**Thames North Synod Youth Representative Christine Ntim’s 6-month Report.**

Opportunities from Youth Executive.

Apart from learning what it means to be on youth executive, evaluating Yourh Assembly 2024 and beginning to plan Youth Assembly 2025, I visited Westminster, with Jadan the Youth Rep from North Western Synod, to participate in the all-party parliamentary group discussion on Youth affairs. At the event focus was on the **Importance of Mentoring Schemes for Youth and Youth Centres** highlighting the question, *what do young people actually want from these things?*

Opportunities from Synod.

Recently I have helped plan and lead workshops as an assistant leader for the first time, at the Thames North and Southern Synod’s Youth Residential. Within the preparation I had a vital role in planning two worship sessions where I took on the duty of structuring and leading the Praise and Worship, with the support of Tom Hackett (Southern Synod CYDO), and Lorraine, our CYDO. I wanted the sessions to be upbeat and showcase the talent of the young people in a fun way. I compiled a playlist of songs as well as incorporating the youth’s choices too! Essentially the theme for the Residential was *Story, Story, Story,* broken down into *God's Story, Our Story*, and *My Story.* Lorraine challenged me to incorporate that ethos when planning the worship sessions with videos of parables. Significantly I also had a vital role in leading and creating one of the Creative Response sessions on video content creating, which was part of the *Our Story* day. through my passion for media and content creating, what I wanted the young people to get out of the workshop, was for them to explore issues that matter to them and give them creative freedom to create and make content whatever way they wanted, basically giving them the power and confidence to speak on issues of importance to them. The final aim of the workshop was for them to create their own pieces of video content or drama piece on an issue that mattered to them. I prepared a fun presentation on types of content they could create where I was assisted by Claire, the West Midlands Youth Rep, who Lorraine had invited due to her keen interest and involvement in dramatic arts. Overall, it was a blessed workshop. We had a correlating topic of bullying which ran through all the content created, showing it is a major issue the youth care about today! It was really fun being an assistant leader to pre-teens, I learned a lot from them! This experience will help me in my local church when I help with the Holiday Club.

In the near future I will be attending What Do You Think and General Assembly; The Greenbelt Experience, specifically for young adults from minority ethnic groups in the URC; help to plan the 18-30’s event; and worship for October Synod.

I continue to have monthly one-to-one meetings with Lorraine to look at any new opportunities I wish to consider, my university and work schedules, and for encouragement, support and prayer.

Opportunities at Assembly Level.

More recently I have worked closely with JPIT (Joint Public Issues Team), to create a short video to encourage young people to vote in the general elections and future elections. I have been working closely with Roo Stewart, sharing my creative ideas, script writing, presenting and structuring content for the next general elections, with the help of Rhys (the Youth Intern), who significantly helped with editing! I am very proud of where we have come from since we started the foundational meetings. Rhys did an amazing job in bringing my vision to life.