

Evan Walters

Synod Reflections

Your youth reps delivered

During the first weekend of September, the Auckland Anglican Synod met over three days. What is Synod, you say? It is the meeting of elected people who represent the different churches, parishes and other parts of the Anglican Church, including us, the youth representatives!

Annalia, Sophie, Marie and I, along with Steph have gathered over the last six months, to talk about what young people at the Youth Hui said was important to them and their faith, what they love about the Church, and what they would like to see change.

With these thoughts, we decided to present a report, our goal, to make sure the young people are heard.

On the second day of Synod we had the chance to speak to the 300+ members of Synod. We each took turns to speak about the importance of creating spaces where young people feel welcome, valued and able to participate. We also shared some of the challenges young people and leaders face in connecting with church and challenged the Synod about how the wider Church can better support youth.

The team did a tremendous job, and we all had our own takeaways. For me, I was reminded of how Synod and the wider church want to hear your ideas and let's keep being noisy!