

Our Vision...

Our Ministry!

A guide to getting involved
EFCA, East Lindfield



5 things that we really want to be:

WE REALLY WANT TO BE...

We really want to be a community of young people who are...

IN LOVE WITH JESUS

We really want to be so excited and changed by God's Spirit in our lives that everything we are and everything we do is totally given over to the purposes and power of Jesus

CARING DEEPLY

We really want to be so devoted to Christ-like love that we bind each others' wounds and draw many other hurting young people into our community of acceptance and love

PRAYING FAITHFULLY

We really want to be so characterised by prayer that we will constantly be amazed by the answers God gives us as we are changed forever by being in his presence

RAISING UP LEADERS

We really want to be raising a generation of student and adult leaders who will take their place as servant leaders in their family, their church, their workplace and every aspect of their community.

GROWING STRONGLY

We really want to be growing so quickly and strongly as a youth ministry that our buildings, leadership and resources will struggle to keep up with us.

5 things that we really want to see:

WE REALLY WANT TO SEE...

We really want to trust God's life-changing word so that we see...

A GENERATION CHANGED

We really want see our lives so changed by God, and for us to be so intentionally evangelistic, that we equip our teenagers to impact a whole generation through our focus on changing one life at a time

OUR SCHOOLS CHANGED

We really want to see our local state and private high schools turned upside down for Jesus by the impact of our Christian kids on their own campus

OUR CHURCHES CHANGED

We really want to see our own church strengthened by unleashing a generation of young disciples who will serve and bless our church in every area.

We also want to build resource and encourage other biblical youth ministries around our nation, and throughout our world.

OUR FAMILIES CHANGED

We want to see our young people being instruments of change in their families. We want to raise strong households of faith by supporting and strengthening our Christian parents.

We want to reach out with the gospel to the unsaved parents of our young disciples.

OUR WORLD CHANGED

We really want to see nations being turned around for Christ through the young people that we have discipled.

We are a community of youth who are learning to love the things that really are the most important:

The loves of Switch Youth Ministries:

- 1. We love God ...**
... worship!
- 2. We love each other ...**
... fellowship!
- 3. We love growing ...**
... discipleship!
- 4. We love serving ...**
... ministry!
- 5. We love reaching others**
... evangelism!

Why does Switch exist?

We exist to give glory and honour to our awesome God

What does God want us to achieve?

We will impact the world for Christ

By empowering students

To be passionate Disciples of Christ

How do we make disciples?

By **bringing** our friends to Christ

By **building** each other up in Christ

And by **sending** us out for Christ

How do we achieve this?

Our Vision:

"Proclaim Jesus as Lord and equip youth to be passionate lifelong disciples of Jesus and to serve His community and His world"

Our Programs

We want every program in our youth ministry to support our strategy.

Every ministry program will either or is a combination:

Bring students to Christ...

Build them up in Christ...

Or send them out for Christ.

Our Ministry Goals

Goal 1: Bringing the youth into a relationship with Jesus through the teaching of the bible

Through our various programs and strategic approaches we are a community seeking to bring students to Christ by teaching the bible clearly and in a culturally relevant way without watering down on gospel or bible content.

Youth Camps & Day Trips (Weekend Away, KYCK, Socials)

A great way to build relationships in any year; Weekend Away or KYCK Youth Camps focus on relationships with others as the weekend progresses and building them up with God's word to challenge them to live for Christ in this dark age. Youth are encouraged to come from our youth ministries, bring friends & family members who are between 11-18 years old. The bible will be taught faithfully through talks and small group meetings through the camp weekend. As well as planned activities and fun times to occupy and challenge them.

Ignite (Friday's yrs 7-9)

A Friday program held once or twice a term (in planning stages) is to encourage a joint effort between boys brigade & Switch when possible, for the Christian youth to bring non-Christian friends to hear a short talk on Jesus or media and have fun together.

Switch Youth Service (Sunday's - 9am)

The main goal is to challenge the students in God's word, training them, rebuking, and encouraging them to grow as Christians in their community as well as challenge students who are not Christians to become believers. Goal is to encourage students and leaders to be a significant part of the church in other areas and to serve Christ faithfully. Another goal will be to encourage the senior students to attend one of our services in the morning or evening service @ 5pm Gordon library on Sundays over time. The program primarily a dual action format integrating Christians and non-Christians. The aim is to use a ministry model that is meaty and biblical but also fun.

Schools Ministry

The major goals here are to build relationships with key staff in the schools, build relationships with students, building bridges from schools to church ministry is vital as well. Schools visits are another way of continuing building connections with schools in the local area particularly Killara High School.

Switch Small Groups

Our youth leaders spend regular time in smaller year groups to think through in depth studies or shorter discussion times that get youth thinking. They then spend time praying for one another. The group leaders are

encouraged to keep in contact with youth when possible to see how they are going.

They are mixed groups of Christian & non- Christian youth who are to grow as disciples or be challenged by the gospel, and be trained as disciple-makers.

Our Small Groups seek to grow together under the guidance of a trained Youth leader so that they can impact the world for Christ.

Goal 2: Training the next generation of Leaders to make a difference in Kids Ministry, Youth Ministry or other ministries here at EFCA East Lindfield and beyond.

We encourage our mature Christian youth & leadership to join mission teams locally/ beach missions & overseas and be involved in practical service during Switch. We will equip the next generation of leaders to take up responsibility in the reaching out and nurturing of our youth.

Leadership Training Programs

KCC Next Gen Conference in Katoomba or other equivalent training conferences for youth leaders.

Leadership 24/7 is for youth who are willing to serve facilitated by myself and other Youth Leaders. Training youth to serve in leadership at church, in the community or beyond. Training is varied with practical components.

1. Biblical Leadership
2. Reading the Bible
3. Preparing a talk – write up a youth talk or children’s talk
4. Small Group Bible Studies
5. Evangelism – 2 ways to live training?
6. Leading from the front

Goal 3: Transition our yr12's from Switch into the wider church.

The challenge today is moving our yr12s into the congregations and into small groups with other young workers or adults. Their faith often fails to stick after high school and when big changes like uni or going overseas many abandon their faith in Jesus and leave the church.

Their needs to be a strategy to build solid relationships with them but also to challenge them to stick to their faith not just after high school but for the years ahead.

A good way to do this is to take them away for a weekend or plan a dinner with cell group leaders most likely before the trials or if possible before they leave that year and spend time challenging them to stick at their faith. Then several follow up sessions prior to the yr12's leaving Switch. Another way is to also create new small groups from yr12 that integrate young workers & adults together and encourage attending a service in term 4 rather than Switch for smoother transition the following year.

Our Ministries

Our Ministry Teams will focus on the following key areas:

Switch Youth Service

Dual purpose:

For bringing students in (Evangelism)

For building students up (Discipleship)

Ignite Youth

For bringing students in (Evangelism)

Switch Small Groups

For nurturing and building students (Discipleship)

Sending students out (Friendship evangelism & Community)

Training for service (Church & Community)

Link to Schools & Kids groups

For bringing students in (through relationships)

For contact with students & support for Christian students

Contact with teachers & staff

Youth Camps & Socials

For bringing students in (through relationships)

New contact with students

Relationships with other churches

Relationships with other schools

Relationships with community groups

Transition from kid's church & into wider church

Bringing students into Switch

Connecting students with the wider church (a service & another adult small group)

Leadership 24/7 & Next Gen

Training the next gen to serve God and taking leadership roles in ministry or other areas of life.

Switch Youth
Sunday Mornings

Switch Youth Service is...

Our strategic
“Bringing in and building up” community
This provides a safe place to hear a Jesus-centered message!

... Which provides a safe place on a Sunday Morning 9am

- Our community helps youth to feel “This is ours. This is the place to be”
- Our community is aimed at the first-timer, our unsaved members, our unsaved guests, but more to disciple and trains our Christian youth.
- Our community should inspire our Christian students to enthusiastically “own” the ministry, and invite friends to Switch & other youth programs/ events.

... To hear a life changing message about Jesus

- Switch is a place where our Christian Students can bring their unsaved friends to discover Jesus.
- Switch is where Christ is proclaimed from the Scriptures, and students are challenged to respond.
- A place where our Christian youth are trained to serve & take up responsibilities as part of the body of Christ.

Youth Ministry Strategy Summary:

Pray – Colossians 1:9

Prayer must be the basis of all that we do. It's a good idea to be in regular prayer for an unsaved friend who you want to see come into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Reach – 1 Thessalonians 2:8

An important part of our strategy is to reach out to the unsaved friends around us where real care can be given and the message of Jesus Christ can be communicated. Work hard at building genuine relationships with your friends, so there is integrity when the gospel message is shared.

Evangelise – Rom 1:16

Being a genuine friend won't save anyone unless the gospel message is also communicated. You can do this personally with your friend as well as inviting them along to an event or group where the gospel will be proclaimed.

Spiritually Challenge – Deuteronomy 30:19

It is important to invite people to respond once they have been presented with the gospel message. Our response to God's word is important. In a sense, we draw a line in the sand every time we challenge someone we urge them to cross it.

Establish – Ephesians 3:16-19

Every new Christian is at the start of a great adventure. Getting established is important for heading in the right direction.

Nourish – Hebrews 5:13-14

To help a young person mature, they need to be well fed from the Scriptures. This happens at Switch and Switch D groups. Youth are challenged to be obedient to God's word and encouraged to care for each other in prayer and in other practical ways.

Train – Ephesians 4:11-13

Every Christian has a ministry within God's church and so we seek to train youth in godliness and ministry skills that will better equip each youth to serve Christ in ministry wherever they end up in the future.

Ministry Teams

What sort of people do we need on our Ministry Teams?

ALL SORTS!

Students from Yr10 – 12 (15 +) or those who have left school

Uni students,

Young adults,

Young marrieds,

Parent-age adults

Grandparent-age adults!

But mainly we need people who are

GROWING

In your personal walk with Jesus

GROWING

In your commitment at EFCA East Lindfield,

GROWING

In your passion to see young people disciplined for Christ.

Are you the right person to belong to the Youth Ministry Team?

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