

As we begin 2021, Covid-19 continues to interrupt our usual plans. In South Africa, we are experiencing a second wave of the virus with a virulent new variant. This led to a new level of lockdown imposed before the festive season. Plans for in-person training as we had hoped, are now on hold until the end of 2021, depending how the rollout of the vaccine proceeds.

Due to Covid-19, VYLTP has changed the way we operate. We were able to hold a second Zoom meeting on September 20, with the alumni of the program. We were able to continue the conversation from the first Zoom meeting, and fine-tuned some ideas for online training instead of in-person training.

Before the second wave of Covid-19, on November 27, we were able to safely host a one day event on Taizé and community building for twenty-five young people from the Western Cape. It



included workshops on Climate Change, Gender-Based Violence, and Reconciliation & Justice. Another day event set for December 28, sadly had to be canceled due to Covid-19.

Meanwhile, plans are now in place for our first ever online module, 'Building the Beloved Community', which is usually the first module of the in-person training. This will be a weekly, 90-minutes session for eight weeks beginning in February, and facilitated by Seth Naicker. It aims to give young people personal and professional development as emerging leaders. They

will explore leadership frameworks and approaches to social justice. This will give them understanding of the complex terrain of the personal and communal dimensions of diversity, justice and inclusion in our everyday world. We are busy recruiting and registering participants.

A huge thank you to all our donors for your support. Check out our website for more news: <https://volmoedyouth.org.za>

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