



THE NATIONAL  
*Youth Ministry*  
WEEKEND

**BIRMINGHAM**  
**24-26 NOV 2023**

# INTO GOD KNOWS WHAT

NYMW 2023

**FOR EVERYONE  
WHO CARES ABOUT  
YOUNG PEOPLE:  
VOLUNTEERS, PAID  
WORKERS, CLERGY  
& LEADERS.**

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**ENGAGING FOR  
VOLUNTEERS,  
STRETCHING FOR  
EXPERIENCED  
PRACTITIONERS.**

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**INSPIRING  
WORSHIP AND  
BIBLE TEACHING,  
IDEAS AND  
RESOURCES.**

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# 2023 THEME: INTO GOD KNOWS WHAT

The rapid and intense rise of Artificial Intelligence has brought what we imagined to be the distant future into sudden focus. Meanwhile, young people are growing up in a world which feels increasingly insecure, with looming existential threat from every angle. So what does the Christian faith have to say into this context of fear and uncertainty? How can the gospel bring hope and security into the lives of young people who feel very little of either – and to whom Jesus is now a completely alien concept? And can these leaps in technology, which threaten to bring as much harm as good to our world, be used to further the expansion of God's Kingdom at the most unlikely time?

## **COULD CHATGPT HALVE YOUR PLANNING TIME AND TRANSFORM YOUR YOUTH MINISTRY?**

Don't be afraid: learning how to use AI will radically shrink your prep time; it's the admin assistant you've been waiting for.

## **WHERE DO YOU FIND HOPE IN A CRISIS-STRUCK WORLD?**

Young people are scared – about the future of the planet, about war and disease, about political and economic failure. How do you help them face the world's problems but still have hope in a bright future?

## **COULD AI HELP TO DISCIPLE YOUNG PEOPLE?**

Could Artificial Intelligence lead a Bible study with young people – and even if so, is that a good thing? Is it possible for the Holy Spirit to work through a machine? And could AI be the Biblically-literate volunteer you've always dreamed of?

## **WHAT RESOURCES REALLY ENGAGE AND DISCIPLE YOUNG PEOPLE IN 2023 AND BEYOND?**

What actually works? What can you do to draw young

people into the Bible and help them develop a faith strong enough to flourish in today's changing world?

## **IF AI CAN FAKE ANYTHING... IS TRUTH COMPLETELY RELATIVE?**

AI has made the world seem more unreliable now that any picture, video or voice can be faked. How will young people explore Christian truth when nothing seems real?

## **WHAT RADICAL NEW MODELS OF YOUTH MINISTRY DOES THE FUTURE DEMAND?**

The world is changing again – but most youth work still looks like it did in the 1990s. Is it time to find a completely new way to capture the attention of young people, build community with them, and help them find a deeper faith?

## **COULD AUGMENTED REALITY AND NEW TECH HELP FIX THE CHALLENGES WE FACE?**

Small numbers, erratic attendance, wide age ranges... how can new tech help you fix some of the challenges of doing church youth work?

## **NO ONE TO HELP? HOW TO FIND AND EQUIP VOLUNTEERS TO DO YOUTH WORK IN THE POST-COVID VOLUNTEERING SLUMP.**

How do you do youth work if there's no one willing to help? Radical ideas for engaging new volunteers and finding help in unexpected places.

## **SAFEGUARDING AND MINISTRY IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE SOUL SURVIVOR ALLEGATIONS.**

It's time to ask some tough questions if we're going to emerge from the shock of recent claims about various churches and organisations. What needs to change and how do we change it?

**PLUS:** Youth work in rural areas • Schools work and chaplaincy • Working in the community and on the streets • A church leader's role in youth ministry • Starting from scratch or very few – how to grow • Which are the best youth resources available in the UK today

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## 2023 CONTRIBUTORS INCLUDE



### **DR AMY ORR-EWING**

Is an international author, speaker and theologian who addresses the deep questions of our day with meaningful answers found in the Christian Faith.



### **DR KRISH KANDIAH**

Is the founder of The Sanctuary Foundation, working to support refugees in the UK and speaks widely on church engagement with the world.



### **DR PATRICK DIXON**

Is one of the world's leading speakers on the future and how it will impact the church as well as advising many FTSE100 companies.



### **SARAH YARDLEY**

Is a Californian based in Cornwall who studied Theology at St Mellitus College and is the Mission and Ministry Lead at Creation Fest



### **MATT SUMMERFIELD**

Is a pastor of Zeo Church, experienced youth worker, and Chair of the Youthscape Board of Trustees.



### **RACHEL GARDNER**

Is an author, youth worker and Head of Partnerships at Youthscape alongside planting a youth congregation in Blackburn.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

**FRI**  
**24 NOV**

From 4pm:  
8pm:  
10pm:

**SEMINARS + DISCUSSIONS** – Choose from 12 options  
**MAIN SESSION 1** – Worship, celebration, inspiration  
**AFTER HOURS** – Relax, have fun, meet new people

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**SAT**  
**25 NOV**

9:15am:  
From 11am:  
2pm:  
From 3:30pm:  
7:30pm:  
9pm:

**MAIN SESSION 2** – Worship, celebration, inspiration  
**SEMINARS + WORKSHOPS** – Choose from 8 options  
**INTERACTIVE KEYNOTE** – Learn, share, debate, discuss  
**SEMINARS + WORKSHOPS** – Choose from 8 options  
**MAIN SESSION 3** – Worship, celebration, inspiration  
**AFTER HOURS** – Relax, have fun, meet new people

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**SUN**  
**26 NOV**

From 9am:  
11am:

**SEMINARS + WORKSHOPS** – Choose from 8 options  
**MAIN SESSION 4** – Worship, celebration, inspiration

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**THERE'S  
MORE**

A resources exhibition where you can get inspired and equipped; space to pray, chat, relax and think; and opportunities to meet others and share your own experiences and learning.

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## TICKETS

You can book tickets online at [nymw.info](http://nymw.info) where you can also find information on where to stay and an updated programme with all the latest announcements.

**Tickets are just £119, a saving of £20**

## LOCATION

**EASTSIDE ROOMS, BIRMINGHAM. B7 4BL**

The Eastside Rooms is close to Birmingham City Centre and a wide variety of budget hotels and Airbnbs.

## FREE RESOURCES

Each year, with the help of partner organisations, we launch three major new resources for Christian youth work – and everyone at the event gets a copy for free!

## YOUTHSCAPE

Youthscape is a national Christian charity working to transform young people's lives by renewing church youth work. We host The National Youth Ministry Weekend every Autumn welcoming more than 1,000 Christians who are volunteers in their local church, paid workers, church leaders or working with young people in the community. The programme aims to reflect a wide range of Christian youth work practice so there's something for everyone. Find out more about Youthscape at [youthscape.co.uk](http://youthscape.co.uk)

*Youthscape*

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