

Youth and Young Adult Report to the 234th Diocesan Convention

Mission Statement of the Diocese of New Jersey Youth and Young Adult Council

We the Youth Council of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey, as leaders, youth and adults, and faithful Christians change the world by spreading the love and peace of Christ through, learning from, communicating with, and helping and serving our neighbors.

Eight youth events and two adult workshops and six youth council meetings were held in calendar year 2017.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service - January 16, 2017

We gathered for a day of service, starting with the Holy Eucharist the Rev. Canon Dr. Brian Jemmott preached and then doing service projects for six local community organizations- Trinity Cathedral – Trenton, NJ

Convention- March 3-4, 2017

25 Youth and Young Adult Council members' attended. Three youth deputies had voice and vote. Other members helped with registration and the running of the youth table. – Princeton, NJ

Happening #26 – April 28-30, 2017

A renewal weekend for youth ran by youth –Lanoka Harbor, NJ

Baccalaureate Service- May 21, 2017

Graduating seniors, their Families and Friends. Awards were given from the Van Duzer Scholarship Fund, ECW, and Black Clergy Caucus. – Trinity Cathedral – Trenton, NJ

Great Adventure Day with the ELCA and Diocese of Newark- June 17, 2017

Episcopal Youth Event – July 10-14, 2017. Edmond, Oklahoma

Twelve Youth and Adults and Bishop Stokes spent the week together at OSU. We had small and large groups. We went to the site of the Oklahoma City Bombing and had a candle lite vigil.

Fall Youth Event – November 18, 2017

– Cross Roads, Port Murray New Jersey

We gathered for a one day retreat were we focused on prayer and our daily life

Cathedral Lock-In – December 15-16, 2017

Stop Hunger Now – Round 8 Cathedral, Trenton

We began with the Eucharist, had a concert and packed 20 thousand meals to help those who are hungry. We were 77 participants from all around the diocese.

Convocation Events

Convocations have been meeting together to do some youth ministry (Atlantic, Camden, Trenton and Watchung). Movie Nights, Cemetery Clean up, Icon Writing, Bowling, Christmas Caroling, and much more.

Adults Who Work with Youth Training Session

Shepherds Gathering at Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center

December 1-3, 2017 Youth Workers from Diocese of New Jersey, Diocese of Newark, Diocese of Long Island and the ELCA gathered together to share ideas about youth ministry.

Young Adult Ministry

Theo's Café

Young Adult's met five times to have dinner and discussion with Bishop Stokes. We ranged from 10 to 25 participants at these dinners. We travelled around the diocese in hope to interest enough people.

Several participated in the Young Adult Retreat in January at Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center.

Also, Young Adult's did registration for both Diocesan Conventions in March and October.

Youth Council Members

Youth Council is comprised of twelve youth and six young adults and seven adults from all over our diocese. Each member bringing a different gift and view as to how we are to spread the love of Christ through helping, learning, communicating, and serving our neighbors.

Several Youth Council Members continue to be active members on the following Diocesan Committees: Jubilee Ministries, Anti-Racism Commission, Episcopal Church Women, Van Duzer Scholarship, Committee on Older Adult's.

Church Visits

The Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Missioner made twenty visits to congregations.

Youth and young adults from Diocesan Youth Council joined in these visits as we preached, shared ministry ideas, and presented a slide show on events.

If your church is interested in a visit please call the youth/young adult office (609) 394-5281 ext. 36 to schedule a visit.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. Canon Debra Clarke – Youth and Young Adult Missioner

www.NewJerseyYouth.org