CF Youth and Children NEWSLETTER

CF-XTRA Core Team and Support Group

The newly elected CF-XTRA Core team met along with other young people forming a support group for national events and activities. The group were putting together a programme for next year's events including a weekend for young people **14th to 16th March** and next year's Summer Camp at Rock UK Frontier Centre, Irthlingborough from **28th July to 1st August.**

The young people come from a wide geographical spread and their next planning meeting will be in December.

If your Church has any young people who would benefit from being involved then why not put them in touch with the Youth and Children's Office and they can contribute towards the wider work of our churches and then bring back their experience to your Church.

CF-XTRA Summer Camp at Marrick Priory

Forty two people gathered for this year's Summer Camp and participated in a varied programme of outdoor activities, such as climbing, abseiling and canoeing. The Core Team, with the assistance of other young people, led the worship in the atmospheric chapel of the priory providing special moments for many of those who attended.

Coming Event

The Youth and Children's Office in Manchester will host a weekend from 31st January – 2nd February 2014 focusing on the discipleship material *Christ in All Things*. What is distinctive about being a member of the Congregational Federation?

This event is open to young people and families between the ages of 16 – 29. Accommodation will be available as well as a crèche, so come along and have a weekend of fellowship and learning.

For more information contact John Brown at the Youth and Children's Office
john.brown@congregational.org.uk or the Core Team xtra@congregational.org.uk
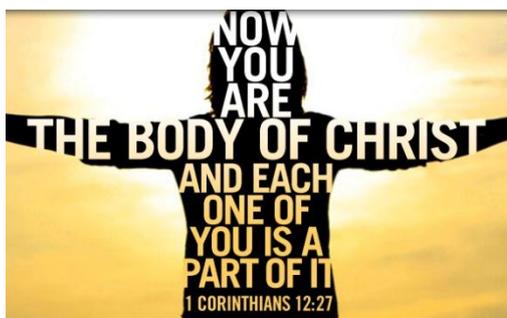**or visit the Federation website www.congregational.org.uk**

Big Role for 'Mini-Intern'

This summer, I have completed around three weeks of a "mini-internship" with the Youth and Children's Office. This varied from administration tasks in the office to hosting international guests at the ICF conference; facilitating a holiday club in Sanquhar to having a leadership role in the annual Summer Camp for 10-17 years. I have immensely enjoyed my time with Stephen, Kathryn and John and hope to have helped others grow in their faith along with my own.

Emma Maslin

The Youth Office internship programme continues in October when we welcome **Victoria Meachin** to the team. Victoria is the first participant in a new programme for personal development provided by CWM Europe. She will be with us for six months while also working for Hale and Altrincham United Reformed Church.

ICF Youth Conference

At the end of July, twenty young people from Congregational churches in the United States, Greece, Brazil and the UK met at Brunel University.

As well as sharing in parts of the main conference they explored the theme of 'one body in Christ' in their own sessions.

The next ICF Conference is planned for 2017 in South Africa.
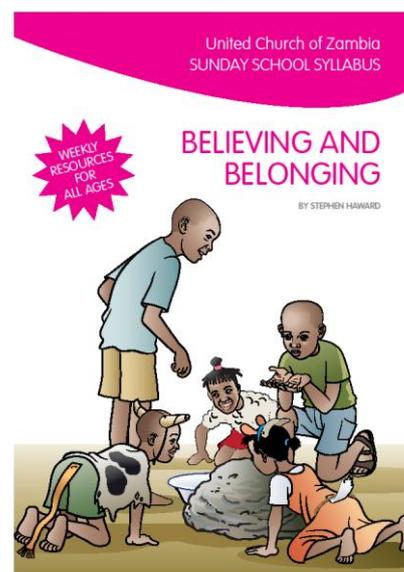
Believing and Belonging in Zambia

Written for the United Church of Zambia, 6,000 copies of Stephen's substantial book are now on board a ship heading to Dar-es-Salaam.

***Believing and Belonging* uses a wide range of methods to enable children to be creative and playful as they learn in Sunday School. A whole year of Bible lessons is included.**

Original storylines and illustrations place the material firmly in an African context, while ordinary household or natural items are used as aids for learning instead of expensive Western materials.

Some copies have been retained in the UK for churches interested in Bible teaching alongside another culture: available from the Office at £10.00.