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YouthsurgeAustralia

PrayerUpdate

VOLUME 2 . ISSUE 8

SEPTEMBER 2008

Youthsurge is a youth ministry organisation committed to **remodelling, rethinking and resourcing**

youth ministry in the local church so it can be as effective as possible in fulfilling the

Great Commission amongst teenagers.

Looking Forward to 2009

Dear Supporters,

Thank you for your prayer support over the past couple of months as the Youthsurge team has been locked into finalising plans for 2009. At times the process has been difficult as we have sought to streamline our current program of events and focus our attention on the long term impact of the ministry.

Our plans for 2009 include a scaling back of the current number of Surges from 4 in a region per year to a maximum of 2. This will allow us to take advantage of new opportunities to expand into areas untouched by Youthsurge and reduce the programming workload. We also plan to add a few different elements to the Surge program allowing better contact with youth ministries in each region.

The YS team has also been doing thinking about how to encourage and resource Christian parents to disciple their children/teens. As a first step we are planning to run a series of breakfast meetings around Australia in 2009 to address issues associated with discipling teens, as well as provide resources.

After the fabulous ministry opportunity of Launch this year we are planning to expand the camps in 2009 to one in North Queensland and one in South Queensland. Under God we hope to expand into NT & WA in 2010.

On the staffing front, we are pleased to announce that Joe & Sarah Smith will join the team next year as Student Ministers. Joe and Sarah will both bring a number of gifts to the team (creative writing, graphic design, editing, upfront skills, web design) and will make a value contribution across the whole ministry. Joe and Sarah have both been long term contributors of YS and we look forward to taking that to a new level. They will both begin formal theological training at SMBC in 2009.

Many blessings,

Steve Jeffrey

National Director

Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep praying for all the saints.

Ephesians 4:17-18 (NIV)



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GiveThanks

- ★ The feedback from churches has been that **Launch** in North Queensland had a great impact upon the 23 leaders in training (teenagers in Grade 10-12) who attended in early June. The team of 5 from Toongabbie Anglican did a fabulous job in leading all aspects of the camp, and Steve's 5 talks from the later chapters of Hebrews were well received. This is the first **Launch** that YS has organised but there are plans for WA, South Qld & Nth Qld in 2009.
- ★ **UK/Europe Distribution.** YS has just sent copies of our new bible study series to the UK for printing and distribution. The studies will be co-branded with The Good Book Company and YS will receive a royalty from sales. We are thankful to God for the opportunity to expose the ministry and for the extra income source.
- ★ **USA Distribution.** Negotiations with a Christian book distributor in the USA have progressed, we are just working through some final details. The opportunity to sell our resources in the USA has long been a hope for YS and we are thankful that God has answered our prayers.
- ★ Behind every **Surge** program is a team of creative people thinking through each aspect of what happens when groups meet together. YS is very thankful for the work of Jon Thorpe, Luke Thomson, Sarah Smith, Mark Boyd & Danny Mitchell.

AskGod

- ★ **CBAA.** The YS team is currently in Canberra for the Christian Booksellers Association National Trade Show. YS has a stand showing a products to Christian bookstores and other retailers. We have received a bit or interest (one day into the three day show) as we are the only youth ministry organisation. It is however frustrating when Christian bookshop owners say they don't have teens in their area going to church therefore are not interested in youth ministry resources! Pray for YS' exposure and those churches.
- ★ **Plans for 2009** are starting to take shape. Apart from the Launch camps already mentioned we are looking to get better 'bang for buck' in QLD by running 2 weekend conventions (Nth & Sth) in 2009. Pray for wisdom for Steve as he thinks through with the team the best way forward for influencing youth ministries in other areas of Australia where YS is operating. Pray that we won't just be busy but that we might be effective with our limited resources. Pray too for patience as we begin to work through the difficult process of coordinating, advertising, and programming many events for 2009.
- ★ This month the **YS team** will be busy with the following events: Mid North Coast & City Surges (5th), Cairns Surge & Training (12-13), Western Sydney Surge (12), Blue Mountains, Northern Rivers, Wollongong & Townsville Surges (19), Townsville Training (20). Pray for the team as they organise, meet people, travel, preach and train. Pray that we'll impact both leaders and youth with clarity, conviction and passion to live for the honour of the Lord Jesus.
- ★ **Bruce Chapman.** Please continue to pray for Bruce Chapman (+ Jodi & the kids) as they settle in the NT. Bruce is making contact with key people in youth ministry and starting to outline plans for the future. Bruce will also be joining Steve, Dave Hopper (Nth Qld) & Bradley Young (Perth) for 3 days of strategising and planning in November.
- ★ **Bible Studies.** YS has 4 more bible study booklets in the new series getting prepared for printing. Pray for patience for the team in the drawn out final steps before sale, and the money that is needed to go to print.

Thank you again for your partnership