

Synod Youth Report

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Since December, 2023, we have been working together with the Synod staff to support and enable ministry to youth in the 114 congregations of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin. Our positions are new with new job descriptions, and we are striving to best meet the needs of young people, adults who work with them, rostered leaders, and congregations as a whole.

Some highlights of our ministry so far include:

- Assisted with the “Journey With Jesus” retreat for middle and high school students in conjunction with leaders from the Synod Youth Ministry Team February 16-18 at Crossways Imago Dei Village
- Helping congregations prepare for the ELCA Youth Gathering taking place July 16-20 in New Orleans, LA
- Updating the list of congregational contacts for ministry to youth
- Coordinating Safe Gatherings background checks as a resource for congregations
- Helping establish a child protection policy for the Synod
- Planning with the six synods of Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan for the Lutheran Office of Public Policy’s Youth Advocacy Retreat for high school and college-age students in October
- Helping develop a youth ministry cohort group and possible continuing-education retreats
- Assisting with budget, communication and registration for various youth ministry events
- Helping restructure and redefine the Synod Youth Ministry Team
- Sharing resources and information for those working with young people in our congregations

We are both excited about being part of the Synod team! Although our positions are currently limited to 25 hours per month each, our goal is to be good stewards of the time and resources we have available to us. The work is exciting, rewarding, and challenging! It is clear that our positions are supporting a unique ministry that other staff members haven’t been able to fully attend to, and we are grateful for this opportunity to help nurture young people, adults who accompany them, families and congregations as they work together in God’s mission that we all share.

Thanks be to God!

Synod Youth Administrator, Amy Moore
Synod Youth Coordinator, Wendy Black