



YOUTH
FOR CHRIST

SUMMER 2026

GOOD NEWS

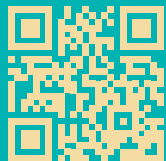
magazine

LOOKING
FORWARD

AFTER A YEAR OF PROMISE

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GOD SEES YOUNG PEOPLE



As I look across the stories in this magazine, I am struck again by the simple but profound truth that **God sees young people**, with a love that reaches into every corner of their lives. Whether it's a teenager asking brave questions about faith, a young person opening a Bible for the first time, or hundreds encountering Jesus at a festival, each story reminds us that God is already at work long before we arrive. And through your support, we get to join Him in what He is doing.

This past year has brought both challenge and opportunity. We have navigated change, made difficult decisions, and taken bold steps to ensure Youth for Christ remains strong for the future. Yet even in the midst of transition, God has continued to move in ways that humble and inspire us. Young people are responding to the gospel. Churches are rediscovering their confidence to reach their communities. New ministries, like Respawn, are stepping into digital spaces where young people spend their lives. And our centres

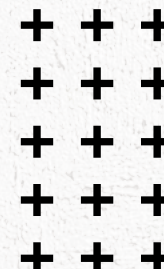
are faithfully creating places of belonging, hope, and encounter.

As we approach our 80th year, our vision remains unchanged: **to see every young person in Britain encounter Jesus**. But our methods continue to grow, adapt, and innovate as we follow God into new spaces and new opportunities.

Thank you for standing with us. Your prayers, generosity, and encouragement are woven into every testimony you will read in these pages. Together, we are helping a generation discover that they are seen, known, and loved by God.

My prayer is that as you read, you will sense the same hope we see every day, the hope of a God who is still transforming young lives, one story at a time.

Dave Brackenridge
National Director



THE WEEK FAITH CAME ALIVE: STORIES FROM



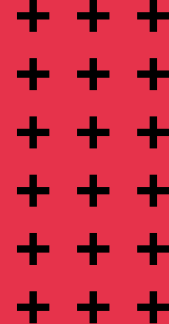
1 inflatable unicorn. 40 team members. 600 young people. 1500 tiny ducks. Countless stories...

In reality, it's hard to fully capture the incredible week we had at Spring Harvest Minehead this year. We ran a programme for 600 young people aged 11-16 and saw God moving powerfully among them.

As programme leader, I had the privilege of facilitating an amazing team made up of Youth for Christ members (past and present) and others who gave up their annual leave to serve. The team ranged from gap-year volunteers to experienced youth workers with over 40 years of experience.

And the reason this team does it? Because they know it's a week that changes lives. With over 100 first-time commitments and a whole slew of testimonies, we saw young people find faith, gain courage to share their beliefs, and hear God's voice for the first time.

We created a safe, fun environment where young people could explore the theme "No Greater Life," focused on the greatest commandment. The programme included main sessions with games, testimonies, worship, prayer, and talks, alongside



spring harvest

seminars and workshops covering interests like dance, football, and the relationship between science and faith. Our programme saw everything from small group competitions to collect the most tiny ducks, onstage karaoke, young people praying for each other, a whole venue bursting into spontaneously joyous dance in worship, a whole area for young people to engage in artistic worship and more.

But we know that, no matter what we plan or do, nothing matters unless God shows up. And He did – read below just a few of the testimonies shared with us by young people!

'A' struggled with ankle weakness and pain for years and was unable to walk for long periods of time and hadn't been able to jump without pain. Her small group prayed for healing and she said her pain went from a 9 to a 0. She even got to jump around and dance in worship on the last night with zero pain!

'C' came last year and went to a seminar about how to share your faith. Since then she has started a Christian Union in her school (despite being told no at first – she kept persisting!).

'J' found faith and bought a Bible for the very first time.

'E' talked about how her mum had been diagnosed with cancer but heard God speak to her for the first time saying 'You may feel like you're carrying this alone but you're not, keep going.'

Our heart is to see so many more stories like this, which is why we're involved in several other events this year! You'll find us at Spring Harvest France, Scotland's Magnitude festival and Limitless Festival in Staffordshire. No matter where we go, our prayer remains the same: that young people across our nation would continue to encounter Jesus, take bold steps of faith, and discover there truly is no greater life than following Him.

Beth
British Youth for Christ

A MINISTRY OF HOPE & TRANSFORMATION

WARRINGTON YOUTH FOR CHRIST

Across Warrington, in schools, youth clubs, church halls, and during Friday night football, young people are encountering the love of Jesus in ways that are reshaping their lives. Warrington Youth for Christ, a team of seven staff and one year out student is at the heart of this.

One story sums up their ministry. A boy who had been attending a youth group for some time came along to a termly youth worship night. That evening, he responded to the gospel and gave his life to Jesus, a dramatic turnaround in his life. He received a small New Testament, but the following week he returned asking for a bigger Bible. He eagerly took a youth Bible, sat down in the youth worker's office chair, and asked, "Where do I start?"

While games carried on around him, he sat quietly and began reading. The next Sunday, he took two buses across town on his own to attend church. Stories like his are so precious.

Reaching Young People Where They Are

Each team member is rooted in a different area of Warrington, partnering with local churches and engaging with high schools. Their mission is simple but profound: to reach young people with the love of Jesus and help them find a



home in a local church community.

They run after-school clubs, Bible studies, mentoring sessions, prayer spaces, and large-scale mission weeks, creating environments where young people can ask big questions, explore faith, and encounter God.

Their recent Worthy Tour was a powerful example. The team reached over 3,000 young people across six high schools with a message every teenager needs to hear: your worth is not found in popularity, appearance, grades, or relationships, but in the God who created you and loves you. Sixty-six young people said yes to Jesus during the tour.

Open Doors and New Opportunities

This Easter, the team shared the message of Jesus with over 1,800 young people through assemblies and RE lessons. In Padgate alone, 80 young people, and even two staff members, requested Bibles.

There is a growing hunger among young people to explore faith for themselves.

Across Warrington, doors are opening. In Penketh High, the after-school club has tripled in size, with lively discussions about creation and faith. In the Town Centre and Youth Zone, relationships are deepening, with young people beginning to navigate faith beyond the noise of social media.

There are one-to-one

Bible studies leading whole families to church. Young people are attending Sunday services on their own initiative. Even during football games, conversations about faith are sparking.

As Alex, one of the team members, reflects: **"Jesus meets us where we're at - not just in a church or at an event, but in school, in mentoring sessions, and even during a game of football."**

A Community Walking Together



The recent Wacky Warrington Walk fundraiser, 13 miles across the town, stopping at every high school the team serves, was met with overwhelming support. It was a fun reminder that this work is shared work: churches, supporters, volunteers, and youth workers all playing their part in seeing young people encounter Jesus.

A Hopeful Future

Warrington Youth for Christ is witness to young people discovering their worth, opening Bibles, asking questions, stepping into church, and saying yes to Jesus.

As the team continues to create spaces for encounter and discipleship, they do so with gratitude, for every prayer, every donation, and every young person whose life is being transformed by the love of Christ.

Scan here to find
out more or visit
warrington.yfc.co.uk





When Aaron received an email from a parent earlier this year, it made him pause. A young person had stumbled across one of Youth for Christ's live gaming streams, just a casual drop-in, nothing planned, and heard Aaron sharing about his own journey of growing up as a Christian. The young viewer began asking questions in the chat: "Do you think it's harder for people who grew up in a Christian family to make a decision for Jesus?"

As Aaron gently talked with him, the conversation opened up. The young person shared that he struggled to make faith his own, and didn't understand why he "didn't feel anything." Aaron and the team walked with him through those questions in real time.

A few days later, the boy's mum emailed to share that he was asking

to watch the streams regularly. She wrote that he had "never cared about church before, but he was much more excited to explore faith because you simply engaged with his question."

For Aaron, this was a moment of clarity. "It was the first testimony we'd really gotten back," he says. "You don't always know the impact you're having. So to hear that story so early on, it was really cool."

"I always had a longing to talk about my faith online, but there was never a safe place to do it."

Aaron has been gaming since childhood, but it became a lifeline during a difficult season. Online gaming became a place where he could connect with others. But one thing was missing: "I always had a longing to be able to talk about my

faith online," he says. "There wasn't really a safe place to do that."

Today, that gap is exactly what Respawn is stepping into.

"Jesus isn't limited by space. Young people spend their time online, so that's where we need to be."

Young people spend more time online than ever before. Aaron quotes a statistic that "boys aged 15-17 spend more time gaming online than they do in school lessons." It's a mission field of staggering scale, one we cannot afford to ignore.

WHAT RESPAWN LOOKS LIKE

Respawn streams live on Twitch four days a week. Each day has a different rhythm, Bible studies, guest conversations, open Q&A, and plenty of gameplay. The chat is moderated by trained volunteers and supported by safety tools to ensure a welcoming environment.

The conversations range from the profound to the delightfully unexpected. "Kids ask everything," Aaron laughs. "From 'What's your favourite worship song?' to 'What's your biblical opinion on veganism?'"

TAKING GAMING OFFLINE: NEW IN-PERSON EVENTS

Alongside the online ministry, Youth for Christ is launching in-person gaming competitions. Our first is in



support of Albion Street Church in Brierley Hill this May. It's designed as a community-wide outreach and provides the church with a launchpad for their new youth group.

HOW SUPPORTERS CAN HELP

Aaron asks supporters to pray "that people would continue to be reached... and that we keep God at the centre of it all."

Aaron needs tech-savvy volunteers, moderators, and content creators as the ministry expands. And financial support will help fund equipment, events, and the growing online presence.

"God Is Meeting the Next Generation"

If Aaron had to summarise what God is doing through Respawn, he puts it simply: "He's meeting young people where they already are."

And for a generation living, learning, and searching online, that might be exactly where the Church needs to be too.

THE GOD WHO SEES ME



HOPE FOR A GENERATION IN HIS SIGHT

In Genesis 16, a young and vulnerable woman named Hagar flees into the wilderness, overwhelmed and unseen. Yet in that lonely place, God meets her. He calls her by name. He listens to her pain. And she responds with one of the most profound declarations in Scripture: "You are the God who sees me."

For any young person navigating pressure, loneliness, digital noise, and questions about identity, this

truth is not only comforting but transformational. And across Britain, through Youth for Christ's ministry, we are witnessing young people discover that the God who saw Hagar still sees them today.



He sees the teenager who stumbled into a gaming stream and asked, "Why don't I feel anything when I try to believe?" He sees the boy in Warrington who quietly opened a Bible in the middle of a youth club, hungry for truth. He sees the young people at Spring Harvest who danced in worship, prayed for one another, and heard God speak into their fears. He sees the churches in the New Forest who longed to reach young people and He met them around a table, stirring new dreams.

God sees them. And through your support, He is helping young people see Him.

This is the heartbeat of Youth for Christ's ministry: meeting young people where they are, just as God met Hagar where she was. Not waiting for them to come to church. Not expecting them to have the right words or the right background. But stepping into their world and showing them that they are known, valued, and loved.

Every story in this magazine is a reminder that God is not distant from this generation. He is not discouraged by their questions or intimidated by their culture. He is the God who sees, and He is moving.

He sees the young person who feels invisible at school. He sees the one who hides behind humour or

bravado. He sees the one who feels pressure to perform, to fit in, to be "enough." He sees the one who has never stepped inside a church but spends hours online searching for meaning. He sees the one who has been hurt, overlooked, or written off.

And He sends His people, including you, to meet them in His name.

Your prayers, your generosity, your encouragement, your belief that "young people matter": these are the ways God extends His gaze into the lives of those who feel unseen. You are part of the story every time a young person encounters Jesus, asks a brave question, opens a Bible, or says "yes" to Him for the first time.

As we step into new places, we do so with confidence that the God who sees is already there: in gaming communities, in new local centres, in peer-to-peer evangelism, in festivals, in prayer gatherings, and in the everyday spaces where young people live their lives.

Our vision is simple: that every young person in Britain would know they are seen by God and loved by Him, and given an invitation to know Him for themselves. And as we continue this mission, we do so knowing that He goes before us, He goes with us, and He sees every young life we long to reach.

May this truth anchor you as you pray for young people: the God who saw Hagar sees this generation, and He is drawing them to Himself, one story at a time.

FROM AMERICA TO GLASGOW:

FOLLOWING GOD INTO THE UNKNOWN



My husband and I never planned to move to Scotland. In fact, on the very same day we signed papers on our house in the United States, we boarded a plane to the UK for the first time to attend my best friend's wedding. She had moved to Scotland two years earlier to serve at what is now our home church, and we were simply coming to celebrate her.

During that trip, God began to move in both of our hearts as we spent time with the church family and explored the city of Glasgow. What we thought would be a short celebratory visit became a

moment of divine direction. When we returned home to the States, we couldn't shake the sense that God was calling us back. After weeks of prayer, we said "yes" - yes to returning, and yes to being part of what He is doing in Scotland and across the UK.

Now, almost a year later, I have the privilege of serving on the Youth for Christ Glasgow team as well as being the kids pastor at Home Church Glasgow.

I've also begun to understand the heart behind Youth for Christ: reaching young people across

Britain, especially in places where there is little or no existing youth work. We are in the early stages of establishing a new centre in Glasgow. It feels both exciting and stretching to say "yes" when so much is still new and unfolding. Right now, the beginning looks like listening and learning, connecting with fellow youth workers, standing together to "fight the good fight of faith," and showing Christ's love to the young people in our area. At the same time, I'm beginning to grasp God's wider vision of reaching young people across the whole nation.

I've come to realise how powerful it is when young people - really, all people - are known, welcomed, and pointed toward Jesus.

This season has stretched my faith in ways I didn't expect. It has required me to trust God without having a perfect picture of what everything will look like. Obedience doesn't always come with full clarity; often it simply looks like saying "yes" to the next step.

Though this is only the beginning, there is already evidence of God at work. As we continue building relationships and laying foundations, we are trusting God for open doors in schools, communities, and neighbourhoods across the city. I'm expectant for what's ahead and grateful to play even a small part in creating opportunities for more young people to encounter Him.

Emilee

Glasgow Youth for Christ



PRAY WITH US FOR YOUTH FOR CHRIST IN SCOTLAND:

Please pray for Emilee as she helps us to establish Youth for Christ Glasgow, for wisdom as she listens, learns, and builds relationships across the city. Pray for open doors in schools, churches, and communities, and for young people to encounter Jesus in meaningful ways. Lift up our Scotland Lead, Sandra. Pray that we might be able to grow her team to pioneer new mission opportunities across the Highlands, and the North East. Pray for volunteers, new partnerships, and for God to raise up more workers so that every young person in Scotland has the chance to hear the Gospel.

KEEP PRAYING

IT'S WORKING



In a world where truth is often obscured and bad news dominates, we want to share stories that remind you of something powerful: your prayers are making a real difference. God is moving among young people across the UK, and we are seeing lives changed in ways only He can do.

There is a young generation that is ripe for harvest. They are hearing the Gospel and many are responding. Whether through Youth for Christ centres, festivals or partner ministries, we consistently hear stories of young people choosing to follow Jesus. Sometimes it's a hundred. Sometimes it's one. But each one is a life claimed by God.

At a recent Resound youth gathering, Dorset Youth for Christ

saw 32 young people decide to follow Jesus.

At Fort Rocky, Cambridge Youth for Christ saw three young people make first-time commitments and 21 reaffirm their faith. Feedback forms were full of comments like "I'm more interested in finding out about God" and "It helped me get back on track with God."

These stories are signs of a generation searching for truth and finding Jesus.

Young People Living Boldly for Jesus

The truth is that many young people already love Jesus deeply. They are marked by the Spirit, growing in

faith, and are influencing the world around them.

Rachel*, connected to Quinton Youth for Christ, is a new Christian who consistently brings friends to church and Christian events. Even while facing storms in her personal life, she shares her faith boldly.

Your prayers strengthen young believers like Rachel. They create space for courage, resilience, and transformation.

God Is Stirring Hearts

One young man, Dan*, had been a troubled teenager and an outspoken atheist. After a spiritual experience, he bought himself a Bible and began searching. He returned to the youth leaders who had invested in him years before and asked about being baptised. They prayed with him as he committed his life to Jesus. A few months later, he was baptised.

This is what your prayers do, they soften hearts, awaken seeds planted long ago, and open doors for God to move.

Breakthrough In Difficult Places

We know there are obstacles: trauma, addiction, shame, pride, circumstances, lack of resources, and spiritual resistance. But with God, all things are possible.

Kingsbridge Youth for Christ experienced this firsthand. After staffing gaps, their Tuesday youth club had dwindled to just a couple

of young people. They prayed. Soon after, they were invited to run assemblies at a local school, and their youth club grew to 20-25 young people.

Prayer changes things. It always has.

Join Us In Prayer

At Youth for Christ, we can only serve on the frontline, with the knowledge that you are behind us in prayer. When you go to the Father in faith, your prayers advance the Kingdom in ways you may never see, but young people feel the impact every day. **Please pray for:**

- Young people to encounter Jesus for the first time
- Courage and strength for young Christians sharing their faith
- Breakthrough in communities where hearts feel hard
- Provision for Youth for Christ centres facing challenges
- Fresh opportunities to reach young people who are searching

Your prayers matter.

Join Us At Regenerate

We would love you to join us for Regenerate, our online prayer meeting. Every other month, we meet online for 30 minutes to pray for the younger generation.

Scan here to sign up to our next meeting or visit yfc.co.uk/regenerate



**Name changed to protect privacy*

PULSE

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CHURCHES DARE TO DREAM

They came from different churches across the New Forest. But over coffee that morning, they discovered they shared the same dream.

- To reach young people with the good news.
- To build something that would outlast them.
- To stop watching a generation drift by and feel powerless to respond.

That moment sums up why **PULSE** exists.

THE WEIGHT AND THE HOPE CHURCHES CARRY:

Across the New Forest, in market towns, coastal villages and rural parishes, churches are carrying something remarkable: a longing that refuses to fade.

They want young people to belong. They want the next generation to encounter faith, to feel known, to have somewhere to turn.

Yet between that longing and a reality of limited resources, and a rapidly changing world, many have lost confidence in their ability to make it happen. **PULSE** exists to restore that confidence.

IT STARTS AROUND A TABLE:

A **PULSE** Gathering doesn't feel like a strategy meeting. It feels like a conversation. Leaders, youth workers and community pioneers gather, coffee in hand, and begin to dream out loud, about schools work, detached youth ministry, and what a genuine movement for the next generation could look like.

Those conversations don't stay as ideas. With some planning, they open doors to headteachers, local councillors, and the people shaping the spaces where young people are. The young people churches long to reach are in classrooms and on street corners. Many are navigating loneliness, anxiety and pressure that often goes unseen.

PULSE helps churches recognise they can serve these unchurched young people, and that they don't have to do it alone.

WHAT A PULSE CONSULTATION LOOKS LIKE:

A **PULSE** consultation begins with questions, not answers.

- What's the story here?
- Who are the young people in this community?
- What's already working, even quietly?
- What feels out of reach?

Together, we identify realistic opportunities and the support needed to pursue them. This can be a combination of resources, local partnerships and encouragement. Above all, it's never a one-off conversation, it's the start of a relationship.

FROM DREAM TO REALITY:

And as those relationships deepen, they start to shape real change, just as they have in the New Forest. These local churches have worked with Youth for Christ over several months, building something, bringing the right people together, engaging with schools and

local leaders, and asking honest questions about young people's wellbeing and isolation.

And this summer, a Youth for Christ worker will be based in the New Forest. Not as a distant hope, but as a reality, made possible by churches willing to dream, and supported by **PULSE** to take the next step. This is what is possible. Immeasurably more than anyone imagined and it's only the beginning.

COULD THIS BE FOR YOUR CHURCH?



If you're leading a church and wondering where to begin or whether what you're doing is enough, a **PULSE** consultation could help you see what's possible.

You can also play a part by sharing this article with churches and leaders you know.

Like the New Forest, the young people in your area have a future worth investing in. And your local Church is more ready than it may realise.

To arrange a **PULSE** consultation, or ask a question, get in touch.



It starts with a conversation and you may be surprised where it leads.



"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

EPHESIANS 3:20



FROM FINE ART TO FAITH IN ACTION



AIMEE'S

gap year STORY

In all honesty, I never planned to do a gap year after college, but it was the best decision I've ever made. Within four weeks my life changed. After finishing my third year studying Fine Art, I imagined a comfortable life at home, working in the local café and volunteering at church.

The idea of a gap year was familiar but not something I was pursuing. God's intervention came through a medical procedure that happened sooner than expected, pushing me into a space where I could hear His call clearly. I felt God leading me to youth ministry. After a quick Google

search, Youth for Christ appeared, which was the first time I'd heard of them. Four weeks after applying to the Year Out programme, I had moved 175 miles from Weymouth to Kenilworth. Praise God that His plan isn't always comfortable.

So, what have I been up to this year? I've joined our centre director and volunteers, a team passionate about reaching more young people with the gospel. Practically, that means going into school four days a week to run lunch clubs. We've seen young people shift from "there is no God" to "yes, there is a God but...". I've led a 'Girl Talk' lunch club, discovering how craft helps young girls open up.

Kenilworth Youth for Christ is committed to empowering young Christians to share their faith, so alongside the local church I've led youth sessions focused on discipleship and had many conversations about living as a Christian in a secular world. Amazingly, two young people have started a Bible study, and it's exciting to see what God is doing through them. Another highlight was our youth weekend away, bringing unchurched young people into a space where they felt comfortable asking questions and experiencing worship for the first time.

This year has been truly transformative. I began with zero expectations and was terrified of going back into a school environment. Although I'd helped with youth groups before, I wanted to grow in planning and delivering sessions, lunch clubs and talks. I was especially timid about speaking to

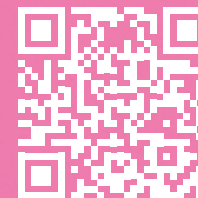
large groups. This year I've grown in confidence, helping and leading assemblies for year groups of around 330 students, leading youth groups, hosting outreach events and speaking at the youth weekend away. These things still scare me, but I now know I can push through the nerves. My faith has deepened; I've learnt to rely on God's leading when speaking to young people and to trust the Holy Spirit in new situations. The power of prayer in young people's lives is so encouraging, their openness to spirituality, their search for honesty and truth, and the many answered prayers.

If you're considering the Year Out, my advice is to go for it.

The people at Youth for Christ are passionate about seeing young people's lives changed by Jesus, and equally passionate about seeing you grow into the person God envisions. Enter the year with faith and confidence that God will use you, and be open to His prompting as you grow into what it means to be a child of God on a much larger mission.

Aimee-Grace

Kenilworth Youth for Christ



**SCAN HERE
to find out
more info on a
Youth for Christ
Year Out.**

THE GREATEST TRAGEDY IS NOT VIOLENCE, GANGS, OR DRUGS, BUT NO ONE TELLING HIM ABOUT JESUS.

There are too many young people, like 17-year-old Sami*, whose lives are purposeless and without hope.

Please don't let silence be the greatest tragedy.

Will you say "YES" and help speak life to give young futures back?

Every gift of £25 could give a New to Faith pack to 17 young people who want to hear more about Jesus.

Thank you. Your support and prayers mean everything to us.

VISIT [YFC.CO.UK/DONATE](https://www.yfc.co.uk/donate) TO MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY OR PHONE 0121 502 9620

**Name changed to protect privacy*

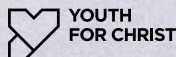


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