Lifepath Adminstrator

South Healey Farm

Netherwitton

Morpeth

NE61 4NZ

March 2024

Dear Friends

Lifepath is being planned again for 2024. It is our exciting SU schools’ event, held at Brinkburn Priory since 2011. You probably will have heard about it from your “Lifepath Champion”! It started as a 3-day event in 2011 and grew to 4 days in 2012 and grew to 5 days in 2017, this year will be 5 days again! We use the lives of the monks who were instrumental in bring Christianity to this area as our themes. We are organising it again for 24th - 28th June 2024, using St Cuthbert as our Northumbrian Saint.

Once again we are asking you to help in is 3 ways:

**1 Prayer**

Events like this need a lot of prayer support! There are many challenges to overcome, from practical things like the weather and having enough money, to more spiritual things like providing the teaching of Jesus to the children in a real and relevant way. We are, once again sending out Prayer letters throughout the year with specific requests for the event. Your Champion has the latest one but if you would like to receive extra copies of these, please contact me.

**2 People**

Lifepath relies on volunteers to ensure the event is run smoothly. The people who volunteer become either “Workshop helpers” or “Pilgrim Guides”. These people have a big impact on the children as they are explaining the same activity to lots of groups or they are with the same group all day and guide them around the site. These guides are the ones who build the closest relationship with the children. We need about 50 people each year to help in this and other supporting roles. In the past we have found that some people have come for only one day and others have come for the whole week!

**3 Pounds**

Below is a summary of our budget for from last year, 2022. As you can see the children’s schools pay for the event but this covers only half the costs. We wish that all children may have access to Lifepath so we do not want to increase their contribution. We also rely heavily on the giving individuals, which we would like to reduce, so that the local Churches feel more involved in the event. We are hoping for £50 - £100 from many Churches to fund us this year.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Expenses** |  |  | **Income** |  |
| **Item** | **Cost (£)** |  | **Item** | **Cost (£)** |
| Workshop expenses | 420 |  | Children £3 each | 1485 |
| AV kit | 460 |  | Churches | 850 |
| Site and Toilets | 1130 |  | Individuals | 800 |
| Refreshments, Hospitality & Thank yous | 230 |  |  |  |
| Printing of booklets and DOADs | 655 |  |  |  |
| Admin. Expenses inc SU fee | 425 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | **3320** |  | **Total** | **3135** |
|  |  |  | **Profit** | **-185** |

The planning group have decided to run Lifepath again and so to make it a viable event we need to spread out our funding and be prepared to pay for people for their expertise. Many people give their time and skill for free and we hugely appreciate this. However, we think it is necessary to pay for craft people to demonstrate their skills and involve the children on a project. The balance in activities means that the children get a high quality, educational event that explains Christianity in a relevant, fun and thoughtful way.

**Please note that our bank details have changed:**

If you wish to donate, you can send a cheque, made payable to “Lifepath Brinkburn” to me at the above address, or you can make a bank transfer to: **“Lifepath Brinkburn”, HSBC, Sort code: 40-34-18 and account number: 44709667**

We hope we have explained enough about the event to interest you but if you would like more information, please speak to your Champion who has received a PowerPoint presentation or contact us directly. If you would like a more detailed look at the accounts, please ask!

Yours Sincerely

Kirstine Davis

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