

# SYNERGIE YOUTH GROUP

*"The combined power of a group of things when they are working together that is greater than the total power achieved by each working separately"*

## MESSAGE FROM YOUTH PASTORS STEVEN & ZARA PATON

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to each one of you who have supported us either through your kind words of encouragement, prayer or financial support. We are extremely grateful to you, our amazing pastors, leaders & Vine Church! Please know your input is a massive blessing to us and many precious young people!

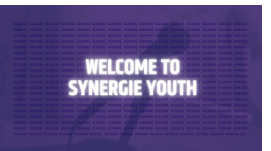
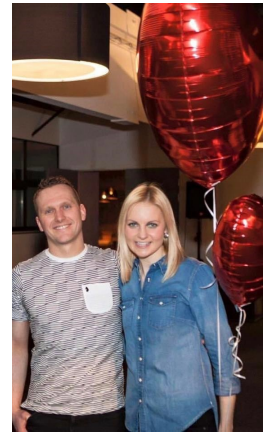
It has been an exciting and challenging time at Synergie over the last few years through the pandemic. We have had to quickly look at new ways of connecting with youth and started meeting on zoom! During this time we missed meeting in person but meeting on zoom also brought our church youth closer together as we met in a new way. We still managed to have loads of fun games, lots of time to chat with the youth to see how they were doing, worship, followed by an inspiring word from one of our youth leaders & some excellent talks from some of our youth! We had some great times on zoom and the youth have actually helped us through the pandemic with their fun, positive attitude & energy!

Once some restrictions were lifted, we were able to meet back in person at the Vine which has been really special and the youth have been amazing sticking to all the guidelines of wearing masks and social distancing etc. We have loved meeting with the youth again for some more fun, time of worship and at the moment we are going through topics such as Worship, Prayer, Bible reading, How to hear from God & How to share our faith with others. We are so proud of the youth who have shown amazing resilience & strength through a time of constant changes i.e. exams, home schooling & the disappointment of events & many other things being cancelled. Synergie has been a great way to support and encourage one another through this time especially.

We are looking at ways of reaching out to more youth in our community and are hoping to run a Youth Alpha course after the summer holidays where they can bring friends along. We are also looking forward to running a Youth Encounter Day in November! We have had some brilliant events such as Youth Worship Nights with our friends at Heart & Sound, outreach DJ nights and fun social nights.

We would like to thank our amazing youth leaders Ewan Mitchell & Mel Thomson who have been an incredible support & encouragement to us and Synergie. We are extremely grateful for all their hard work and all they pour out into Synergie. They have been so faithful even while still facing their own challenges and the busyness of life with work & family life.

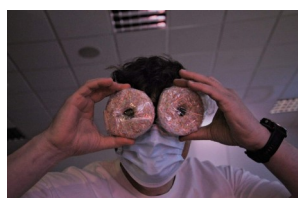
We hope you enjoy reading some of the reports from some of our wonderful youth in Synergie!



## FRIDAY NIGHTS

When I first came to Synergie I wasn't the same person that I am today. I had no confidence, thought very lowly of myself and I didn't have a strong relationship with Jesus, I really just needed somewhere that I enjoyed going to. I remember the first time I walked into Synergie and meeting everyone for the first time, I came out of it with a renewed faith in humanity. That people actually liked me and wanted to speak to me, as at that time I was struggling finding people who would accept me for who I am and that I don't need to hide myself. Seeing other people be on fire for Jesus really inspired me as this was something that I had never experienced before. When I came along people were dancing and lifting their hands in worship. It took me a little while to get comfortable with worshipping that way. I really enjoy how powerful the worship can be sometimes, my first time lifting my hands I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit come over me, which was a whole new experience. It is really inspiring and motivating for me to be surrounded by people who all have the same passion to follow Jesus. It has helped me massively in my faith and I am now confident in the person I am, I'm not hiding any part of it to please others anymore. **Kate Lonie**

I always look forward to Synergie because it's a great chance to catch up with friends, have a laugh, play games. We hear encouraging messages from leaders and sometimes even guest speakers and there is the opportunity to praise God and worship him. **Archie Hannah**



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## DJ NIGHTS

The DJ nights at heart and sound bring a whole new meaning to worship. They let us enjoy ourselves and bring joy into our love for God. The music really lets us concentrate on our connection with God. Helping to bond us in a way not possible on our own. When you're in a room with other people who believe and have a strong connection to the same God you have, it brings your soul to life, which is what I see as Gods love, to have all his sons and daughters enjoying the life they are living . [Amy Glass](#)

## YOUTH WORSHIP NIGHTS

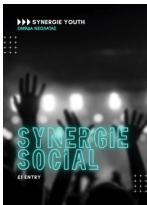


Youth worship nights have really helped me to understand my purpose in serving God, it has let me seek comfort in knowing that I can still be who I am, and have a strong sense of faith. They have taught me so much about how I can take my worship to the next level, and how I can make my love for God that bit stronger. [Amy Glass](#)

## LIFEGROUPS

For me, life groups are good for the soul. After a long day, catching up with friends, with Jesus at the centre, is a beautiful, relaxing way to end the day. We catch up with each other, share our struggles and seek Jesus together. The girls in my life group and my amazing leader and aunty, Zara, help and inspire me to grow closer to God . [Clara Dowds](#)

## SYNERGIE SOCIAL NIGHTS



Social nights are fun nights where you mix with people, play games and have fun. They're slightly different to our usual Synergie nights, it's a relaxed night where you can talk to more people. Sometimes we have food and drinks, there's an Xbox and table tennis. Before covid we had themed social nights. They're great and I always look forward to them! [Reuben Hannah](#)

## YOUTH LEADERS TRAINING

On Wednesday evenings Zara has been attending an online youth leaders/volunteers training course. Youthscape essentials is ten sessions covering 30 topics. The topics are divided into **Insights into Young People**, **Skills for Youth Work** and **Developing Character**. In each session there is a testimony from a young person, talks from leaders, practical exercises and time to deepen your own faith. It has been such a great course so far, the sessions have been excellent and some very helpful practical skills for working with young people. It has also been encouraging meeting with other youth leaders/volunteers as we share together and take time to review how things are going, make plans and dream for the future!

*Youthscape*



If you would like to give into the great work of Synergie Youth Group and to bless the young people please see details below:

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