

FIRST May 2015

CF Youth and Children's Newsletter

Core Team Elections

We're pleased to announce that the following people have been nominated by their church to serve during 2015-17; Bridie Bailey and Louise Durham for their first term and Becca Bushell and Samuel Logan for their second.



It is now the opportunity for you to read the introductory profiles of these nominees on the website and think of any questions you might have for them during hustings. Hustings (a conversation with nominees) will take place at the CF-XTRA day event at May Assembly.

'Hustings': at May Assembly:
Saturday 9th May
Voting: 11th May - 31st May
(midnight)

From the 11th May if you are aged between 10-29 you will be able to vote through your Youth & Children's contact at your church. Remember the election is your chance to choose who leads CF-XTRA, so don't forget to vote!

For more information about the elections procedure, the nominees and for the church voting slip please visit www.congregational.org.uk/core-team-election.

Child Friendly Coaching

There are two Coaching Events coming up this Autumn. In September we return to Airdrie, following the well attended event there last year with a completely new programme. In November we hold the first Coaching Day in the South West, with an emphasis on reaching whole families. These events are for anyone who wants to make their church a better place for children and young people to belong. Each day is from **10.00am to 4.00pm** and - if booked in advance - places are £10 including a meal, refreshments and a pack of resources. More details are on the Federation website, where you can also book and pay online.

Region	Date	Venue
Scotland	Saturday 5 th September	Ebenezer Cong Church, Airdrie, ML6 6BN
England South West	Saturday 14 th November	Crediton Cong Church, Crediton, EX17 3LB

WANTED - Church Placements

Our Growing Disciples programme offers young Christians with leadership potential a year of full-time service and development. We shall be looking for church placements from January to December 2016 for a participant with gifting in creative and children's ministries.

Any Federation church can apply to be a partner in this programme. Placements can be for a number of months or for a few weeks and can be part-time or full-time. We will be looking for hosting and support with relevant opportunities for service.

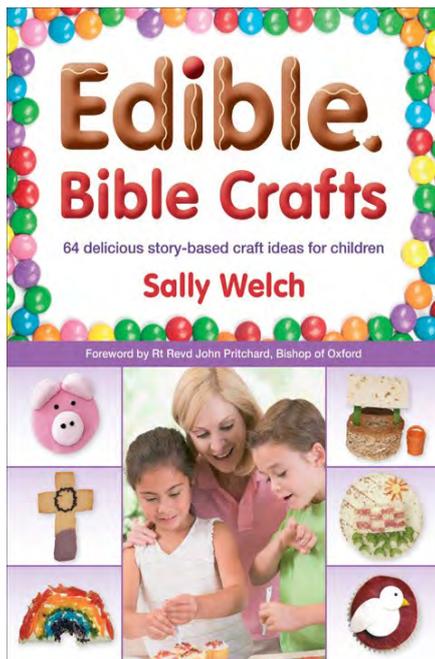
Please contact **Kathryn** at ycadmin@congregational.org.uk if you are interested in taking this further. We have also emailed church contacts with more information.

Young Leaders' Training

In April a group of twelve young people came together in Rydal near Ambleside for a week of leadership training. There were a range of sessions from leading game activities with pastoral care to creating Bible discussions and their own worship with plenty of time in-between for getting to know one another and spending time in the beautiful countryside. One of the young people commented:



“ We mixed fun with learning which made it easier and more fun to learn. Our environment was relaxed but serious at times and other times we just had fun and played around. It is a good experience to have and good skills to learn for the future. CF-XTRA events are a lot of fun every time! ”



Best-Seller Makes Mouths Water

How near are you to a well-stocked Christian bookshop? For many of us, the answer is 'a long way' and while the internet is a wonderful resource for book-buying, sometimes we want actually to turn pages before we buy. So one of the services the Youth and Children's Office provides is a well-stocked resources stall.

Our best-seller so far this year has been a brilliant book by Sally Welch. *Edible Bible Crafts* offers Bible-themed cooking activities which need to be seen (and tasted) to be believed. I was particularly impressed by a blue jelly Sea of Galilee and fishing nets made from Shreddies. What a classic! SH.

Sally Welch, *Edible Bible Crafts*, brf, 2014, £11.99

Also recommended: Laurie Castañeda, *Encyclopaedia of Bible Crafts*, brf, £12.99.

Staff Changes

After 14 years of national youth and children's work **Stephen Haward** is returning to pastoral ministry. He has been called to the Market Harborough Congregational Church, being inducted on 11th July. Congratulations to **Kathryn Young**, who has been appointed as National Youth and Children's Worker. Following her service to the Department as CWM Europe Intern, **Becky Leggett** has been appointed as Youth Office Assistant. She will be working with Kathryn up to the end of August to ensure CF-XTRA and other programmes run successfully.

Congregational Federation Youth and Children's Work Department
Director: Stephen Haward; National Youth and Children's Worker: Kathryn Young;
Youth Office Assistant: Becky Leggett
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