



Desire History

2001 - Jo Lambourne (Student Youth worker at Trinity Church Abingdon) arrives with a heart for bringing the youth groups together across the town and runs a weekly Christian lunch club at Larkmead School. Jo also begins networking with Jo & Matt Arnold (Abingdon Baptist Church), Steve Godfrey (Peachcroft Christian Centre) and others.

2002 - The team put on a gig night for local youth with the band 'Quench' @ Trinity Church Abingdon

September 2003 - Andy Murray starts work at Christ Church as their Youth Pastor and gets plugged into networking with the other youth leaders in the town. George & Lindsay Lonchar & Tom & Caroline Howell (Peachcroft Christian Centre) join the network as well.

The network gains momentum and the youth leaders start meeting together regularly to chat & pray. Claire Wren takes up on the post of Schools Worker for Oxfordshire Community Churches working across Abingdon, Didcot & Wantage, and joins the network.

April 2004 - The team organise another gig – the band 'Superhero' @ Christ Church, Northcourt Road, Abingdon

June 2004 - The team launch the youth network under the name 'Desire'. Matt & Jo Arnold move away from the area, Alec & Alison Swift join in the Desire in (Baptist Church). Youth Worship event and party @ Peachcroft Christian Centre. Jo Lamborne moves away from the area. Viki & Patrick Gale (Abingdon Community Church) join Desire.

September 2004 - Amy Galloway takes up the post of Student Youth worker at Trinity Church Abingdon (doing a CYM degree at Oxford) and joins in with Desire. Nikki Gibbins starts work at All Saints' Church Marcham as their youth minister (also doing a CYM degree at Oxford) and join the Desire network. Ruth Hulse starts work at the Cumnor Parish Youthwork Project, takes on the regular Schools work at Matthew Aronold School, and joins the Desire network. A weekly Christian lunch club and detached youth work in the lunch hour start at Fitzharrys School, Abingdon.

October 2004 - The team organise another gig & party at Christ Church on Northcourt Road. This time it's the band '100 Hours'. Desire Steering Group established, consisting of ministers from several churches in the area. Ruth Witehead (Trinity Church), Steve Godfrey (Peachcroft Christian Centre), Ed Evans (Abingdon Community Church), Tim Davis (Christ Church Abingdon). Maggie New (Christ Church) takes on the role of Desire Treasurer.

November 2004- Desire apply for funding to run three youth outreach events. Funding from the Anglican Abingdon Deanery 'intentionally sharing life' fund.

February 2005 - Desire awarded funding from the Abingdon Deanery

October 2005 - Youth worship event "are you ready to step out of the boat" at Peachcroft Christian Centre. Claire Wren steps down from her role as Secondary Schools worker for the Oxfordshire Community Church.

March 2006 - Desire website launched - www.desire4god.org

May 2006 - "get your skates on..." Youth outreach event at Christ Church, Northcourt Road. Ice skating, inflatables, circus skills workshops, live bands, and lots more! Junior

school children and families attend in the morning, youth in the afternoon. Helen Pratt and John & Rosie Marshall take on leading the youth group at Abingdon Baptist Church.

July 2006 - "Hour of prayer and worship" and "big screen football" events at Christ Church, Northcourt Road.

September 2006 - Desire start running a Christian Union and take on running a Christian lunch club at John Mason School, Abingdon. Desire apply for further funding to run youth outreach events and two secondary schools weeks. Funding from the Anglican Abingdon Deanery 'intentionally sharing life' fund. Funding awarded to Desire. Pete Brewer starts his gap year working at Christ Church as a Parish Assistant, and helping with Desire schools work and events. Viki Gales joins a monthly Parents prayer group with Mrs Renwick the Headteacher at Our Lady's Convent Senior School.

October 2006 - "Mr Nervosa Neurotic Illusionist" event at Trinity Church Abingdon.

December 2006 - Desire youth leaders go for a day retreat in Cumnor, led by Danny Wignall Associate Vicar at Christ Church on Long Furlong

March 2007- "lift the label fashion show" event at Peachcroft Christian Centre. Music, dance, fairtrade café and shop, catwalk with ethical clothing, speaker from Tearfund speaker talks about living an ethical lifestyle.

May 2007 - "laser arena lands here..." Laser tag, inflatables, live music, drumming workshops, fairtrade stalls & café and more @ Christ Church, Northcourt Road.

July 2007- Desire youth leaders and steering group have a half day retreat together. Amy Galloway finishes her CYM Degree and steps down from her role at Trinity Church Abingdon. "impacting our communities for Christ..." end of year worship/celebration event at Peachcroft Christian Centre!

September 2007 - Sarah Brombley starts her gap year working at Christ Church as a Parish Assistant, and helping with Desire schools work and events. Colin Pattenden starts working for Abingdon Baptist Church as their Mission enabler, and gets plugged in to the Desire Network.

October 2007- Desire half night of prayer at 35 Ock Street (Abingdon Baptist Church)

February 2008 - The Desire team organise a network breakfast at Cumnor Parish Church for youth leaders. Proposal made for two levels of involvement in the Desire network:

1. 'Desire Team'. This is the small team of youth leaders who work together to provide weekly lunch clubs and regular assemblies in the secondary schools. These are also the leaders who do much of the background organisational legwork for events. The team will continue to meet to pray together each month.
2. 'Desire Partner Churches'. We'd like to introduce this role in Desire in recognition of local churches, youth leaders and youth groups who wish to support the network through prayer and attending events. Furthermore we are keen to partner with these leaders to discuss future events and to steer the direction of the Desire Network.

May 2008 - 'Scale new heights' - youth/family fun day at Christ Church!