East Norfolk Youth for Christ <office@enyfc.co.uk>

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# Prayer Diary and Update July 2019

To Judith <judith.edmonds@ntlworld.com>



We are about seeing young people's lives changed by Jesus Registered Charity Number 1118022

## **Prayer Diary for July 2019**

"Come follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people" (Matthew 4 v 19 NIVUK)



It's been very quiet in the dinner hall this month without the buzz of the Year 11s and their exams but it's been a good time to engage with more of the Year 10s. We're getting to know the staff more and had the privilege of praying for a lady's ear problem. Thank you for continuing to uphold us in your daily prayers, we're passionate about taking every

"opportunity" but it's easy to become complacent and comfortable. Amilcar is getting more involved and is really keen to engage in some way with the boys who are interested in football so hopefully we'll have more news next time!

**THEOS** is still going strong as we work our way through the story of salvation, from creation through to the resurrection and beyond. This can be pretty hit and miss as 5 of the young people are now involved in a drama production with the school's Performing Arts department which means they're staying behind at school even longer on Wednesdays, to attend rehearsals. We have extended the sessions for another half an hour to compensate but this means that those do come when school ends are with us for 2 hours. This is a fantastic opportunity for us but after a long day at school makes concentrating a massive challenge. However, they still come up with some great questions:

"If God cares so much why didn't he makes us so we live forever?"

"So did Satan take over the serpent then?"

"Hang on, how did they sew fig leaves together?"

"Why did God put the tree in the middle of the garden; why didn't he hide it if they weren't allowed it?"

"When did the dinosaurs happen?"

"If all the animals and birds were created before Adam and he named them, what were they all called before he was created?"

Please pray for them to have revelation and understanding of their identity as we continue to explore the meaning of the cross and resurrection this week.

The **Youth Café** has lost some of the year 11s who are still allowed to come (until the end of July) but are not in the routine of school so forget that it's on or lose track of the time but we've had an influx of new faces from Year 7, 8 and 9. Ali visited the Year 7s assembly when the Gideons came to speak and she advertised the café, with most of the year group taking fliers and Gideon New Testaments at the end of the assembly. The young people come to chill out after school in a safe environment where they can have free toast, hot chocolate, milkshake and fruit. They can play table tennis, pool, Wii, board games, do some art and craft and play cards. We need two more volunteers who can make drinks and wash up on a Thursday afternoon from 4.30 til 6.30, so please consider if it's something you would like to do, or perhaps talk to the volunteers about how empowering it is for them and how much they've grown in confidence and their gifting over the years they've been involved. Feel free to come and visit to see if it's something you could consider, even if it's only once or twice a month.

Three of the regular volunteers are unable to help on the last session (18 <sup>th</sup> July) so if you love Jesus and can make tea and toast please get in touch, it will mean we don't have to close a week early.

The **Trustees** are meeting again this week to confirm job roles for new staff members so please pray for us as we make decisions. We'd love to extend our sphere of influence in the town, but we do need money to pay them. People often ask what can they buy for the young people; what do they need? The truth is that a lot of their material needs are often met by charities and government initiatives, but what they don't have is the time and attention of adults. One of our regulars in Year 10 says she has 16 siblings (not all in the same household but step- and half- siblings) so she really values spending time with adults who will just engage with her. Also another family has 8 children all in the same house and when one parent works full time that's a lot of children to give individual attention to. Very few funders will give grants for wages as they tend to prefer "projects" but we're passionate about the relationships we have with the young people and their families and we can only sustain those by

paying workers, so they can spend time with the young people. Ali has always been a volunteer and doesn't need to take a wage but there are very few people in that position so we need to raise funds to expand the work. We are continually grateful to those who have faithfully donated for so many years, thank you. There is a donation sheet at the end of this prayer diary if you feel you can help in this way and if you already give, thank you and please continue to intercede for the funding and the trustees we know God has for us somewhere!

If you're not sure what we do and would like us to visit your church (a service or PCC meeting or something else) to update you in person about the work of East Norfolk Youth for Christ, please get in touch, we'd love to come & meet you.

If God is prompting you, please get in touch or use the following details to donate. Our bank details are **HSBC**, 81452886, 40-22-34. We are registered with **Stewardship** (East Norfolk Youth for Christ) if you'd like to give anonymously or if you prefer to use cheques, please make them payable to East Norfolk Youth for Christ and post them to the office address at the bottom of this update. Thank you so much to those who consistently support us in this way. We are truly grateful for your generosity.

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