Children's Ministry

SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIANS

Nov - Dec 2026



A Weekend of Faith, Fun and Connection

11-13 September | Camp Columba

What happens when young people, faith and a little adventure come together?
Anchored!

Two church groups gathered at Camp Columba for a weekend filled with rock climbing, ziplining, friendship and faith exploration. The retreat introduced the young people to the first part of the Anchored journey—a five-session programme that continues in their local churches.

At the heart of Anchored is a simple but powerful question:
How can we invite young people into lives anchored in faith?

Anchored creates space for young people in Years 7-10 to ask questions, explore faith, grow in their understanding of God and themselves, and discover what it means to be Presbyterian in Aotearoa New Zealand.

It's more than a programme—it's an opportunity to build relationships, encourage faith journeys and nurture the next generation of disciples.

The retreat was just the beginning. Now the journey continues, as these young people take what they have experienced back into their churches, continuing to explore what it means to live a life anchored in faith.

Mental Health First Aid Training: Building Knowledge and Confidence

Mental Health First Aid Aotearoa



On 20–21 October 2026, participants gathered at Windsor Community Church for a two-day Mental Health First Aid training, facilitated by Scripture Union New Zealand (SUNZ) staff.

The training provided a valuable opportunity to develop practical skills that can make a real difference in the lives of others. These skills are especially important for those involved in churches, community groups and supporting young people and families.

"The course was very practical, informative and interactive. Big issues, dealt with in a very sensitive way. I feel equipped to do Mental Health First Aid."

"It was a very insightful course and would recommend it to anyone. You learn a lot about yourself as you focus on caring for others."

"A very deep subject delivered in a very light and fun way."

"An amazing two days with great leaders and awesome food, lightening the heavy of times topic of Mental Health First Aid. I learned a lot alongside a fun group of fellow learners."

"You missed out on a most relevant workshop for our culture. There will be other opportunities. BE THERE!"

We are pleased that another Mental Health First Aid training event is planned for Dunedin in 2027, providing another opportunity for people to develop their confidence and ability to support others.

By equipping more people to respond with understanding, compassion and care, we can help build communities where people feel supported and know they are not alone.

Learn more about the programme through Scripture Union NZ. sunz He rama tāu kupu ki ōku waewae
SUNZ is available to visit your church, speak at a Sunday service, connect with your youth group, or be part of another event to explore this important topic and equip your community with knowledge and understanding. Contact Larissa Pearce (Otago & Southland Youth Consultant) at larissa.pearce@sunz.org.nz

PCANZ CHILDRENS AND YOUTH MINISTRY
WOF
SAFETY WARRANT OF FITNESS

TRAINING DAY

Windsor Community Church
19 Windsor Street
INVERCARGILL

23 November 2026
9am - 3pm

What, Why & Who

PLEASE REGISTER HERE:

WOF TRAINING - WINDSOR

PCANZ CHILDRENS AND YOUTH MINISTRY
WOF
SAFETY WARRANT OF FITNESS

WHAT, WHY & WHO

TEMPLATE DOCS

FAQ

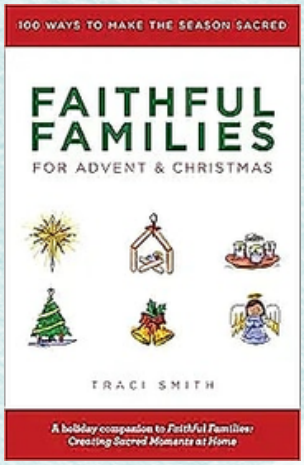
To book a training session for your church

Mandi Geustyn
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Good read

Book



"In the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, it's easy for families to forget the true meaning of the season. In this new book of faith practices for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, parents, grandparents, Sunday School teachers, pastors, and anyone who cares about kids will find 100 easy, fun, and meaningful ideas for bringing the sacred back into the season. Divided into three sections of prayers, practices, and lessons, with pages decorated with whimsical Christmas doodles from the cover, Faithful Families for Advent and Christmas will delight kids and adults alike and offers families an abundance of ideas for making the Christmas season sparkle with faith and spirit.

Article

A Christ-Centred Christmas for Children



READ MORE

Resources

Check out our CHRISTMAS resources

Online Resources

Library Resources