

THE DEPARTMENT
OF
YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

The Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries is responsible for programming for youth 6th-12th grades, college students and young adults up to 35 years of age. A number of conferences that are held on the diocesan, provincial and national level for youth and young adults are listed below. For questions, contact the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries:

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DIOCESAN PROGRAMS

NEW BEGINNINGS – This conference is for 7th-9th graders, held twice a year in March and November at Trinity Center. New Beginnings is a national program for middle school youth. The weekend focuses on relationships with family, friends and Christ. Activities and talks are offered by youth and adults leading the weekend. The youth leading the weekend are middle and high school youth who offer a variety of talks followed by activities around the topics: family, friends, the church and faith. Youth may attend this weekend individually or as a group. After youth attend the weekend, they may serve on staff for future weekends for other youth. Adults are always welcome to serve on staff as Moms and Dads for the weekend event. New Beginnings Staff and participant applications are available in the Diocesan youth packet mailed to all parishes. This program is implemented by volunteer coordinators and their staff. For more information, please contact ctaylor@diocese-eastcarolina.org.

HAPPENING – This conference is for 9th-12th graders, held twice a year in March and October at Trinity Center. Happening is a national program for high school youth held across the country. The weekend focuses on faith development, with a variety of talks offered by high school youth and clergy on self, piety, sacraments, faith, Jesus Christ and the World. The weekend is full of a host of activities involving worship,

singing, small group discussions and talks. Adults may attend as a participant for the weekend as a “Geritol”. The staff consists of high school youth and adults who have participated in past Happening weekends. This program is held in many dioceses around the country. A volunteer coordinator implements the program along with the conference staff. For more information, please contact ctaylor@diocese-eastcarolina.org.

FALL YOUTH CONFERENCE – Designed for youth, 6th-8th grades, held at Trinity Center in the fall each year.

WINTER YOUTH CONFERENCE - Designed for youth, 9th– 12th grades, held at Trinity Center in the winter each year.

These two conferences are designed and implemented by a Design Team consisting of senior high youth, college students and adults. A Conference Coordinator is chosen and works directly with the Episcopal Youth Coordinator of Trinity Center. The conference staff is chosen from applicants who are interested in implementing the conference.

Applications are available through the diocesan youth packet as well as from the Episcopal Youth Coordinator.

These weekends consist of teachings, small group discussions, worship, music, games and fellowship. A conference staff provides the adult support for the weekend thus youth may attend individually or with their youth group. Adult advisors are welcome to attend as participants too. For more information, contact Penn Perry, Episcopal Youth Coordinator at Trinity Center at 888-874-6287 or 252-247-5600, camptrinity@trinityctr.com.

DIOCESAN YOUTH CELEBRATION – This event is held annually for 6th-12th graders. It is hosted by a parish or parishes within the Diocese of East Carolina. Youth and adults are housed in the homes of parishioners of the hosting parishes in the community. The event has several formats, either featuring a keynote speaker or a mission experience within our diocese. Youth have an opportunity to gather to worship, learn, sing and participate in a variety of exciting experiences throughout the Celebration. This event is sponsored by the local parish and coordinated with the Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministries Coordinator, Carol Taylor. Information for this event is sent in the Diocesan Youth packet. For further information, please contact ctaylor@dioceseeastcarolina.org.

DIOCESAN YOUTH WORKERS CONFERENCE – This conference is held in the fall of each year at Trinity Center for adult youth leaders. A keynoter offers teaching related to youth ministry. The weekend is a time of sharing resources, networking and fellowship for youth workers in the parishes of the Diocese. This is an educational weekend for adult youth leaders both laity and clergy.

YOUTH MINISTRY FORUMS – A network of youth leaders gather throughout the year to provide opportunity for sharing and training for both paid and volunteer youth workers. The network will meet several times throughout the year to assist youth leaders in their work in youth ministry.

WINTERLIGHT – This conference is offered by Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, N. C. from December 27th-January 1st for high school youth, 9th-12th graders. Youth from across the country (usually 300+) gather for a week of sharing, spiritual teachings, music, fellowship and worship. Registrations are sent directly to Kanuga Conference Center. Youth are responsible for their transportation to Hendersonville.

PROVINCIAL YOUTH EVENTS

PROVINCE IV YOUTH EVENT (PYE) – Every three years a youth conference for high school youth, (9th – 12th), is offered in Province IV including 20 dioceses in the Southeast. East Carolina takes a group from our diocese to this event. In the summer of 2004, the Provincial Youth Event will be held at Berea College in Berea, Kentucky. Youth will be participating in a youth mission experience working with the Appalachian people in the local area. We will be building a church, offering vacation Bible school and building a shelter for future work groups to do mission trips in the area. For information, please contact ctaylor@diocese-eastcarolina.org.

NATIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS

EPISCOPAL YOUTH EVENT (EYE) – Every three years a high school conference for youth 9th-12th grades is held by the National Church Center. Youth from East Carolina attend this conference on a college campus joining 1500 youth from across the country. The next EYE will be held the summer of 2005 at Berea College, Berea, Kentucky. Each diocese has an allocated number of spaces at the conference, usually 15 spaces for youth and advisors. This information will be sent to parishes in early 2005 from the Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

**CALENDAR
AND
DIOCESAN YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT PACKET**

A Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries poster with upcoming events and dates is mailed in June of each year for assistance in planning youth and young adult ministry programs. A Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministries packet is mailed in late June/early July also. The conference information and registration forms for all conferences being offered are included in the packet. All parishes are sent this packet and asked to share it with appropriate youth leaders in your parish. We welcome the names, emails and addresses of youth leaders whom we might mail a packet directly. Please contact Carol Taylor with the information on your youth leaders so might add them to our mailings.

DIOCESAN WEBSITE

The website for the Diocese of East Carolina is www.diocese-eastcarolina.org. Please refer to the youth and young adult ministries links to gather additional information as well as see pictures from youth events. If you have any information, stories and pictures you would like to share on the website, please send them to jgarner@dioceseeastcarolina.org.

COMMITTEES

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL – The role of this group is to look at the overall programming and coordination of the work of the Department of Youth and Young Adults. The group members consist of Coordinators for the variety of programs in the Department along with several youth advisors in parish leadership.

YOUTH MINISTRY FORUMS – A network of youth leaders gather throughout the years with our deaneries to provide opportunity for sharing and training for both paid and volunteer youth workers. The network will meet several times throughout the year hosted by youth leaders in a deanery to assist youth leaders in youth ministry.

YOUTH CONFERENCE DESIGN TEAMS – This team consists of high school youth, college students and young and older adults leaders. These individuals have applied and been chosen to serve on a design team for the Fall Youth Conference and Winter Youth Conference during the school year. As the conferencing in the Diocese is youth/young adult based, this team provides youth and young adults with the opportunity to develop leadership skills in the design and implementation of conferences.

A Conference Coordinator is recruited for each of the conferences and works with the team in conference development. The Episcopal Youth Coordinator at Trinity Center, Penn Perry, facilitates the Coordinator recruitment, applications for Design Teams and oversees the Fall and Winter Conferences. Registration for these conferences is done directly through Trinity Center. Penn Perry can be reached at camptrinity@trinityctr.com 888-874-6287 or 252-247-5600. Address: Trinity Center, P. O. Box 380, Salter Path, N.C. 28575.

PARISH CONSULTATIONS – The Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries is available to provide consultation with parish on developing models for ministry, seeking youth leaders for employment at churches and offering assistance as needed and when possible. Please contact Carol Taylor, ctaylor@dioceseeastcarolina.org

PROVINCE IV YOUTH MINISTRY NETWORK – The Province IV Youth Ministry Network meets yearly with the Diocesan Youth Ministry Director and two youth representatives within a diocese in our province. This group spends four days building networks, sharing ideas and planning for Provincial and National events for youth ministry.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

In 2000, the Department of Youth expanded its program to include work in the area of college and young adult ministry, primarily focusing on students in undergraduate and graduate school and young adults from 18-35 years of age. This ministry continues to develop as we reach out to keep connections with young adults in the church and in our communities.

COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY COMMISSION – The focus of this Commission is to seek ways to expand and/or develop ministries with students on campuses in the Diocese of East Carolina as well as seek models for program development for young adult ministry in parishes. Currently there are three college ministries within the diocese that have established a connection between parishes and the college community.

There is an established program for East Carolina University with a long time history of a parish based Episcopal Campus Ministry program. A part time chaplain works with this ministry with ECU and Pitt Community College and is on staff of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. A Canterbury House houses students in an intentional Christian Community on the grounds of St. Paul's.

The University of North Carolina-Wilmington and Cape Fear Community College also has an Episcopal Campus Ministry program based through Church of the Servant, Wilmington. A part time Coordinator works with ECM in Wilmington. ECM is a collaborative effort of the Wilmington area parishes. This ministry solely as an Episcopal Campus Ministry program is in its third year.

Christ Church, Elizabeth City, has developed a College Committee working with the area community colleges and colleges. The primary focus and development has been with Elizabeth City State University. The parish of Christ Church continues to seek ways in which the Episcopal Church can connect with area students.

Additional efforts have been made and will hopefully develop on the campuses of Fayetteville State University, Chowan and UNC- Pembroke. All College ministries in the Diocese of East Carolina are or will be parish-based connections.

YOUNG VOCATIONS INITIATIVE (IVY)

The Initiative for Young Vocations (IVY) has been developed in conjunction with the College and Young Adult Commission, Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries and Commission on Ministry. We seek young adults who are in a process of discerning their vocational call in their work and ministry. The goal of this program will be to offer young adults a process in which they may spend a year working with vocational chaplains in looking at their discernment of career possibly seeking ordination or lay ministry in the church. We also hope to assist others who are called to secular vocations in their development of ministry in their work as well. Clergy recommendations to this program are encouraged. Please contact: Carol Taylor, ctaylor@diocese-eastcarolina.org regarding potential participants in this program.

COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCES/RETREATS

COLLEGE CONFERENCE – A College Conference is held each fall in September for college students with the colleges/universities in the Diocese of East Carolina and those who are members of parishes in East Carolina and others attending institutions of higher learning beyond The Diocese of East Carolina. This is held at

Trinity Center. Registration information is included in the Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministries packet. For more information, please contact ctaylor@dioceseeastcarolina.org.

YOUNG VOCATIONS INITIATIVE RETREAT – A retreat is held each year for participants in the Young Vocations Initiative. Other day events are held for the participants in this year-long program. The program begins in the fall of each year.

**DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRIES CONTACTS**

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*Responsible for Youth Conferences beyond Trinity Center, Adult Youth Ministry Training, Parish Consultations, College and Young Adult Ministry

Penn Perry

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