

# Youth, Children and Families Vision Statement

## Living Jesus, Loving Tonbridge

**T- Teaching and Discipling with God's Word:** enthusiastic, quality, engaging, age appropriate teaching on a Sunday for children, 4-14 during the morning service with creche provided for families of young children; young people 14-18 meet on Sunday evening.

**O – Opportunities to show love practically:** encouraging the children to serve the church family and facilitate service beyond, be it fundraising or working with charities such as the Shoe Box Appeal.

**N – Networking with other churches:** linking in with other events locally and regionally, such as Sorted and Sorted Nano, sharing opportunities to learn from and with, and encourage each other.

**B – Being accessible for all:** recognising and supporting different needs; accommodating and celebrating differences and using visuals and Makaton.

**R – Raising up leaders:** giving children opportunities to discover, discern and use their gifts, increasingly as they grow and become more confident in a wider church setting for example serving in the music group or welcome team.

**I – Inspired worship together:** encouraging an attitude of worship together on a Sunday morning during the time together in the service and encouraging individual hearts to engage with God personally.

**D - Deep pastoral care:** caring for the whole person, including the spiritual well being of children, and encouraging prayer support amongst the groups. Tiny Acorns and Teddies midweek for parents and carers to come and meet with us and each other.

**G - Going out to the world:** developing a sense of the worldwide church and the building of God's kingdom locally and beyond through engagement with Mission Partners.

**E – Every word spoken for Jesus:** equipping children to share their faith with their friends and giving them opportunities to invite them to social and outreach events such as the Pancake Party, Holiday Club and Light Party. Pre-service breakfasts to encourage families to think through godly principles for parenting and family life.