praise God for 20 youths attending regularly, many of whom are not from church families. Friendships have developed both among the young people and between young people and leaders. Every other week they sit down to eat together which allows for great conversations. Some of the girls, served in the monthly youth service and three of them have agreed to do the Word One to One. The team have been working well together, and have been blessed with leaders from Sound, the group for 14-18s joining the rota for giving talks. Kam has joined the leaders team.

Praise God for three girls who have agreed to meet up to do the Word One to One and for Kam joining the team.

Please pray that gospel seeds being sown will take root and bear fruit in the lives of these young people.

Please pray we will see young people who have professed faith coming along to St George's on Sundays.

Please pray for leaders with many responsibilities at work and home as well as at club, to manage their time and give the necessary time to preparing Bible talks.

Snapdragons: Parent and toddler group

This group continues to be well attended. There are regularly over 30 small children so again we have a waiting list. We have a couple of Dads coming along most weeks. On the whole people are open and friendly and it's easy to chat about kids and life but generally harder to talk about the Lord Jesus. Recently there have been some great gospel conversations.

Praise God for growing friendships these non-Christians.

Please pray for skill in turning conversations and boldness in talking about the Lord Jesus.

Little Fishes for 4-7s

This term at club our numbers have been down. In the summer quite a bunch moved up to Wednesday club we haven't yet filled all the spaces. Since September the teaching has been from Genesis looking at the life of Abraham. We've seen how God always keeps his promises and learnt what it means to have faith in him. A listens carefully and asks thoughtful questions. G is very quiet but apparently asks after school every day 'Is it Little Fishes today?' D has joined us since half-term.

Thank God for a team of leaders and a building that means we can run this club.

Please pray that A and his Mum will start coming on Sundays.

Wednesday Club for 7-11s

This club is always busy with 30+ children most weeks and a waiting list in place. It's been great to welcome brother and sister, P and H who came to Snapdragons toddler group years ago and have just re-appeared. A couple of weeks ago O, from a non-church family asked if we sold Bibles. Last week we gave him a Bible and some Discover Bible reading notes. This week he came bounding into club saying 'it's so interesting I'm reading it every day.'

Praise God for his kindness in bringing Peter and Halle back under the sound of the gospel.

Please pray for the Lord to open O's heart to respond to his Word.

Events

Our Light Party attracted over 40 children. A great team of helpers meant we were able to offer games and crafts and hot-dogs as well as a talk from Mark 4 seeing that Jesus is more powerful than the things that scare us. This year we invited toddler age children to come if accompanied by an adult. A number of Mums brought their little ones and were delighted to be part of the event. Those Mums also heard the Bible talk.

Praise God for willingness among people at St. George's to serve in running events like this.

Please pray ahead for preparations to run a holiday club in February half-term.

Schools

Over the years we have generally had more opportunities in Alibon school and had to work harder to get into Hunters Hall school. This term the nursery teacher at Hunters Hall requested that Christian songs should not be part of the story time. (maybe it's Shona's singing she doesn't like!) More recently an assistant head at Hunters Hall, who is a Christian asked about the possibility of classes coming to look at the church building and even holding a school carol service at St. George's.

Praise God for this Christian teacher

Praise God for freedom in school to teach children who may never visit us on a Sunday.

Please pray the opportunity to read Bible stories to nursery children remains open to us.

Please pray Shona giving a talk at the Alibon school service on Thursday 20 December.