

## Youth Ministry Sunday - Why do we celebrate in Niagara?

The primary goal of Youth Ministry Sunday is to celebrate youth ministry in our parishes and in the diocese. Each parish is unique in its approach to youth ministry. It is these efforts that we celebrate today. The celebration allows us also to thank the parishes and volunteers who support youth ministry at the diocesan level. The Diocesan Youth Ministry programs touch over 400 youth representing all six regions each year. Youth Ministry is a vital, exciting movement encompassing a large number of people and a broad variety of programs and resources.

**aWay** An intimate spiritual retreat for youth aged 14-24 highlighting Life Changing Worship, Outstanding Leadership for Ministry, and a Continuous Culture of Innovation which takes place in January or February and is an opportunity for young people to explore their spirituality in the quiet of an intimate small group in a rural setting.

**Youth Leadership Training Program (YLTP)** A three-year leadership training program (now in its third decade) held during March Break to develop youth leaders who can offer Outstanding Leadership for Ministry. In addition to an emphasis on developing servant leadership skills, participants experience and create Life Changing Worship and focus on a Generous Culture of Stewardship.

**Youth Synod in Action** - New this year, the largest youth ministry program in Niagara with a dual focus on Prophetic Social Justice Making and Outstanding Leadership for Ministry has been re-imagined to offer youth delegates ages 13-21 the opportunity to be immersed in justice issues important to their faith and their communities as well as providing opportunities to experience Life Changing Worship; takes place over the course of a weekend in early May.

**Niagara Youth Conference (NYC)** The cornerstone event in youth ministry in Niagara with a multiple focus on Life Changing Worship, a Continuous Culture of Innovation, a Generous Culture of Stewardship, and Prophetic Social Justice Making - takes place the week before the Labour Day weekend and is full of fun, learning, worship, spirituality, peer support, and lots of community building.

**The Gathering** is a youth-created and youth-led worship service featuring the NYC Band. These events embrace a Continuous Culture of Innovation, Life Changing Worship, Outstanding Leadership for Ministry, and a Generous Culture of Stewardship.

### Resources

Christyn Perkons, Director of Congregational Support & Development, is available to answer questions, suggest resources, lead workshops, facilitate visioning & planning sessions and provide on-site consultations.

**Other resources** are available for loan through the Diocesan Resource Centre and are detailed on the Youth Ministry website.

**The Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee** supports and evaluates diocesan youth events, responds to initiatives from parishes and regions, recruits volunteers and is committed to a vision of youth as a vital part of the church.

### Contact:

Christyn Perkons—905-527-1316 x 460 or  
[christyn.perkons@niagara.anglican.ca](mailto:christyn.perkons@niagara.anglican.ca)

Check us out on the web: [www.zipsqueal.com](http://www.zipsqueal.com)

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# Soul Tending

## Keep fit and have fun!



## Youth Ministry Sunday 2013