

Tauiwi Youth Conference 2018 | To know Christ

This past January, young Methodist TYTANZ from around the connexion converged on the beautiful Lake Taupo for our second annual TYC. With leaders of different ages, cultures and backgrounds from all around Aotearoa, TYC was focussed on the theme **To Know Christ | #2KC**. Our mantra for TYC was this – That our identity, in community, church and life, can only be truly found when in pursuit of knowing Christ. What transpired at TYC was an inspiring week of Spirit-led fellowship, worship and community.

For TYC #2KC, the organising team sought to create a programme that explored identity in 3 specific areas.

To Know Christ | Community

TYC had a strong emphasis on community – providing countless opportunities for delegates to spend time getting to know fellow leaders and gain insight into different perspectives and experiences. From 6am praiser-cise, team building activities, group chants and competitions in prayer groups, to simple things like doing kitchen duties with people from different synods and churches, TYC will always have a strong emphasis on building community.

To Know Christ | Church

Another important part of TYC was tackling the idea of *claiming a Methodist identity*. We identified at TYC 2017 that there was a strong desire for youth to become more grounded and aware of their Methodist heritage – contrary to what our older leaders sometimes wrongly assume!

TYC #2KC saw the introduction of our *Expression Sessions*. These dynamic workshops combined an informative session breaking down the 11 principles of the MCNZ mission statement and bringing these principles to life through creative mediums. What transpired was an unforgettable night where young people were able to pass on knowledge, history and heritage in a format that was relevant, engaging and entertaining to their fellow leaders. This was a greatly successful endeavour.

As well as this, we engaged in constructive and meaningful Talanoa at TYC, with our leaders being lucky enough to be graced by the presence of our current and incoming presidential teams and Trinity college staff. Time was given for great discussion and feedback on both sides.

To Know Christ | Life

Finally, TYC gave all young leaders the opportunity to be reminded of the importance of the personal salvation made available through knowing, repenting and accepting Christ. TYC has an unshakable emphasis on being Spirit-led in all aspects. This was evident from our Prayer Hub (The TYC engine room), our pre-breakfast multi-language prayer sessions, morning and evening devotions, communion, worship times and testimonies shared throughout the weekend. We truly felt the presence of God and were fortunate to see many respond to the call to surrender their lives to Christ at TYC #2KC.

Overall, we believe TYC to have been a hugely successful event – only made possible by the unwavering support of our church ministers, leaders and parents, and a God who never grows weary when it comes to working for our good. Our heartfelt thanks to all who played a part in making TYC an unforgettable experience!

We continue to pray that all people in Te Haahi Weteriana would always remain pursuit of knowing Christ. Lets continue to journey together, grow together, walk together and love together in JESUS NAME! Leessgo!

#WeAreTYTANZ