

Northwest Region Youth Service Team Report

September 2021

Youth Service Team Purpose & Vision

The Northwest Unity Youth Service Team creates a nurturing, spiritual community of love and acceptance. We support and empower Youth and Family Ministry leaders within our Region.

Vision: We are dedicated to empower and inspire youth ministries by collaborating with and supporting all who work with youth in our region. We recognize good practices in ministries from around the world and share these with our communities. In continued support of our Youth and Family Ministries, we create forums, discussion groups, trainings, and mentoring partnerships.

Team Composition (Sept. 2020-Present)

Nick Muncie-Jarvis, LUT (YOU Consultant), Chris Castaldi (Uniteen Consultant & Trainer), Rev. Philip Zemke (Board Liaison), Heidi Nathe (YOU Sponsor), Ginger Landree (Uniteen Leader) and Marilee Payne (YFM Teacher).

Meetings

The Youth Service Team meets via video conference about monthly throughout the year to plan the Northwest Region Youth Team Conference (aka “Gold Bar”). Team members typically arrive a day early to prepare and set up the Youth Team Conference.

Youth Team Conference 2021 “Reimagining Through a Spiritual Lens” (Jan. 29-31 – Online)

34 people from 15 ministries gathered online to share ideas, resources, and connections. Rev. Diane Venzera shared about Online Youth Ministry and preparing to do hybrid youth ministry (in-person and remote). Mark Stanton Welch, musician extraordinaire, shared music throughout the weekend and performed a concert Saturday afternoon. All the participants seemed to have a good time and appreciated the opportunity to connect and share with friends old and new during this wonderful Youth Team Conference.

Youth Team Conference 2022 “Standing Together in the Sanctuary of Love” (Jan. 28-30)

This year we are gathering to affirm and celebrate our sacred togetherness. The Youth Services Team is still in the process of discerning whether this conference will be in-person or online. We are excited to share in this event with youth workers from all our Region’s ministries. Please let your Youth Ministry folks know about this event!