

## re:generation Church, Gidea Park, Romford

When Mark accepted the position of youth worker at re:generation Church, he wasn't too sure what to expect. Nearly 3 months on, Mark shares some of his thoughts about the church, and how it's making an impact on him and the local community.

'I suppose the first thing to say about re:generation Church is it's unique. The church was formed to meet the needs of young people in the Gidea Park and Romford area nearly five years ago. It started out as a small but vital work amongst a handful of young people. Five years on, that work has blossomed and re:generation regularly has seventy plus people attending it's Sunday evening event, the majority of which are in their teens or early twenties.

What excites me about re:generation is the variety of groups and activities that take place from week to week. Yes, we have bible study groups and times to meet together to worship God, but at the other end of the spectrum, we have a drama group, graffiti workshops, 'Parkour for Jesus' and football teams that are equally valuable to the life of the church.

These ministries are a great way of reaching out to not-yet Christians. To see people using their gifts and talents in the life of the church is great, but we also need to use these gifts and talents outside the church. The ministries mentioned above are great tools for reaching out into the community and a great platform from which we can share the love of Jesus with others.

These ministries help make church and the Christian faith, both relevant and accessible to everyone. We aim to speak the truth from God's word in a way that is engaging for all.

re:generation doesn't stand still. There is life and vitality within the church! No two days are the same. In my role at re:generation, my aim is to encourage the young people to grow in their walk with God. However, what I've found is that as I've challenged them, they've challenged me in return, and I'm being stretched in my faith too. That's a good thing. I don't want to be too comfortable. I want to experience God in a fresh way, and that appears to be happening on a regular basis.

Wendy, who comes to our church, shares a little about one of the groups she attends, and the encouragement it is to her.'

"rejuvenate is the adult bible study for women at re:gen. We are a group of more mature women (from age 30 up) who meet every other Thursday at 7.45pm. We are currently studying a book called '*The Purpose Driven Life*' by Rick Warren. We share a coffee and a nibble and discuss what we've agreed to read and see how it relates to our own lives. We share personal experiences, encourage one another, pray for one another and enjoy worshipping together."

'So that's a little bit about re:generation Church; a small taste of what we are about and what we get up to.'

If you would like more information about the work of re:generation Church, check out the church website [www.regenerationchurch.co.uk](http://www.regenerationchurch.co.uk) or contact Mark via email: [mark@regenerationchurch.co.uk](mailto:mark@regenerationchurch.co.uk)