

Ministry Trainee Scheme

Jonathan Wong



^Trainees in arms in hilly Sheffield.

Thank you for keeping me in your prayers these past couple of months. It's been a busy summer! I had a refreshing time back home leading at Cumbria Christian Youth Camp and also witnessed the wedding of my sister and now new brother-in-law! On returning to Sheffield we prepared for an online camp with some youth groups in Central Asia and studied Ephesians for a week. We enjoyed sharing our experiences of culture and knowing Jesus' together and encouraged by God's plan for the church.

Faith that works

"[H]e gives more grace...

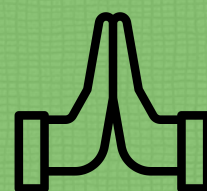
Submit yourselves therefore to God." – James 4:6-8

In the last week of August, some of the youth from Fulwood headed out to the Wirral for the annual camp called HouseParty. We had a great week engaging in all sorts of crazy fun with the 14-18 year-olds along with some serious study in the letter of James. It was a great encouragement seeing the faith of the young people and being in awe at the character of God together, particularly in his incessant grace offered to his people — perhaps a surprising take away from the letter of James. We saw how we're often double-minded in claiming to put our faith in God but live contrary to our claim, yet all the while he holds out his gracious hand for



Give thanks...

- Youth and children's camps that were able to run (CCYC, HouseParty, Online Camp)
- Start to a new year on the trainee scheme and welcoming two new trainees (Willard and Naomi)
- Our gracious God who calls us to a blessed life in trusting him.



Pray for...

Leadership and staff team, and the whole church family

Children, Youth and Student ministry

New year of bible training

us to return to right living. Or as our tagline for the week put it, we are to have a “faith that works”. The kind of faith that can stick with God when facing trials of the Christian life and also real faith that is actively lived out. I think about those who have displayed this faith-filled and grace-giving living to me and thankful that God is gracious to grow his people.

Church Family of Fulwood

“Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” - Ephesians 4:1-3

Last week we had our induction for two new trainees, Willard and Naomi. Along with touring the site, wrestling the church printer, and learning how to clean toilets, we also had a good time reflecting on our serious call to love one another John 13-16 together. In the same week we had our Staff Away Day at the Oakes Holiday centre. We spend time in honest and prayerful evaluation of gospel ministry. Our Associate Vicar Pete described our real dysfunction as sinners and as a staffing team, and yet encouraged us as those called to live out Paul’s instruction in Ephesians 4. Even with such an established church in practice, please pray for the spiritual establishment the leadership and staff at Fulwood church and that the whole church family would experience this worthy living of our calling together.

As in-person services begin to draw more church families back, we’ve been excited to get Sunday schools going. I’ve joined a team serving Adventurers (4-7 year-olds) looking at the book of Numbers together. “How can we be reminded that God is with us?” asked the leader. A shy 6 year-old spoke up, “Being thankful”. I’m often encouraged by the insights from the children.

Next week (13th-17th Sep) we’ll see the return some students as we head off to Bamford for our annual Returner’s Retreat. We’re looking forward to reconnecting with many of them and to get in gear for the term ahead. Following that, Freshers Week (20th-24th) is always a busy one as Sheffield welcomes a whole host of students moving to the city. We’ll be out on street corners and with some planned BBQ and Walk in the Peaks events to catch any of them who might like to join the church.

Yours in Christ,

Jonny

Upcoming...

13-17
Sep

RETURNERS RETREAT

Pray for our time away with returning students before the term starts and growing relationships together.

23
Sep

**BIBLE TRAINING
YORKSHIRE**

Joining other bible students to grasp Numbers and John together

20-24
Sep

FRESHERS WEEK

Pray for the welcoming new students to Sheffield and getting them stuck into a church.